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NAIA AND AKTIA: THE MOST IMPORTANT ATHLETIC GAMES OF EPIRUS FROM THE CLASSICAL UNTIL THE ROMAN PERIOD

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ABSTRACT Epirus was a crossroads between West and Greece. Epirus prevented not only historical events but also important athletic games. The purpose of this paper was to register the games that were distinguished for authority and athlete's participation, such as Naia of Dodone at Hellenistic period and Aktia of Nikopolis at Roman period. Inscriptions and coins, gave valuable information for the organization and performance of these games that were 'stephanites' for Zeus and Apollo. The winners of the games had big recognition at their 'homes', glory and fame.

Key words: Epirus, Athletic games, Naia, Aktia.

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