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ROMAN SENATORS AND THEIR PLACE IN THE RELIGIOUS LIFE OF LOWER MOESIA

(Summary)

This article delves into the engagement of Roman senators in the religious affairs of Lower Moesia. Senators, holding positions such as provincial governors or legion commanders, temporarily resided in the territories along the Lower Danube. The study draws on the analysis of 43 epigraphic monuments that reference senators in various capacities. While few monuments are personally dedicated, most bear an official character. Provincial governors primarily undertook the construction and upkeep of sanctuaries in less urbanized regions, with limited involvement in urban centers. In military settings and civilian settlements near camps, senators often consecrated monuments crafted by others. Rather than introducing new cults, representatives of the senatorial order acted on behalf of the Roman state, providing formal sanction for religious practices and serving as exemplars for military personnel and civilians in Lower Moesia.

Keywords: Lower Moesia, senators, religion, votive monuments, Imperial cult, Jupiter.

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