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SYMBOLISM OF THE COAT OF ARMS - KAPPA PSI PHARMACEUTICAL FRATERNITY

Kappa and Psi - The symbolic meaning of these Greek letters is not known. I am sure that these letters were not just pulled out of a hat and knowing that some^{one} with a knowledge of Greek developed the original ritual of the fraternity, I am sure there was a symbolic reason for selecting Kappa Psi as a name for the fraternity.

Colors used in the coat of arms

Gules - red (scarlet) emblematic of valor and charity.
Grey - emblematic of the military school where the fraternity was founded. Grey was used in the uniform as basic color.
Or - the color of the metal gold - emblematic of might and the sun.
Azure - blue, emblematic of friendship and benevolence.
Sable - black, emblematic of prudence and secrecy

A - the Greek letter Alpha. This is the name that was used in the early days for the principal chapter officer. Later changed to regent.

~~Ω~~ - the Greek letter Omega. This was the name for the second chapter officer in rank. Later changed to vice regent.

Quill - the symbol of the secretary

Key - the symbol of the treasurer

Eye - The all-seeing eye emblematic of the Almighty Being.

Mask - Probably symbolic of the first badge or pin of the fraternity. It may also refer to the symbolic use of masks in the early ritual of initiation.

member

Torse - A twisted horizontal ^{bar} which supports the hand and wreath of the crest. It has been handed down from the early days of the coat of arms in heraldry and showed the principal colors of the coat of arms.

Hand with 99 - Symbolic of the helping hand of each member and the unity of hands in case of need. The full symbolic meaning is covered in the ritual of initiation.

Wreath - The wreath, from earliest Grecian days was a symbol of respect and esteem.

Spears - Symbols of authority used by the two phulakes

Caduceus - This is the symbol which appears in the lower field of the shield. It should be noted that a true caduceus shows two serpents entwined about a staff. So we might say this is a modified caduceus. The knotted wand and serpent were symbolic of medicine since the days of Asclepias (Roman-Aesculapius). The knotted wand represents the difficult and knotty problems of caring for the sick and preparing drugs. The serpent is the symbol of wisdom. The wings are a part of ^{that} a herald's staff of office ~~is~~, the staff of Hermes or Mercury which has no medical significance.