

Episode One Hundred Twenty-Seven - Letter to Pythocles 02 - The Formation of "Worlds"

Post by "Don" of June 25, 2022 at 7:24 AM

Is the only extant use of isonomia from Epicurus The mention in Cicero:

Quote

Moreover there is the supremely potent principle of infinity, which claims the closest and most careful study; we must understand that it has the following property, that in the sum of things everything has its exact match and counterpart. This property is termed by Epicurus isonomia, or the principle of uniform distribution. From this principle it follows that if the whole number of mortals be so many, there must exist no less a number of immortals, and if the causes of destruction are beyond count, the causes of conservation also are bound to be infinite.

That's it? And isonomia is defined as, by Cicero, "in the sum of things everything has its exact match and counterpart." According to the LSJ Greek dictionary, isonomia is cited as occurring in Epicurus Usener Fragment 352, which is Cicero's reference. And is it really Epicurus or is it just Cicero that goes off on "it follows that .." Is isonomia just Epicurus saying "no one thing of its kind"? I could see "its exact match and counterpart" as referring to something like that idea. I'll definitely want to dive into Academia.edu or JSTOR for some papers.

[Henry George Liddell, Robert Scott, A Greek-English Lexicon, ἰσονομία](#)