

Lecture 17th

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History of Macedonia itself and Macedonia from the death of Alexander to the Roman Subjugation 323 to 146 B.C.

Of the 3 principal kingdoms, which arose out of the monarchy of Alexander, Macedonia, in extent, population & wealth was by far the weakest. After 311, after the ruin of Alexander's family, it formed a distinct kingdom. Its influence was limited chiefly to Greece, whose history is closely interwoven with it.

Condition of Greece after the death of Alexander. Thebes lay in ruins; Corinth had a Macedonian garrison; Sparta was humbled; Athens in a flourishing condition, and still the first state in Greece.

On the first division of the provinces Craterus was placed as civil governor by the side of Antipater, but Antipater retained the guidance of affairs, and the Lannian war, which immediately after the death of Alexander, was begun by the Greeks, for the recovery of their

freedom, enabled him, after he had terminated it with equal difficulty and success, to put upon Greece, far heavier chains, than it before had borne. When Alexander was in Asia, he made an edict that all the Grecian emigrants, 20,000 in number, and most of them in the interests of Macedonia, might return to their native cities;

this prepared the way for the Lamian war, which was begun by the democratic party in Athens, instigated by Demosthenes and Hyperides, orators; almost all the states of middle & northern Greece, except Boeotia, & most of the Peloponnesus, except Sparta, Argos, Corinth, and the Achaean joined Athens. Not even in the Persian war had the union been so great. Leosthenes was the Athenian general.

Antipater was defeated & blocked up in Lamia, a town of Thessaly, but during the siege of that city, Leosthenes

was killed 323. It was at this time that Leonatus left Asia to assist Antipater, and in the hope of ascending the throne by marrying Cleopatra, the aunt of Alexander, but he was defeated and killed 322. But the Greeks still sunk under the force, which Cratichus brought to assist Antipater; who then succeeded in dividing the alliance. Most of the cities received Macedonian garrisons; Athens purchased peace by a change in its constitution; and by promising to deliver up Demosthenes and Hyperides; in this change the poorer citizens were excluded from participating in the government, & were mostly transplanted to Thrace; this peace was negotiated by Phocion & Demades; and Phocion now came to be at the head of the state.

There was a mutual hatred even in the life time of Alexander, between Antipater and Olympias, because he would not let her have the sway;

the now withdrew to the island of
^{Epirus} ~~Byzantium~~; the influence of the young queen
Eurydice also, who had married Arrhidæus,
still more embittered her. Shortly after
his expedition against Perdiccas, in which
his assistant Craterus lost his life, &
he himself had been named regent,
Antipater died; having previously
passed over his own son Cassander,
and appointed his friend, the aged
Polysperchon, his successor as regent
and chief guardian.

Cassander escapes to Antigonus 319.
He had first endeavoured to form a
party for himself in Macedonia &
Greece; he procured the command
in Athens for Nicanor, one of his
friends; and he drew Antigonus &
Ptolemy into his interests; Polysper-
chon to oppose him, recalled Olympias
from Epirus, but she did not
venture to come without an army.
He then appoints Eumenes to the
command of the royal troops in Asia,

and endeavours to win the Median States
by withdrawing the Macedonian garrisons
and changing the regents who were devoted
to Antipater. But these were too firmly
established in most of the cities, to allow
themselves to be driven away; and in
this, he had but partial success.
Polysperchon then sent his son Alex-
ander to Athens, under the pretence
of driving away Nicanor, but in reality
to gain possession of it. The democratic
party then rose, and deposed the for-
mer regents of the party of Antipa-
ter, at whose head was Phocion, whom
they compelled to drink poison; but
soon after Cassander again got
possession of it, and put at its head
Demetrius Phalerens who administered
the government with much prudence
from 318 to 307. It was shortly after
318 that Olympias returned from Epi-
rus with an army, and as the Mace-
donian troops of Arrhidæus & Eurydice
passed over to her, she quieted her

thirst for revenge, by causing the young king and queen, and the brothers of Cassander to be executed 317. Then Cassander, marched against her, & besieged her in Pydna, where she was compelled to surrender 316, & he caused her to be executed.

Cassander was now master of Macedonia; he confirmed his power by marrying Thessalonice, the half sister of Alexander; Polysperchon & his son Alexander were still in the Peloponnese; but the states out of it, except Etoia, were either allies of Cassander, or had Macedonian garrisons. When, after the unsuccessful alliance against Antigonus, in which Cassander also took part, the general pacification was effected under the conditions, that the Grecian cities should be free, and the young Alexander, on coming of age, should be said to the Macedonian throne, Cassander got

rid of him, and his mother Roxana by murdering them, but was obliged to sustain an attack from Polysperchon, who took advantage of the indignation of the Macedonians, to bring back Heracles, the only remaining illegitimate son of Alexander. Cassander persuaded Polysperchon, on the promise of sharing the regency with him, to murder the young Hercules; yet as Polysperchon could not get possession of the promised Peloponnese, he seems to have acquired little influence. When Cassander upon this began to extend his power again in Greece, Demetrius Poliorcetes, was sent by his father to Greece, to carry into effect the decree, liberating the Greeks 308. He restored the democracy in Athens, and banished Demetrius Phalerens. The war which then broke out between Antigonus & Ptolemy, recalled Demetrius to Asia, and Cassander had then leisure to strengthen his power again in Greece; in 302 he

metrins for the second time, and as the commander in chief of liberated Greece, advanced to the borders of Macedonia, when he was called by his father to Asia, and in the battle of Ipsus 301 lost his possessions there. Yet, altho' Athens closed her ports against him, he retained his possessions in the Peloponnesus, and in 297 put himself in possession of his cherished Athens, and forgave its ingratitude, after expelling the usurper Lachares.

Cassander survived the restoration of his throne by the battle of Ipsus, only three years. 298. and left Macedonia to his three sons, of whom however, Philip the eldest, died soon after him.

Yet the two others, Antipater and Alexander soon ruined themselves. Antipater murdered his own mother, Thessalonica, because she favored Alexander; he fled to Lysimachus of Thrace, where he won

lost his life. Alexander sought assistance from king Pyrrhus of Epirus, and Demetrius Poliorcetes; and was murdered by the latter; and with him the family of Antipater expired. 295.

The army proclaims Demetrius, king of Macedon, and with him the house of Antigonus obtains the Macedonian throne, which it finally preserved, though after various vicissitudes. His seven years reign, was a constant succession of wars, and as he never learned to support fortune, he is finally ruined by his own haughtiness.

The kingdom of Demetrius consisted of Macedonia, Thessaly, and the greater part of the Peloponnesus, and he was also master of Megara and Athens. His war with Pyrrhus, in 290 lost for him the affections of the Macedonians; In 287 the hatred of his subjects compelled him to fly secretly to the Peloponnesus, to his son Antigonus. His reverse of fortune.

induced Athens to free itself from the Macedonian garrison; Demetrius unsuccessfully besieged the city; he then undertook an expedition against Asia, and was obliged to surrender to Selenus, his son in law, who gave him the bread of charity till he died 204.

Pyrrhus of Epirus and Lysimachus of Thrace, laid claim to the vacant throne; in 207 Pyrrhus was proclaimed king, yet, being a foreigner, he was not able to maintain his throne, longer than till 206, when he was supplanted by Lysimachus.

The kings of Epirus, became important in history after the period of the Peloponnesian war. They were brought into connection with Macedonia, by the marriage of Philip to Olympias, daughter of Neoptolemus, one of their kings. Pyrrhus was more of an adventurer than king; after constant wars in Macedonia, Greece, Italy, and Sicily, he at last fell in taking

possession of Argos 272. In 146 Epirus with Macedonia & Greece fell into the power of Rome.

Lysimachus succeeded to the throne, and Thrace, and for a short season Asia Minor was added to the Macedonian kingdom; Lysimachus became involved in a war with Selenusicator, & lost his throne & life.

The eldest son of Lysimachus, the brave Agathocles, was executed at the instigation of his step mother Arsinoe; the widow of Agathocles, Lysandra, and her brother, Ptolemy Cerannus, who was driven from Egypt by his step mother Berenice, fled for refuge to Selenus, and excited him to war.

Selenus, then, as master of Asia, carried himself to be proclaimed king of Macedonia; but soon after passing into Europe, fell by the assassinating hand of Ptolemy Cerannus, who obtains for himself the throne; but in 279 lost his throne and life by the invasion of the Gauls.

The irruption of the Gauls, was made in three several expeditions. The first under Cambules, probably 200 extended no further than Thrace for want of strength. The second, in three parts, against Thrace under Ceretrinus, against Paconia, a country west of Macedonia, under Brennus, and Leichorinus, and against Macedonia & Illyria under Belgius 279 (in the reign of Ptolemy Philadelphus, and Antiochus Soter). By Belgius, Ptolemy Ceraunus, was beaten & killed. Upon this Meleager was made king of Macedonia, and after him Antipater, who were, however, quickly deposed on account of their inefficiency, and then Lysimachus, a Macedonian noble, received the command and liberated Macedonia. But in 278 the great storm came on, directed primarily against Greece, yet in opposing it, Lysimachus was routed and slain. Altho' the Greeks unitedly exerted all

their strength, Brennus and Leichorinus were yet able to enter Greece on two sides, and to reach Selys, the object of their expedition; from whence they were however obliged to withdraw, & were for the most part wasted away, by want of cold and the sword. Yet a part of them made an establishment within Thrace, which was thus in a great measure lost for Macedonia; and others passed over into Asia Minor, where they found and retained places of abode, in the district, called from them Galatia. (in the reign of Antiochus Soter) On the vacant throne of the desolate Macedonia, Antigonus of Gouni, the son of Demetrius, now placed himself, satisfying his rival Antiochus Soter, by a treaty & marriage. He defended himself successfully against the Gauls who were making a new invasion, he was yet dispossessed by Pyrrhus, who was now returned from Italy, and was

for the second time proclaimed king of Macedonia. 274. (in the reign of Ptolemy Philadelphus, and Antiochus Ioter) Pyrrhus wished to conquer the Peloponnesus, and made an unsuccessful attack on Sparta; while taking possession of Argos, he lost his life 272 B. C.

Extraordinary as these frequent changes seem, they may yet be easily explained from the character of the wars at that time. Every thing depended on the armies; and these consisted of mercenaries, who were ready to fight tomorrow, against the person, whom they defended to-day, as soon as they hoped to find in his antagonist a more successful leader. The impoverishment of the lands by wars, made the trade of war almost the only profitable one; & none now pursued it more zealously,

than the Gauls, who stood at the service of any one, who would pay them. After the death of Pyrrhus, Antiochus Ioter again acquired the Macedonian throne, which he, and his descendants after him, from this time uninterruptedly possessed, yet not till after a violent contest with Alexander, the son and successor of Pyrrhus, but, as soon as they were safe from foreign rivals, Greece again became the object of the Macedonian policy, & the taking of Corinth 251, (in the reign of Antiochus Ioter and Ptolemy Philadelphus) seemed to secure its dependence. But by the establishment of the Etolian, and afterwards the Achaean league, the foundation was laid for still more important relations; after so many storms the sun of Greece was yet to go down in an evening of beauty.

The ancient union of the 12 Achaean cities, continued till the death of Alexander,

But fell as under in the subsequent troubled season, especially after the battle of Ipsus 301, Demetrius and his son Antigonus had made the Peloponnesus the chief seat of their power. Some of the Achaian cities they now occupied, in others tyrants sprung up, who commonly favored them. But in 281 (in the reign of Seleucus Nicator and Ptolemy Lagus) 4 of the cities broke free, and renewed their ancient league; and five years afterwards, when Antigonus, after occupying the Macedonian throne, was elsewhere employed, the others gradually followed. But this league did not become powerful till after other States joined it. In 251 Sicyon first joined it, led by Aratus, who now became the soul of the alliance, and in 243, Corinth expelled the Macedonian garrison & joined the league, as did also Megara. It was afterwards gradually strengthened by the

accession of several Grecian States, among others Athens 229. But what more than any thing elevated this genuine league of liberty, was, that it had in Aratus tile 213, Philopoemen tile 183, and Lycortas tile 170, men, who knew how to breathe into it a spirit of life, and hold it together, till the Roman policy weakened and overturned it.

The Aetolian league was formed 284, in consequence of the oppressions of the Macedonian kings; none but Aetolians belonged to it.

Antigonus was succeeded by his son Demetrius 2^d. from 243, to 233. He made war on the Aetolians, who, were then, however assisted by the Achaeans. The rest of his reign is almost a chasm in history.

To the exclusion of his son Philip, his brother's son, Antigonus 2^d Doson, was raised to the throne; the concerns of Greece occupied him the most; in his reign we have a great revolution in

Sparta; where the forms of the ancient constitution continued, but since the plundering of foreign countries, the greatest inequality of fortune had arisen. King Agis the 3^d in 244 attempted a reform; he endeavoured to restore the constitution of Lycurgus, and in this he had a two-fold object, partly to favor the poor, by a new agrarian law, and the release of debts; partly to increase the power of the kings, by enfeebling the authority of the ephori; he was at first only half successful, and at last was entirely defeated by the other king Leonidas, and the attempt ended in the destruction of himself & his family 241 (in Ptolemy Philadelphus, Evergetes, and Seleucus Callinicus). But in 236 Leonidas was succeeded by his son Pleomenes; who in 227 frustrated the plan of Aratus, to compel Sparta to join the Achæian league, and in 226 reduced the Ephori, by a violent

revolution, and executed the plans of Agis. In 224 he attacked the Achæians, upon which Aratus sought assistance of Antigonus Doson, and received it. Pleomenes was defeated at the battle of Sellasia, in Laconia 222, and fled to Egypt; (Ptolemy Evergetes, Antiochus the Great) and Sparta was obliged to accept the continuance of its independence, as a gift from Antigonus. It soon fell into anarchy, and in 207 a certain Nabis obtained the sole rule, and overturned the established constitution.

Philip 2^d son of Demetrius, reigned from 221 to 179. B. C. (Ptolemy Philopator, & Ptolemy Epiphanes) (Antiochus the Great, and Seleucus Philopator) As a youth of 16, he ascended the throne, possessed of many qualities, which can form a great prince, and under happy auspices. Macedonia had recovered itself in a long internal peace; and the chief object of

his policy, to be at the head of Greece, appeared to be attained by the union of Antigonus with the Achaeans, & the victory at Sellasia. But Philip's age is that of the fearful aggrandisement of Rome; and the more & the earlier he resisted this, the deeper was he entangled in this entirely new series of relations, which embittered the remainder of his life, and finally, as his misfortunes made him more and more of a despot, precipitated him into the grave.

The first five years of Philip's reign, were occupied with his participating in the wars of the Achaeans, against the Aetolians, or the Social war, in which Philip, notwithstanding the treachery of his minister Apellias, and his party, was able to prescribe the conditions of peace, according to which, each one was to remain in possession of what he had. The accounts from the day of Hannibal's victory at Thrasymene,

were part of the reasons for hastening peace, as Philip now formed greater plans, at the advice of Demetrius of Phars, who had fled before the Romans, and who now possessed unlimited influence over Philip.

The causes of the Social war, were the depredations of the Aetolians on the Messenians, whose parts the Achaeans took 221. B. C. The Achaeans called in the aid of Philip; the Acarnanians, the Epirotae, and Messenians, were on the side of Philip and the Achaeans, & the Spartans and Rhans on that of the Aetolians.

The negotiations of Philip with Hannibal, were followed by an alliance, by which they mutually promised each other assistance for the destruction of Rome. Yet Rome was able to stir up for Philip, so many enemies on the borders of his own kingdom, & so warily to profit by its naval superiority, that the execution of his plan

was hindered, till he could be attacked in Greece; where the haughty tone, which he now began to use against his allies, made him many enemies.

The hostilities of Rome against Philip commenced as soon as the alliance with Hannibal was made known, by stationing a Squadron with two on board, on the coasts of Macedonia, which defeats the king himself at Apollonia a town of Macedonia. 214.

Rome then forms an alliance with the Aetolians, to which Sparta, Elis, Attalus of Pergamos, and Scerdilaidas and Pleuratus of Illyria are added. 211. Philip had caused Pratus to be murdered, but the Achaeans still remained on his side, as also the Acarnanians & Boeotians; the Achaeans were now commanded by Philopoemen. Attacked on all sides, Philip yet drew himself out of the embarrassment successfully

and first compelled the Aetolians, who had been deserted by Rome and thus led to a separate peace, which Rome soon after changed into a general peace, which included the allies of both sides.

Philip then wages a new war with Attalus of Pergamos, and the Rhodians, chiefly in Asia Minor, and enters into an insular union with Antiochus the Great, for the attack of Egypt. He was defeated in a naval battle at Chios by the Rhodians. The war with Rome laid the foundation for the Roman dominion in the east.

Eliminating the Roman general, deprives Philip of his allies, and defeats him at Bynopolis, a town of Thessaly. The conditions of the peace, were 1st All the Grecian states in Europe & Asia are independent, and Philip withdraws his garrisons from them. 2^d

He delivers up his whole fleet, & is allowed to maintain no more than 500 armed men. 3^d. He is not to carry on any war out of Macedonia, without the previous knowledge of the Romans. 4th He pays 1000 talents by instalments, and gives up his younger son Demetrius as a hostage.

The allies of the Romans in this war were; the Aetolians, the Athenians, the Athamani a people of Epirus, the Dardani a people of Illyricum, and the king of Pergamos. At first the Achaeans were the allies of Philip, but Philip Flaminius knew how to win them for the Romans.

By the public proclamation of the liberty of Greece, made soon after at the Isthmian Games by Flaminius, the supremacy over Greece was in reality transferred from Macedonia to Rome,

slowly as the Greeks shouted over their freedom; and Grecian history, now not less than the Macedonian, becomes interwoven with the Roman. It was now a principle in Rome to nurse the disputes between the Grecian states, & especially not to allow the Achaeans to grow too powerful; and as a Roman and an Anti-Roman party were formed in each of them, the game was for Rome an easy one.

Flaminius at once took care, that the Achaeans should still have an adversary in habit, although he could not help making war on him before his departure for Italy 194. B. C. In 192 a war broke out between Laebis and the Achaeans; he was murdered by the Aetolians, and Sparta was added to the Achaean confederacy. But about this time Greece was again made the theatre of a foreign war; for Antiochus established himself

there firmly, but was driven from
Greece 191. In 189 Greece obtained
a hard peace from Rome, after long
and vain entreaties.

During the war of the Romans with
Antiochus, Philip, was allowed to en-
large his territory a little by encroach-
ments on his neighbors, the Atama-
nians, Thracians, and Thessalians
in order to keep him in good humor.
But after this war he felt the op-
pression of Rome too much to allow
of any thought but revenge, and any
object but the restoration of his pow-
er. In 183, his younger son Demet-
rius returned from an embassy to
Rome, his elder brother Perseus, be-
came jealous of him, and accused
him of plotting against his father.
Philip listened to the accusation, &
compelled Demetrius to be executed,
and after the execution of his favo-
rite, he had to learn his innocence.
No wonder that sorrow soon made him

follow him to the grave!
Rome observed the same policy towards
the Achaeans, which it had done to-
wards Philip; Yet the great Philo-
pemon, worthy of a better age, was
able to maintain the dignity of the
confederacy, even in the case, in which
the Romans undertook to decide as
umpires. Not till after he fell did
the Romans find it easy, to make for
themselves a party among the Achaeans.
The Greeks had now continual contests
with one another.

The disputes of the Achaeans were partly
with Sparta, partly with Messenia, &
had their chief origin in the existence
in each of these small states, of fac-
tions, of which the leaders, for the
most part influenced by personal rela-
tions, especially by hatred of Philopre-
mon, wished to separate them from the
Achaean confederacy; whilst, on the
other hand, it now became the leading idea
of the Achaeans, that this league should
embrace the whole Peloponnese. In the war

against the Messenians 103, Philopon-
mon, now 70 years old, was taken
by them, and put to death.

Pertens the last Macedonian king in-
herited from his father Philip, his
perfect hatred of the Romans; and
if not quite equal, was not much
inferior to Philip in talent. He entered
entirely into the views of his father, &
the first seven years of his reign, were
only one constant effort to gather
strength against Rome. To this end he
called in the Bastarnians from the
north, perhaps a German tribe, to
establish them in the lands of his
enemies, the Sarmatians; he endeavored
to form alliances with the kings of
Illyria, Thrace, Syria, and Bithynia,
but, above all, he strove by negotia-
tions and promises to restore the an-
cient influence of Macedonia over Greece.
In Greece the Macedonian party would

probably have retained the upper hand
but for the strict vigilance of the
Romans. The Achaeans remained, in
appearance at least on the Roman
side; the Aetolians had ruined them-
selves by internal factions; so too
the Acarnanians; the confederacy
of the Boeotians was entirely broken
up by Rome in 171. On the other
hand the Macedonian party pre-
vailed in Epirus; Thessaly was oc-
cupied by Pertens; several Thracian
tribes were on his side, and in King
Gentius, of Illyria, he had a power-
ful ally.

A war broke out with the Romans
& Pertens was defeated at Pydna,
168; from Pydna, he fled to Samothrace,
an island on the coast of Thrace, but
was discovered and carried in triumph
to Rome, where he died 166. He reigned

from 179 to 168 (Ptolemy, Philometor
Seleucus Philopator and Antiochus)
Eumenes)

According to the system of Rome at that time, the conquered Macedonia was not at first made a province, but first rendered defenceless, by being republicanized, and divided into 4 districts; which, entirely disconnected, were obliged to pay to Rome half the tribute, that they formerly paid to the kings.

That the dependance of Greece, especially of the Achaian league, should increase after the fall of Persens, lay in the nature of things. The political inquisition of the Roman commissioners not only punished the declared supporters of Macedonia; to have acted a neutral part was enough to create suspicion. Yet in the increasing hatred Rome did not believe itself secure, till by one blow it freed itself of all important adversaries. Above a thousand of the most distinguished Achaians

were summoned for trial to Rome, and were kept there without trial 17 years. The last fortunes, as well of Macedonia as of Greece, were decided by the policy now adopted in Rome, of changing the former dependence of nations into formal subjection. Metellus the Roman changed Macedonia into a Roman province; and two years afterwards, on the taking of Corinth, the last gleam of Grecian liberty vanished. Greece, under the name of Achaia, was made a Roman province, although to a few cities, as for example to Athens, they still left a shadow of liberty.