

DEFENDERS, CONQUERORS AND VANQUISHED

Lecture 32: Cleopatra and the end of the Hellenistic
World

Asia Minor



- Gradual increase in the independence of areas:
 - Pergamon
 - Galatians
 - Cappadocia
 - Pontus (Upper Cappadocia)
 - Bithynia

End of Pergamon

- 133 Attalos III dies and gives his Kingdom to Rome
- Cappadocia, Pontus and Bithynia all side with Rome in the war against Aristonikos

Mitridates VI

- ❑ 120 becomes king under the guardianship of his mother Laodice
- ❑ Brother Chrestos also king
- ❑ 112 Kills both and begins sole rule



Expansion

- Control of Black Sea
- Aid Greek cities in the Crimea against Scythians
- Attack Cappadocia, kills last member of the royal line Ariarathes VII
- Invades Paphlagonia



Ariarathes VII



Cappadocia

- Rome declares it “free”
- Ariobarzanes becomes king by the will of the Senate in 95

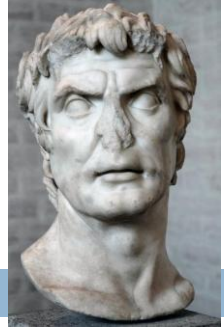


ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΡΙΟΒΑΡΖΑΝΟΥ ΦΙΛΟΡΩΜΑΙΟΥ

Roman intervention

The Cappadocians, however, being harassed by the cruelty and licentiousness of their rulers, revolted from Mithridates, and sent for the brother of their king, who was also called Ariarathes, from Asia where he was being educated. Upon this prince Mithridates again made war, defeated him, and drove him from Cappadocia; and not long after the young man died of a disease brought on by anxiety. After his death, Nicomedes, fearing lest Mithridates, from having added Cappadocia to his dominions, should also seize upon Bithynia which was near it, instructed a youth, of extraordinary beauty, to apply for the throne of Bithynia from the senate, as having been his father's, pretending that Ariarathes had not had two sons only, but a third. He sent his wife Laodice, also, to Rome, to testify that her husband had three children born to him. Mithridates, when he heard of this contrivance, despatched Gordius, with equal effrontery, to Rome, to assure the senate that "the young prince, to whom he had assigned the throne of Cappadocia, was the son of that Ariarathes who had fallen in the war against Aristonicus when giving assistance to the Romans." But the senate, perceiving the ambitious designs of the two kings, who were seizing the dominions of others on false pretences, took away Cappadocia from Mithridates, and, to console him, Paphlagonia from Nicomedes; and that it might not prove an offence to the kings, that any thing should be taken from them and given to others, both people were offered their liberty. But the Cappadocians declined the favour, saying that "their nation could not subsist without a king." Ariobarzanes was in consequence appointed their king by the senate.

Cappadocia



- ❑ Tigranes of Armenia marries a daughter of Mithridates
- ❑ Tigranes removes Ariobarzanes from Cappadocia
- ❑ Ariobarzanes flees to Rome (92)
- ❑ Lucius Cornelius Sulla, governor of Roman Cilicia, leads him back
- ❑ Sulla leaves, Mithridates kicks Ariobarzanes out again so he flees to Rome
- ❑ King of Bithynia dies and Mithridates kicks his son out, who also flees to Rome

Mithridates, Nikomedes IV and Rome

- Roman slave traders/publicani have a strong presence in Bithynia
- Nikomedes IV gets support from them and a delegation with troops to restore him to power and also Ariobarzanes

First Mithridatic War

- 88 BC – 85 BC
- Mithridates retaliates and attacks Bithynia, Cappadocia and the province of Asia
- Sulla campaigns, they sign a peace in 85
- Restoration of Nikomedes IV, Ariobarzanes and a payment of indemnity

Roman Asia Minor

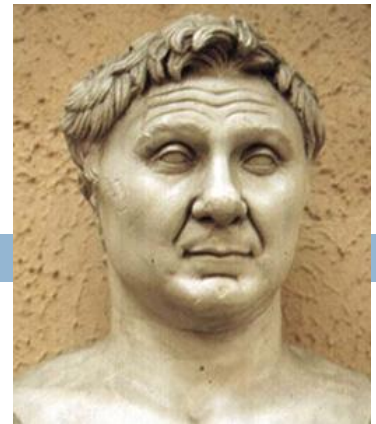
- Nikomedes IV dies in 74
- Leaves kingdom to the Roman People
- Pirates!
- War!



3rd Mithridatic War

- Attacks the new province of Bithynia
- Both ex-consuls of 74 for are sent, Marcus Aurelius Cotta (Bithynia) and Lucius Licinius Lucullus (Asia)
- Galatians support Rome
- 72 Mithridates expelled from Bithynia
- 72/1 Lucullus sieges Amisos
- 70 Mithridates flees to Armenia
- Appius Claudius Pulcher sent after Mithridates

3rd Mithridatic War



- Tigranes refuses to hand over Mithridates
- 67 Mithridates escapes back to Pontus and raises a new army
- Defeats garrison at Zela
- *Lex Manilia* in 66 gives broad powers to Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus to finish the war (in 67 he had been given broad powers against the pirates)

Flight and death

- ❑ Mithridates tries flee to Armenia and is refused
- ❑ Flees north to the Crimea and his territories there
- ❑ Machares (his son) had agreed to terms with Lucullus
- ❑ Kills his son
- ❑ 63 commits suicide



War with Armenia

- ❑ Tigranes flees to his capital, Artaxata
- ❑ Pompey arrives
- ❑ Tigranes welcomes him and surrenders his kingdom
- ❑ Restored as king of reduced Armenia
- ❑ All territories conquered by Tigranes now are Roman





Egypt and Rome

□ Aftermath of “Day of Eleusis”

Ptolemy's envoys offered thanks in the names of the king and Cleopatra together; they owed, they said, more to the Roman senate and people than to their own parents, more than to the immortal gods, since they had been freed by the Romans from a most wretched state of siege, and had recovered the ancestral kingdom which they had almost lost.

Livy 45.13.4-5

Ptolemy (VI) Philometor and Ptolemy VIII Evergetes II (Physcon)

- 164 Ptolemy VIII drives out Philometor
- Philometor goes to Rome is restored
- 163 Ptolemy VIII is given Cyrene (very unpopular in Alexandria)
- Physcon complains to Rome and gets given help to take over Cyprus from his brother, they don't manage it
- Physcon remains in Cyrene

Roman Foreign Policy Post Pydna

Many decisions of the Romans are currently of this sort. Through them they exploit the mistakes of their clients and so effectively extend and build up their own area of influence, just as it suits their own interests; at the same time they gratify and give the impression of benefiting the guilty party.

Polybius 31.10.7

The Will of Ptolemy VIII

In the fifteenth year in the month of Loios (March 155). With good fortune. This is the will of King Ptolemy (VIII) the younger, son of King Ptolemy (V) and Queen Cleopatra (I), Gods Manifest, a copy of which has been sent to Rome. May I with the favour of the gods exact a suitable vengeance from those who hatched against me this impious plot and decided to deprive me not only of my kingdom but even of my life. Should any mortal fate befall me before I can leave behind heirs to the throne, I bequeath the kingdom that belongs to me to the Romans, for whom I have from the beginning preserved our friendship and alliance with sincerity. To them also I entrust the task of protecting my interests, praying to them in the name of all the gods and with their own consent, that if any (enemies) attack either the cities or the *chora*, they should give help with all their power in accordance with the friendship and alliance we concluded with each other and (in accordance with) justice. I make witnesses of these arrangements Capitoline Jupiter, the Great Gods, the Sun and Apollo Archegetes, with whom the text of these arrangements is consecrated. With good fortune.

Austin² 289; *SEG* 9.7; Burstein 104; Bagnall and Derow 51

Ptolemy VIII Evergetes II (Physcon)

- Philometor dies 145
- Concessions to Alexandrian mob
- Marries his brother's sister-widow, Cleopatra II and she bears him a child
- 142 marries Cleopatra II's (Cleopatra the Sister) daughter Cleopatra III (Cleopatra the wife)
- 132/1 Cleopatra II starts a war with Physcon
- 126 Physcon and Cleopatra III have control of all of Egypt again
- Before 124, Cleopatra II returns and is reconciled with her brother and daughter

Decline of the Ptolemies

- Much more infighting between potential heirs and their wives and mothers, also between the potential Seleucid heirs and their mothers

List of Seleucid and Ptolemaic Kings after the “Day of Eleusis”

- Antiochus V: 164-162
- Demetrius I: 162-150
- Alexander Balas: 150-146
- Demetrius II: 147-139, 129-126
- Antiochus VI: 145-142
- Diodotus Tryphon: 142-138
- Antiochus VII: 138-129
- Alexander II: 128-123
- Cleopatra Thea: 126-121
- Antiochus VIII: 125-96
- Antiochus IX: 114-96
- Seleucus VI: 96-95
- Antiochus X: 95-83
- Antiochus XI: 95-92
- Demetrius III: 95
- Philip I: 95-83
- Antiochus XII: 87-84
- Tigranes of Armenia: 83-69 (in Seleucid Empire)
- Antiochus XIII: 75-73 (“King” but actually in Rome) 69-64
- Philip II: 65-64 (under the support of Pompey)
- Ptolemy VI Philometor: 180-164, 163-145 briefly ruled jointly with Ptolemy Eupator in 152 BC
- Ptolemy VIII Evergetes II (Physcon): 170 -163, 145-116: temporarily expelled from Alexandria by Cleopatra II between 131 BC and 127 BC, reconciled with her in 124 BC.
- Cleopatra II Philometora Soteira (131 BC-127 BC)
- Cleopatra III Philometor Soteira Dikaiosyne Nikephoros (Kokke): 116 -101 joint rule with Ptolemy IX (116 -107) and Ptolemy X (107-101)
- Ptolemy IX Soter II (Lathyros): 116-107, 88-81
- Ptolemy X Alexander I: 107-88
- Berenice III Philopator: 81 -80
- Ptolemy XI Alexander II (80 BC) married and ruled jointly with Berenice III before murdering her; ruled alone for 19 days after that.
- Ptolemy XII Neos Dionysos (Auletes): 80 -58, 55-51
- Cleopatra V Tryphaena: 58-57 joint rule with Berenice IV
- Berenice IV Epiphaneia: 58-55 joint rule with Cleopatra V
- Cleopatra VII Philopator (51 BC-30 BC) joint rule with
- Ptolemy XIII: 51-47 joint rule with Cleopatra VII
- Ptolemy XIV: 47-44 joint rule with Cleopatra VII
- Ptolemy XV Caesarion: 44 -30 joint rule with Cleopatra VII
- Arsinoe IV: 48-47 in opposition to Cleopatra VII

Egypt and Rome

- Ptolemy XI Alexander II, son of Ptolemy X Alexander captured by Mithridates on Cos in 88.
- Transferred to Sulla in the Peace of 85.
- Installed in Alexandria after death of Ptolemy X
- Hates his Mother-in-law/new wife so he kills her
- Alexandrian mob loved her so they kill him
- 2 sons of Ptolemy IX Soter II are found and installed
- One is Ptolemy XII Neos Dionysus Philopater Philadelphos (Auletes)

Ptolemy XII Neos Dionysos Philopater Philadelphos (Auletes)

- Tries to win over Pompey in Syria (64)
- 59 receives recognition from the consul (J. Caesar) as friend and ally of the Roman People for 6000 talents
- 58 expelled by Alexandrian mob
- Cleopatra Tryphania associates her daughter with her Cleopatra Selene (Tryphaina dies in 57)
- 55 Aulus Gabinius, proconsul of Syria, restores Auletes
- 51 he dies and leaves his children Cleopatra VI (or VII) and Ptolemy XIII Philopator on the throne

Cleopatra VII

- 49 Pompey receives 50 warships and 500 cavalry
- Summer 49 Cleopatra in exile, Pompey recognises Ptolemy XIII as sole king
- Pompey defeated at Pharsalos in 48
- Ptolemy XIII has him killed as he lands

Cleopatra VII

- Caesar occupies Alexandria, orders return to joint rule
- Riots in Alexandria
- 47 riots put down Cleopatra and Ptolemy XIV now king
- 44 Caesar murdered
- Sides with Caesarian faction
- Relationship with Antony

Actium and the end of the Hellenistic World

- Antony loses at Actium
- August 30 Octavian comes to Alexandria and formally ends Ptolemaic rule



Follow-up Reading

- Eilers, Claude. 2003. "A Roman East: Pompey's Settlement to the Death of Augustus". In Erskine, A. (ed). *A Companion to the Hellenistic World*. Blackwell. 90-102.
- McGing, Brian. 2003. "Subjection and Resistance: to the Death of Mithradates". In Erskine, A. (ed). *A Companion to the Hellenistic World*. Blackwell. 71-89.