

Kephallenia 431-421 BCE

Next they (i.e. the Athenian fleet) sailed to the island of Cephallenia and brought it over without using force. Cephallenia lies off Acarnania and Leucas, and consists of four states, the Paleans, Cranians, Samaeans, and Pronaeans. Not long afterwards the fleet returned to Athens. Thuc. 2.30

And the Athenians, sailing around to Elis, ravaged the countryside and laid siege to Pheia, a stronghold of the Eleians. The 430 b.c. Eleians who came out to its defence they defeated in battle, slaying many of their opponents, and took Pheia by storm. But after this, when the Eleians en masse offered them battle, the Athenians were driven back to their ships, whereupon they sailed off to Cephallenia, where they brought the inhabitants of that island into their alliance, and then voyaged back to Athens. Diod. Sic. 12.43

In the ensuing winter the Acarnanian Evarchus wishing to return to Astacus, persuaded the Corinthians to sail over with forty ships and fifteen hundred heavy infantry and restore him; himself also hiring some mercenaries. In command of the force were Euphamidas, son of Aristonymus, Timoxenus, son of Timocrates, and Eumachus, son of Chrysis, [2] who sailed over and restored him, and after failing in an attempt on some places on the Acarnanian coast which they were desirous of gaining, began their voyage home. [3] Coasting along shore they touched at Cephallenia and made a descent on the Cranian territory, and losing some men by the treachery of the Cranians, who fell suddenly upon them, put to sea somewhat hurriedly and returned home. Thuc. 2.33 (431/30)

The same summer, not long after this, the Ambraciots and Chaonians, being desirous of reducing the whole of Acarnania and detaching it from Athens, persuaded the Lacedaemonians to equip a fleet from their confederacy and send a thousand heavy infantry to Acarnania, representing that if a combined movement were made by land and sea, the coast Acarnanians would be unable to march; and the conquest of Zacynthus and Cephallenia easily following on the possession of Acarnania, the cruise round Peloponnese would be no longer so convenient for the Athenians. Besides which there was a hope of taking Naupactus. Thuc. 2.80

[5] Lacedaemon, on the other hand, said she had done what she could, having given up the Athenian prisoners of war in her possession, evacuated Thrace, and performed everything else in her power. Amphipolis it was out of her ability to restore; but she would endeavor to bring the Boeotians and Corinthians in to the treaty, to recover Panactum, and send home all the Athenian prisoners of war in Boeotia. [6] Meanwhile she required that Pylos should be restored, or at all events that the Messenians and Helots should be withdrawn, as her troops had been from Thrace, and the place garrisoned, if necessary, by the Athenians themselves. [7] After a number of different conferences held during the summer she succeeded in persuading Athens to withdraw from Pylos the Messenians and the rest of the Helots and deserters from Laconia, who were accordingly settled by her at Cranii in Cephallenia. Thuc. 5.35 (421)

A Brief introduction to Kephallenia (from the Hansen, Nielsen, Nielsen, Thomas Heine, Københavns Universitet. Polis Centret, and Danmarks Grundforskningsfond. An Inventory of Archaic and Classical Poleis : An Investigation Conducted by The Copenhagen Polis Centre for the Danish National Research Foundation. 2004. P. 351-2)

Unlike the other islands, Kephallenia was divided between four poleis (τετραπολις οσα, Πάλς, Κρνιοι, Σαμαοι, Πρννοι: Thuc. 2.30.2). A number of sources testify to co-operation between the four poleis and a common identity of all Kephallenians: IG ii² 96 Staatsverträge 262; cf. also Κεφαλλνες κ Κρανων (IG ix.1 276.3 (Orous, C3–C2?)) or Κεφαλλν/-νες κ Παλων (F.Delphes iii.4 376.3–4 (suppl., 358/7); BCH 68–69 (1944–45) 121 no. 32.4 (Delphi, C3)) or Κεφαλλν κ Πρννων (IG ix².1 8.3–4 (suppl., C3)). Dreher (1995b) 199 n. 116 and, implicitly, Bengtson (Staatsverträge 262) have assumed the existence of a Kephallenian federal state; but this seems unwarranted. Unlike the Akarnanians and other federal states, the Kephallenian poleis did not strike common coins, and each of them seems to have been an independent polity (Paleis (no. 132) in 435; Kranioi (no. 125) in 431/30(?); Pronnoi (no. 135) in 377; Same (no. 136) in 189/8). From outside, the islanders were often seen simply as Kephallenians (especial- ly at Athens; cf. Thuc. 3.94.1–2; Dem. 32.9, and Aristotle's Κεφαλλνων

πολιτεα no. 79, Gigon). A Kephallenian Confederacy with common institutions is not explicitly attested, and what united the Kephallenians seems to have been a geographical and ethnic identity (cf. the eponymous common ancestor, Kephalos) rather than some kind of political organisation.

The Persians & the West

4.50.1 During the winter ensuing Aristides, son of Archippus, one of the commanders of the Athenian ships sent to collect money from the allies, arrested at Eion on the Strymon Artaphernes, a Persian, on his way from the king to Lacedaemon. 4.50.2 He was conducted to Athens, where the Athenians got his dispatches translated from the Assyrian character and read them. With numerous references to other subjects, they in substance told the Lacedaemonians that the king did not know what they wanted, as of the many ambassadors they had sent him no two ever told the same story; however they were prepared to speak plainly they might send him some envoys with this Persian. 4.50.3 The Athenians after wards sent back Artaphernes in a galley to Ephesus, and ambassadors with him, who heard there of the death of King Artaxerxes, son of Xerxes, which took place about that time, and so returned home. Thuc. 4.50

Artaxerxes, the king of the Persians, died after a reign of forty years, and Xerxes succeeded to the throne and ruled for a year. Diod. Sic. 12.64 (424)

In the course of this year in Italy the Campanians advanced against Cyme with a strong army, defeated the Cymaeans in battle, and destroyed the larger part of the opposing forces. And settling down to a siege, they launched a number of assaults upon the city and took it by storm. They then plundered the city, sold into slavery the captured prisoners, and selected an adequate number of their own citizens to settle there. Diod. Sic. 12.76 (421)