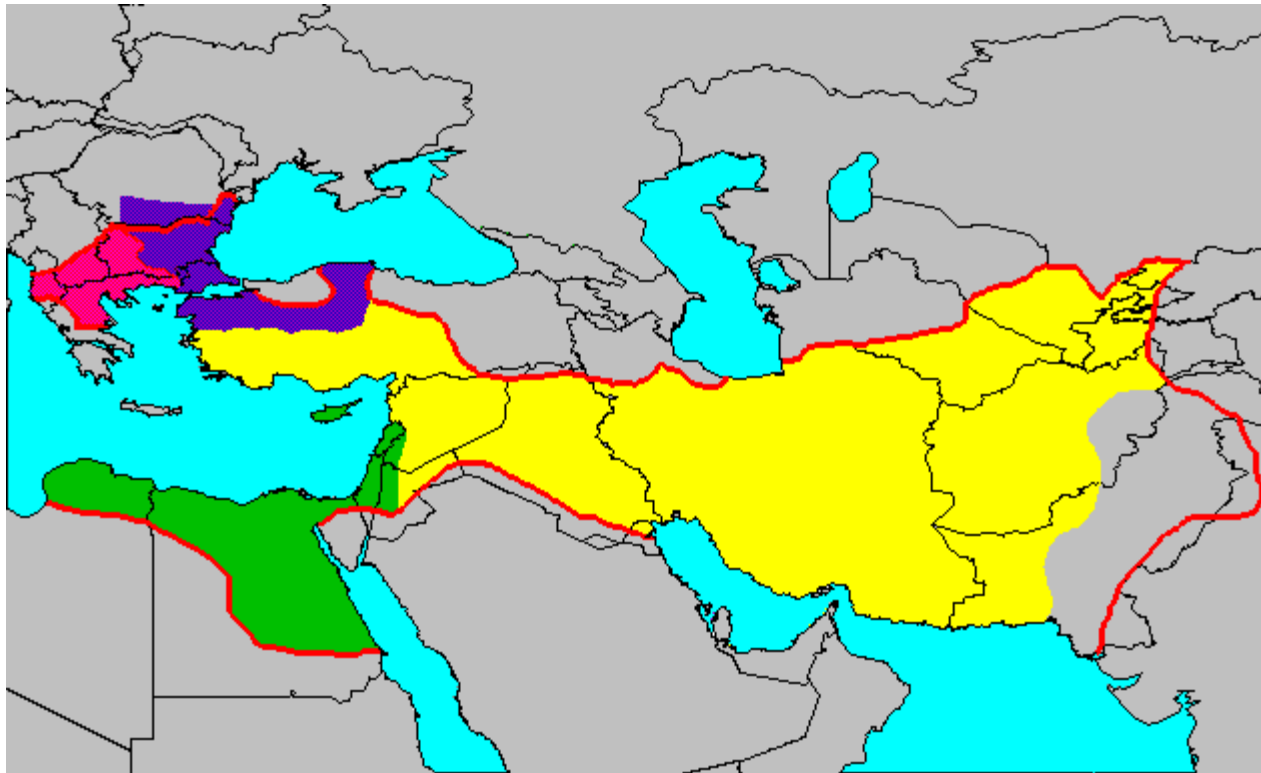


DEFENDERS, CONQUERORS AND VANQUISHED

Lecture 17: End of the Seleucids

Seleukid Empire in 300 BC



The dynasty so far....

- Comparatively stable kingdom from reign of Seleucus I to Seleucus III
 - ▣ Some territorial loses in Asia Minor and the east
- Re-expansion under Antiochos III
 - ▣ Retaking of the east, large portions of Asia Minor
- Major losses under Antiochos III
 - ▣ Asia Minor west of the Taurus mountians
- Few changes under Seleucus IV
- Failed attack on Egypt by Antiochos IV and death on campaign to the east

Demetrios I Soter	162-150
Alexander I Balas	150-145
Demetrios II (first reign)	145-140
Antiochos VI Dionysus	145-142
Tryphon	142-139
Antiochos VII Sidetes	138-129
Demetrius II (second reign)	129-125
Alexander II Zabinas	128-123
Cleopatra Thea	126
Cleopatra Thea and Antiochos VIII Grypos	125-121
Antiochus VIII Grypos	121-96
Antiochos IX Cyzicenus	114-95
Seleukos VI Epiphanes Nicator	96-95
Demetrios III Philopator	96-88
Antiochos X Eusebes	95-92
Antiochos XI Philadelphos	93
Philip I Philadelphus	93-84
Antiochos XII Dionysus	87-84
Tigranes (Armenian)	83-69
Cleopatra Selene and Seleucus VII Philometor	73?-69?
Antiochos XIII Asiaticus	69, 64?
Philip II	67-66

Demetrios I

- Boy King Antiochos V
 - ▣ Roman intervention (killing elephants and burning ships)
- Demetrios I sneaks out of Rome takes the kingdom, fairly stable for about 10 years
- Ptolemy supports Alexander Balas
- Alexander kills Demetrios in Battle

Alexander Balas

- Supported by Ptolemy VI
- Marriage to Cleopatra Thea
- Supported by the Jews
- Incompetent
- Abandoned by Ptolemy when Demetrios II invades, both Ptolemy and Balas die in battle



Problems of Demetrios II's Rule

- ❑ Young, inexperienced King
- ❑ Unpopular at Antioch
- ❑ His own mercenaries plundering the country for pay
- ❑ Internal Rebellion (revolt of Tryphon)
- ❑ Jewish Rebellion
- ❑ Parthian Invasion

Antiochos VII Sidetes

- Problems at the start of his reign:
 - ▣ Demetrios II was forced to deal with Parthian invasion and is captured but still alive
 - ▣ Tryphon is claiming the throne
 - ▣ The Jews are in revolt

Antiochos VII Sidetes

Solutions:

- Marry Cleopatra Thea (previously married to Balas and Demetrios II)
- Attack Tryphon
- Attack the Jews (John Hyrcanus)

With the internal problems solved, time to attack the Parthians!

The Parthian Campaign

- Initial success by Antiochos Sidetes
- The Parthian King releases Demetrios II to stir up trouble back home
- Surprise Parthian attack and the death of Sidetes
- Threat of Parthian invasion!!!

Demetrios II (2nd reign)

- ❑ Still unpopular
- ❑ Married to a Parthian, appears in Parthian style
- ❑ Cleopatra Thea now hates him
- ❑ Loss of the east, and the Jews are independent



Ptolemaic Intervention (again)

- Ptolemy supports a new king, Alexander II Zabinas (son of Antiochos VII Sidetes)
- Alexander controls area around Antioch
- Demetrios controls area around Damascus
- 127/6 battle between the two around Damascus, Demetrios loses and flees to Cleopatra who turns him away

Cleopatra Thea

- Holds Ptolemais
- Her first son declares himself king
 - ▣ She kills him
- Declares herself Queen
- Now has to fight the joint forces of Ptolemy and Alexander



Antiochos VIII Grypos

- Ptolemy abandons Alexander, supports Grypos and marries her daughter to him
- His mother allows him to be her joint-King
- Poisons his mother (while blaming her for trying to poison him)



Invasion of Antiochos Cyzicenus

- Antiochos Cyzicenus invades (by 114)
- Cyzicenus takes Antioch, Tarsus, Ptolemais, Sidon, Ascalon, and Damascus
- Cleopatra (in Egypt) offers Cyzicenus support



Grypos strikes back (112)

- Grypos defeats Cyzicenus outside Antioch
- Cleopatra Tryphaena (wife of Grypos) hates her sister (Cleopatra wife of Cyzicenus) and has her killed in a temple

Cyzicenus returns (112/1)

- Cyzicenus recaptures Antioch and kills Cleopatra Tryphaena (avenging his wife)
- Grypos flees north to Roman controlled Aspendus
- Grypos (with Ptolemaic help) has control over Ascalon in the south

Grypus recovers

- Takes Antioch and Tarsus in 111
- Loses them in 110/109
- Retakes them the next year (109/8)
- By 107 Grypus controls Damascus (which he loses before 104)

Stalemate and the end of Grypus

- From 108/7-104/3 we know nothing of what happened between the brothers
- 104/3 Grypus retakes Damascus (loses it by 102/1)
- 104 Grypus marries Cleopatra Selene (gaining Ptolemaic support)
- 96 Grypus is murdered by one of his ministers

Cyzicenus, sole king?

- ❑ Cyzicenus takes Antioch, marries Cleopatra Selene
- ❑ Ptolemy, now scared of Cyzicenus, sets up Demetrios III (son of Grypus) as king in Damascus
- ❑ Seleukos VI (son of Grypus) raises his own army and tries to take the throne
- ❑ Seleukos VI defeats Cyzicenus

War of the Brothers (Generation 2)

- ❑ Seleukos VI captures Antioch in 95
- ❑ Antiochos (XI) Eusebes (son of Cyzicenus) marries Cleopatra Selene and claims the throne
- ❑ Eusebes immediately attacks Seleukos and drives him out of Syria
- ❑ Antiochos XII and Philip (sons of Grypus) jointly claim the throne from the north

War of the Brothers (continued)

- ❑ 93: Antiochos XI takes Antioch from Eusebes
- ❑ Eusebes counterattacks, and Antiochos XII drowns fleeing the battle
- ❑ Philip and Demetrios unite against Eusebes (Philip controls the north, Eusebes the middle, Demetrios the south)
- ❑ Eusebes goes off to fight the Parthians where he dies

Demetrios and Philip, balance of Power?

- Philip stays in power in the north and does nothing
- Demetrios takes Eusebes territory and gets drawn into war with the Jews
- With Demetrios at war, Philip moves south and stations himself at Beroea
- Demetrios returns, sieges Beroea and is captured by a Parthian counter-siege (he dies in captivity)

Antiochos Dionysus, another brother

- Antiochos Dionysus (the final son of Antiochos Grypus) takes Damascus and claims to be king
- He does not attempt to expand his power north against Philip
- Attacks the Nabataeans
- Philip invades Antioch, is tricked and retreats
- Dionysus returns to fight Philip, finds him gone and goes back to fighting the Nabataeans and dies on campaign

Philip and Peace

- Excluding his campaign against Antioch, Philip does relatively little when Dionysus is king
- Selene remains alive with children by Eusebes
- Philip dies in 84/3 (apparently not in battle)
- Chaos resumes

Selene and the end of the Seleukids

- Selene attempts to install herself as regent for her sons at Antioch, they refuse
- Antioch declares the Armenian king Tigranes, King of Antioch
- Damascus declares the Nabataean king Aretas III, king
- Selene takes Ptolemais (by 72)
- 72/1 Tigranes takes Damascus

Roman intervention

- Selene's sons are sent to Rome (in 75) Rome confirms their right to be kings
- In 72, Tigranes sieges Selene at Ptolemais by 69 she capitulates and dies in captivity
- In 69/8 Tigranes is drawn into war with Rome to help Mithradates and Antiochos XIII slips back into Antioch

One last try

- Antiochos XIII loses to the Nabataeans and Antioch revolts
- Philip II (son of Philip) claims the throne with the help of Aziz (Arab king) and Antioch rebels
- Antiochos XIII asks for help from another Arab King
- The brothers are betrayed, Ptolemy defeats Mithradates and makes Syria into a Roman province