

ARMIES AND NAVIES

Professionalism

Who is a professional?

- **professional**

→ **adj.**

1. relating to or belonging to a profession. • worthy of a professional person; skilful or competent.

2. engaged in an activity as a paid occupation rather than as an amateur.

3. (*informal, derogatory*) habitually engaged in a particular activity: *a professional time-waster.*

→ **n.**

a professional person. • a person having impressive competence in a particular activity.

- DERIVATIVES **professionalization** (or **professionalisation**)

n. professionalize (or **professionalise**) **v. professionally** **adv.**

- "professional *adj.*" *The Concise Oxford English Dictionary*, Twelfth edition . Ed. Catherine Soanes and Angus Stevenson. Oxford University Press, 2008. *Oxford Reference Online*. Oxford University Press. University of Wales, Lampeter. 21 March 2009 <<http://www.oxfordreference.com/views/ENTRY.html?subview=Main&entry=t23.e45064>>

Professional vs. Mercenary

- **mercenary** / 'm:sn()ri/

→ **adj.**

primarily concerned with making money at the expense of ethics.

→ **n.**

(pl. **mercenaries**) a professional soldier hired to serve in a foreign army.

- DERIVATIVES **mercenariness** **n.**

- ORIGIN ME: from L. *mercenarius* 'hireling', from *merces*, *merced*- 'reward'.

- "mercenary *adj.*" *The Concise Oxford English Dictionary*, Twelfth edition . Ed. Catherine Soanes and Angus Stevenson. Oxford University Press, 2008. *Oxford Reference Online*. Oxford University Press. University of Wales, Lampeter. 21 March 2009 <<http://www.oxfordreference.com/views/ENTRY.html?subview=Main&entry=t23.e34977>>

Warfare professionalism in the Greek World

- In the archaic period and the beginning of the classical, the only professional soldiers known to us were the Spartans.
- Sparta had a professional army, since its citizens trained rigorously in warfare and their main occupation was warfare.
- To create such a system of a professional army, the state needs to be able to invest heavily and maintain that investment.
- The Spartans had moulded their political, social and economic system to provide for a professional army.

Advantages of Professionalism

- The Lacedaemonians also carry out with perfect ease manoeuvres that instructors in tactics think very difficult. Thus, when they march in column, every section of course follows in the rear of the section in front of it. Suppose that at such a time an enemy in order of battle suddenly makes his appearance in front: the word is passed to the second lieutenant to deploy into line to the left, and so throughout the column until the battle-line stands facing the enemy. Or again, if the enemy appears in the rear while they are in this formation, each file counter-marches, in order that the best men may always be face to face with the enemy. Xenophon *Constitution of the Spartans* 11.8

Contempt for professionalism

- We throw open our city to the world, and never by alien acts exclude foreigners from any opportunity of learning or observing, although the eyes of an enemy may occasionally profit by our liberality; trusting less in system and policy than to the native spirit of our citizens; while in education, **where our rivals from their very cradles by a painful discipline seek after manliness**, at Athens we live exactly as we please, and yet are just as ready to encounter every legitimate danger. Thucydides 2.39

Long wars breed new trends

- In this battle the left wing was composed of the Sciritae, who in a Lacedaemonian army have always that post to themselves alone; next to these were the soldiers of Brasidas from Thrace, and the Neodamodes with them; then came the Lacedaemonians themselves, company after company, with the Arcadians of Heraea at their side. After these were the Maenalians, and on the right wing the Tegeans with a few of the Lacedaemonians at the extremity; their cavalry being posted upon the two wings. [2] Such was the Lacedaemonian formation. That of their opponents was as follows:—On the right were the Mantineans, the action taking place in their country: next to them the allies from Arcadia; **after whom came the thousand picked men of the Argives, to whom the state had given a long course of military training at the public expense**; next to them the rest of the Argives, and after them their allies, the Cleonaeans and Orneans, and lastly the Athenians on the extreme left, and their own cavalry with them. Thucydides 5.67

Increased Professionalism in the 4th century

- When they had joined forces, the Thebans thought that matters stood well with them, inasmuch as they had come to bring aid and there was no longer an enemy to be seen in the land; they accordingly made their preparations for going back. But the Arcadians, Argives, and Eleans urged them to lead the way with all speed into Laconia, pointing out the number of their own troops and praising beyond measure the army of the Thebans. **For all the Boeotians were now training themselves in the craft of arms, glorying in their victory at Leuctra.** Xenophon *Hellenika* 6.5.23

Training and Professionalism

- Professionalism or at least advanced training became a feature of warfare in the fourth century not only for the common soldier but also for the military leader.
- It is that move towards professionalism that bred the training manuals, such as Xenophon's *The Cavalry Commander* and the words (surviving and lost) of Aineias Tacticus.

Mercenaries in the Greek World

- There are three main conditions for mercenaries to exist in any society:
 - 1. Warfare
 - 2. People willing to employ mercenaries
 - 3. People willing to be employed as mercenaries.

Why become a mercenary?

- 1. Poverty
- 2. Adventure, ex. Xenophon
- 3. Problems at home, ex. Klearchos the Spartan.

Early mercenaries

- Mercenaries were known in the Greek world from the archaic period.
- However, they were mainly specialised troops, such as Thracian peltasts or Kretan archers.
- Alternatively, mercenary troops were employed by tyrants and foreign kings.

Mercenaries and the Peloponnesian War

- The long years of war at the end of the fifth century meant that not only was the economic situation difficult in many poleis but also that a lot of people had known nothing but war in their lives.
- It was the combination of these conditions that enabled Kyros the Younger to raise 10,000 Greek mercenaries in his bid for the throne of Persia in 401.

A mercenary century

- The fourth century saw what could easily be called a “mercenary explosion”
- Poleis and dynasts both started to employ mercenaries on a large scale.
- That effectively changed the face of Greek warfare.

Poverty and Mercenary Service

- It were well to make the expedition in the present generation, in order that those who have shared in our misfortunes may also benefit by our advantages and not continue all their days in wretchedness. For sufficient is the time that is past, filled as it has been with every form of horror; for many as are the ills which are incident to the nature of man, we have ourselves invented more than those which necessity lays upon us, by engendering wars and factions among ourselves; and, in consequence, some are being put to death contrary to law in their own countries, others are wandering with their women and children in strange lands, **and many, compelled through lack of the necessities of life to enlist in foreign armies**, are being slain, fighting for their foes against their friends. Isokrates 4.167-8

A changing balance: Money and War

- After the death of Onomarchus his brother Phayllus succeeded to the command of the Phocians. In an attempt to retrieve the disaster, he began to gather a multitude of mercenaries, offering double the customary pay, and summoned help from his allies. He got ready also a large supply of arms and coined gold and silver money. Diodoros 16.36

QUESTIONS?
