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**Alexander the Great and Hellenistic Egypt**  
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### **Important Dynasties**

The Persians rulers of Egypt during the **Twenty-Seventh Dynasty (525-404)**

Cambyses, 525-522

Darius I, 525-486

Xerxes I, 486-465

Artaxerxes, 465-424

Darius II, 424-404

There is a break but the Persians reconquer Egypt during **the Thirty-First Dynasty (343-332)**

### **The Thirty-First Dynasty (343-332)**

Artaxerxes III, 343-338

Arses, 338-336

Darius III, 335-332

### **Rulers of Macedon/The Argead Dynasty**

Amyntas I of Macedon (beginning unknown, ends c. 498/7)

Alexander I 498/7-454

Perdiccas II (454 -413)

Archelaus of Macedon (413-399)

Orestes of Macedon (399-398/7)

Areopos II 398/7-395/4

Amyntas III 393-370/69

Alexander II 370-367 (son of Amyntas III and Eurydice)

Ptolemy 367-365 (possibly a son of Amyntas III by another queen, or a prominent courtier)

Perdiccas III 365-359 (son of Amyntas III and Eurydice)

Philip II 359-336 (son of Amyntas III and Eurydice)

Alexander III (the Great) 336-323 (son of Philip II and Olympias)

### **Wives of Philip II:**

Audata the Illyrian (mother of Cynane, mother of Adea Eurydice)

Philia of Elimeia

Philinna of Thessaly (mother of Philip Arrhidaeus)  
Nicesipolis of Thessaly (mother of Thessalonice)  
Olympias from Epirus (mother of Alexander the Great and Cleopatra (married to Alexander of Epirus, her maternal uncle))  
Meda of the Getae  
Cleopatra, a Macedonian noblewoman (mother of two young children who don't survive the death of their father)

### **Wives of Alexander III:**

Stateira/Barnine: Daughter of Darius III of Persia (m. 324)  
Parysatus: Daughter of Ataxerxes of Persia (m. 324)  
Roxana (mother of Alexander IV)

### **The Ptolemaic Rulers of Egypt (with only leading queens and children)**

#### **Ptolemy I Soter 304-282**

His Queens:

Eurydice, daughter of Antipater (mother of Ptolemy Ceraunos (Thunderbolt))  
Berenike I (mother of Arsinoe II and Ptolemy II 246-222 Philadelphius)

#### **Ptolemy II 246-222 Philadelphius**

His Queens:

Arsinoe I (mother of Ptolemy III Eurgetes)  
Arsinoe II

#### **Ptolemy III Eurgetes Married to Berenice II**

(parents of) Ptolemy IV Philopator 221-204 and Arsinoe III

#### **Ptolemy IV Philopator married to Arsinoe III**

(parents of Ptolemy V Ephiaphanes 204-180 (the Rosetta Stone dates to his reign))

**Ptolemy V Ephiaphanes** 204-180 m. Cleopatra I, a Seleucid Princess, (The *Book of Maccabees* and the Syrian occupation of Judea date to his reign)

(parents of **Ptolemy VI Philometor** 180-145, **Ptolemy VIII Eurgetes II** and **Cleopatra II 170-116**, all rulers, Cleopatra II co-ruled with both of them, along with her daughter **Cleopatra III**)

### **We will cover the following in our Roman History classes)**

Ptolemy IX 116-107

and Cleopatra III 116-101

Ptolemy X 107-88

Ptolemy IX 88-90

Ptolemy XI and Berenike III 80

## **Ptolemy XII Auletes 80-58**

Cleopatra VI (daughter of Auletes) 58-57

Berenike IV (daughter of Auletes) 58-55

Ptolemy XII Auletes (restored) 55-51

Cleopatra Philopater VII (daughter of Auletes) 51-30

and Ptolemy XIII (daughter of Auletes) 51-47

and Ptolemy XIV (daughter of Auletes) 47-44

and Ptolemy XV Caesarion (son of Cleopatra VII) 44-30

## **Key Words**

Satrapy and satrap

“foot-companions” or pezhetairoi

Satrap and Satrapy

Hellenistic vs. Hellenic

The Successor States

Antigonids, Seleucids

Hellenistic Cities

*Basileus*, Basileia, Basilissa

Amun-Min

Serapis

Isis-Aphrodite

The Rosetta Stone

Cartouche

## **Further Reading:**

*Philip and Alexander: Kings and Conquerors*, by Adrian Goldsworthy

*The Hellenistic Age: A Very Short Introduction*, by Peter Thonemann

The best primary source for Alexander the Great is Plutarch’s *Life of Alexander* (available online for free and in many translations, including Penguin)

If you want to try to unravel the complicated dynasties, the best guide is *The Complete Royal Families of Ancient Egypt* by Aidan Dodson and Dyan Hilton. Not for the faint of heart!

“Alexander the Great’s Egyptian Names in the Barque Shrine at Luxor Temple,” by Francisco Bosch-Puche, available as a PDF from Academia.edu (free subscription)

Originally published in *Alexander the Great and Egypt: History, Art, Tradition*, edited by Volker Grieb, Krzysztof Nawotka, and Agnieszka Wojciechowska

(a specialized academic article with tons of interesting diagrams and illustrations)