

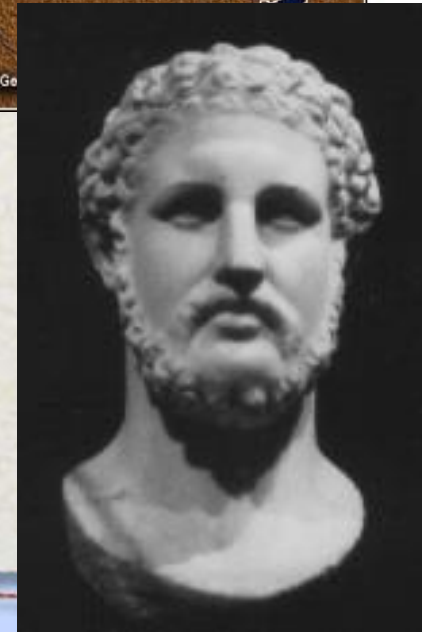
Classical Greece

c.1000 B.C.E.
~c.150 B.C.E.

Alexander the Great

Rise of Macedonia

- Macedonians descended from the Dorians
- Lived just north of Greece
- Greeks looked down on them – saw them as backward mountain people
- Philip II became King of Macedonia in 359 BCE
 - Determined to do 3 things:
 - 1) Create a strong army – used Greek-style phalanxes
 - 2) Unify the Greeks under Macedonian rule
 - 3) Destroy the Persian Empire
- Pursued his ambition for the next 23 years: Sometimes he...
 - conquered a polis
 - bribed a polis's leader to surrender
 - made allies w/a polis thru marriage (had many wives)



Rise of Macedonia

- Greek city-states wouldn't cooperate with one another to fight off the Macedonians
- By 338 BCE = Philip II had conquered all of Greece except Sparta



- Just as he was preparing to conquer Persia, Philip II was murdered
 - Possibly by a Persian or an assassin hired by his 1st wife Olympias
 - Olympias and Phillip II's son = Alexander the Great – became king

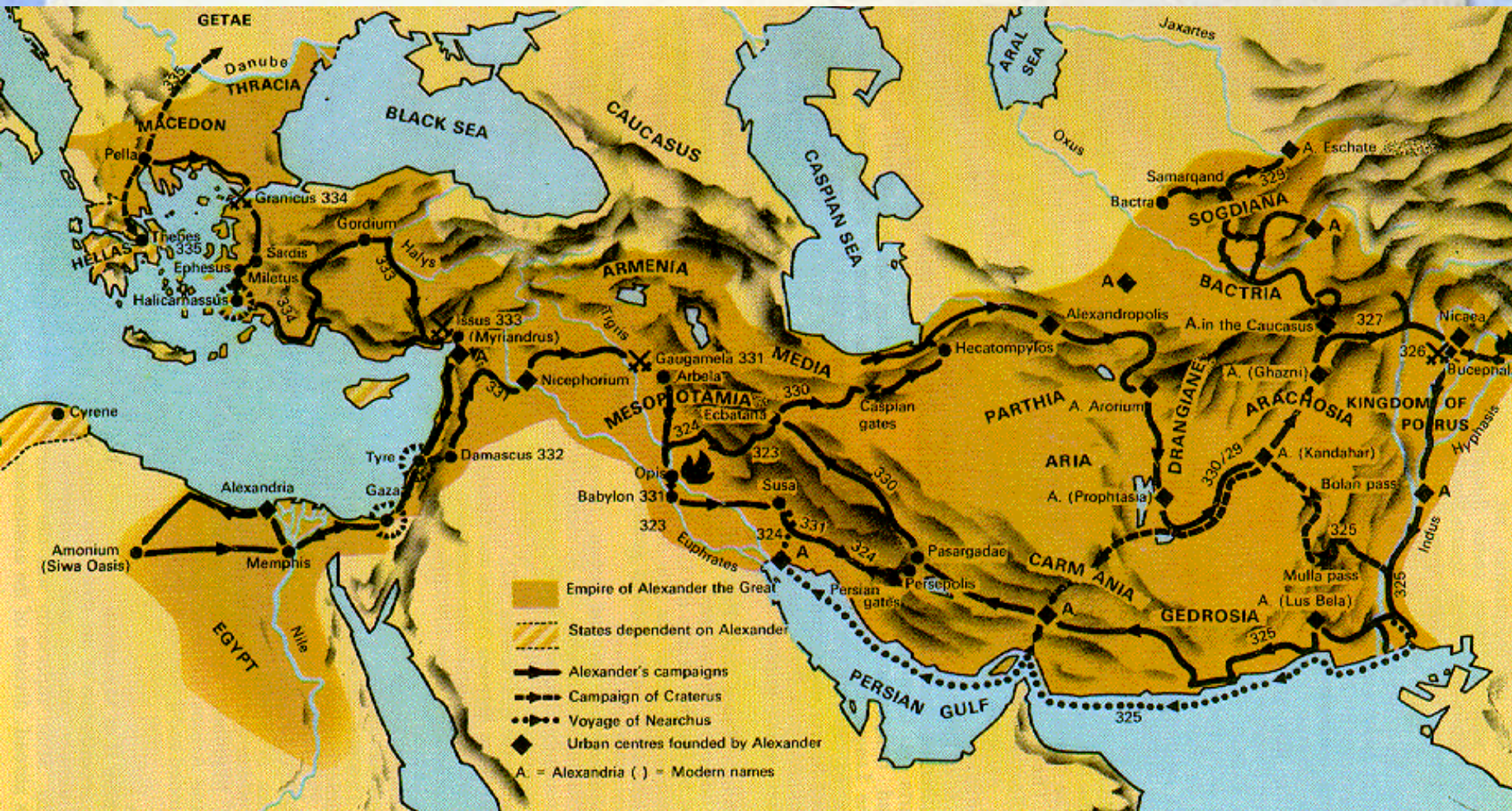
Alexander's Conquest

336 BCE - 323 BCE

- Only 20 when he took over the empire
- Respected for his courage/military skill
- Tutored by Aristotle
- Conquered Persian territories – including Egypt and Mesopotamia
- Conquered western Indus Valley
- Died at 33, probably of malaria
- Wanted to...
 - unite Europe/Asia under 1 empire
 - combined the best of Greek, Persian, Egyptian, & Indian cultures (Hellenism)



Alexander conquered the Persian empire and controlled the largest empire the world has ever seen.



Hellenistic Empire



Divided Domain

3 of Alexander's general divided his empire into separate domains = territories

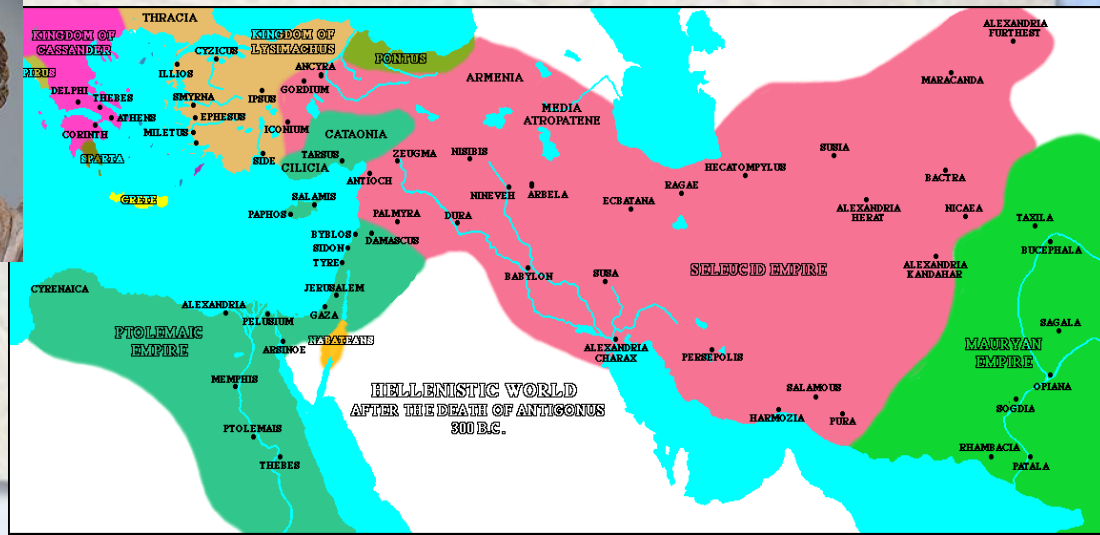
1) Ptolemy ruled Egypt, Libya, and party of Syria



2) Seleucus ruled the rest of Syria, Mesopotamia, Iran, and Afghanistan

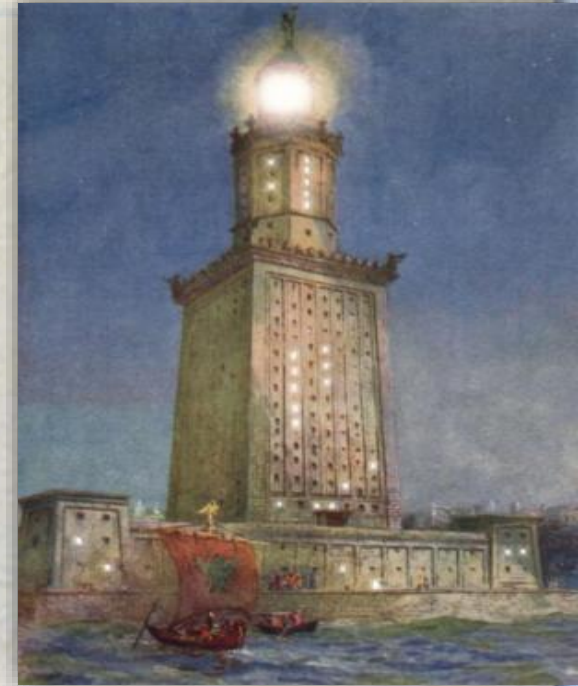
- Forced to give up all by Syria
- Lost Jerusalem to the Jews = an event that's now remembered by the Jewish holiday Hanukkah

3) Antigonus ruled Macedonia and Greece - eventually conquered by the Romans



Hellenistic Culture

- Greek language & culture spread in the lands Alexander had conquered
- Greek (Hellenic) ways of life mixed with Persian culture of Middle East to form a new culture = Hellenistic
- Hellenistic culture was concentrated in cities
- Largest & wealthiest city was Alexandria in Egypt
 - Had a double harbor with a lighthouse
 - First ever museum
 - Large library
 - Scientific research institute
 - Zoo and botanical garden
 - It was here that Jewish scholars translated the Bible into Greek
- Social status of upper-class Greek women improved
 - Could move about freely, learn how to read & write, have certain jobs
 - Commoners' status didn't improve



Hellenistic Philosophers

3 systems of Hellenistic thought:

- 1) Cynicism = live simply and avoid materialism
- 2) Epicureanism = accept the world as it is, avoid politics, and live simply
- 3) Stoicism = ignore emotions and follow reason

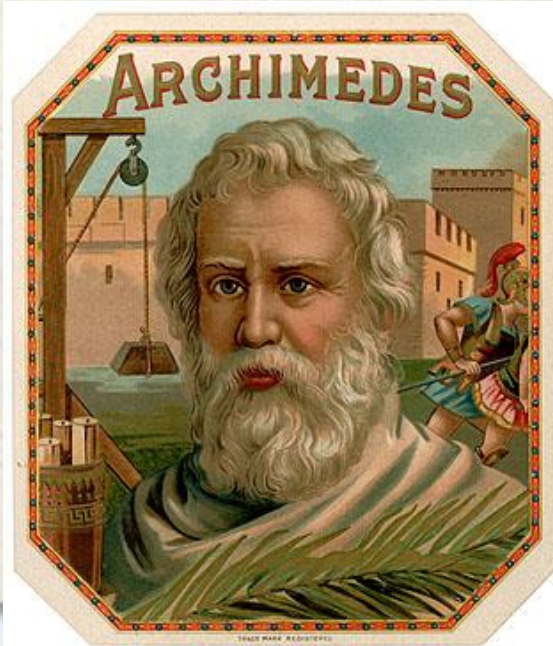
Hellenistic Art & Literature

- Art often showed people in the grip of emotions
- Wrote comedies about everyday life



Hellenistic Science, Medicine, & Math

- Performed experiments and developed new theories
- **Eratosthenes** estimated the circumference of the Earth w/in approx. 2%
- Dissected corpses to learn about human anatomy
 - Learned how to use drugs to relieve pain
- Euclid organized a book about geometry
- Archimedes invented the compound pulley (used for lifting heavy objects) and the cylinder screw (for irrigation)





Hellenistic Astronomy

- Ptolemy: produced an elaborate theory of how the sun revolves around the earth
 - Geocentric theory (Hellenistic)
 - Contradicts thought of the time

