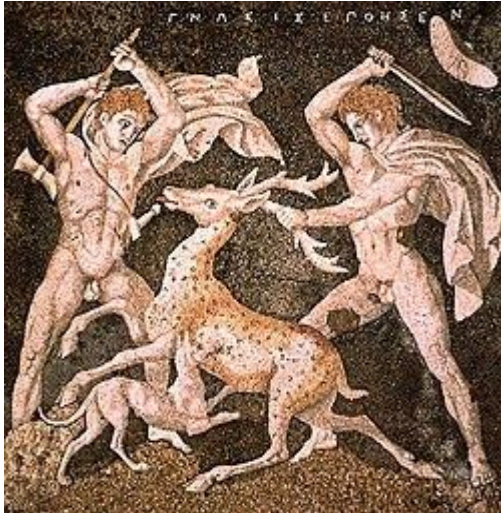


Ancient Macedonians

This article is about the native inhabitants of the historical [kingdom of Macedonia](#). For the modern ethnic Greek people from [Macedonia, Greece](#), see [Macedonians \(Greeks\)](#). For other uses, see [Ancient Macedonian \(disambiguation\)](#) and [Macedonian \(disambiguation\)](#). From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



ANCIENT MACEDONIANS ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΕΣ

[Stag Hunt Mosaic](#), 4th century BC

Languages. [Ancient Macedonian](#), then [Attic Greek](#), and later [Koine Greek](#)

Religion. [ancient Greek religion](#)

The **Macedonians** ([Greek](#): Μακεδόνες, *Makedónes*) were an [ancient tribe](#) that lived on the [alluvial plain](#) around the rivers [Haliacmon](#) and lower [Axios](#) in the northeastern part of [mainland Greece](#). Essentially an [ancient Greek people](#),^[1] they gradually expanded from their homeland along the Haliacmon valley on the northern edge of the Greek world, absorbing or driving out neighbouring non-Greek tribes, primarily [Thracian](#) and [Illyrian](#).^{[2][3]} They spoke [Ancient Macedonian](#), a language [closely related](#) to [Ancient Greek](#), [perhaps a dialect](#), although the [prestige language](#) of the region was at first [Attic](#) and then [Koine Greek](#).^[4]

Their religious beliefs mirrored those of other Greeks, following the main deities of the [Greek pantheon](#), although the Macedonians continued [Archaic burial practices](#) that had ceased in other parts of [Greece](#) after the 6th century BC. Aside from the monarchy, the core of Macedonian society was its nobility. Similar to the aristocracy of neighboring [Thessaly](#), their wealth was largely built on herding [horses](#) and [cattle](#).

Although composed of various clans, the [kingdom of Macedonia](#), established around the 8th century BC, is mostly associated with the [Argead dynasty](#) and the tribe named after it. The dynasty was [allegedly founded](#) by [Perdiccas I](#), descendant of the legendary [Temenus](#) of [Argos](#), while the [region of Macedon](#) perhaps derived its name from [Makedon](#), a figure of [Greek mythology](#). Traditionally ruled by independent families, the Macedonians seem to have accepted Argead rule by the time of [Alexander I](#) (r. 498–454 BC–). Under [Philip II](#) (r. 359–336 BC–), the Macedonians are credited with numerous [military innovations](#), which enlarged their territory and increased their control over other areas extending into [Thrace](#).

This [consolidation of territory](#) allowed for the exploits of [Alexander the Great](#) (r. 336–323 BC–), the [conquest](#) of the [Achaemenid Empire](#), the establishment of the [diadochi successor states](#), and the inauguration of the [Hellenistic period](#) in [West Asia](#), [Greece](#), and the broader [Mediterranean world](#). The Macedonians were [eventually conquered](#) by the [Roman Republic](#), which dismantled the [Macedonian monarchy](#) at the end of the [Third Macedonian War](#) (171–168 BC) and established the [Roman province](#) of [Macedonia](#) after the [Fourth Macedonian War](#) (150–148 BC).

Authors, [historians](#), and statesmen of the ancient world often expressed ambiguous if not conflicting ideas about the [ethnic identity](#) of the Macedonians as either [Greeks](#), semi-Greeks, or even [barbarians](#). This has led to debate among modern academics about the precise ethnic identity of the Macedonians, who nevertheless embraced many aspects of contemporaneous [Greek culture](#) such as participation in [Greek religious cults](#) and athletic games, including the [Ancient Olympic Games](#). Given the scant linguistic evidence, it is not clear how closely related the Macedonian language was to [Greek](#), and how close it was to the [Phrygian](#), [Thracian](#), and [Illyrian](#) languages.



The ancient Macedonians participated in the production and fostering of [Classical](#) and later [Hellenistic art](#). In terms of [visual arts](#), they produced [frescoes](#), [mosaics](#), [sculptures](#), and decorative [metalwork](#). The [performing arts](#) of [music](#) and [Greek theatrical dramas](#) were highly appreciated, while famous [playwrights](#) such as [Euripides](#) came to live in Macedonia.

The kingdom also attracted the presence of renowned [philosophers](#), such as [Aristotle](#), while native Macedonians contributed to the field of [ancient Greek literature](#), especially [Greek historiography](#). Their sport and leisure activities included hunting, [foot races](#), and [chariot races](#), as well as feasting and drinking at aristocratic banquets known as [symposia](#). Origins, consolidation and expansion

Further information: [History of Macedonia \(ancient kingdom\)](#) and [Demographic history of Macedonia](#)

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Further information: [Argead dynasty](#), [Antipatrid dynasty](#), and [Antigonid dynasty](#)

The expansion of [ancient Macedon](#) up to the death of [Philip II of Macedon](#) (r. 359–336 BC–)

The [expansion of the Macedonian kingdom](#) has been described as a three-stage process. As a frontier kingdom on the border of the Greek world with [barbarian Europe](#), the Macedonians first subjugated their immediate northern neighbours—various [Illyrian](#) and [Thracian](#) tribes—before turning against the states of [southern](#) and [central Greece](#). Macedonia then led a [pan-Hellenic military force](#) against their primary objective—the [conquest of Persia](#)—which they achieved with remarkable ease.^{[5][6][7][8]}

Following the [death of Alexander the Great](#) and the [Partition of Babylon](#) in 323 BC, the [diadochi successor states](#) such as the [Attalid](#), [Ptolemaic](#) and [Seleucid Empires](#) were established, ushering in the [Hellenistic period](#) of [Greece](#), [West Asia](#) and the [Hellenized Mediterranean Basin](#).^[9] With Alexander's conquest of the [Achaemenid Empire](#), Macedonians [colonized territories](#) as far east as [Central Asia](#).^[10]

The Macedonians continued to rule much of [Hellenistic Greece](#) (323–146 BC), forming alliances with [Greek leagues](#) such as the [Cretan League](#) and [Epirote League](#) (and prior to this, the [Kingdom of Epirus](#)).^[11] However, they often fell into conflict with the [Achaean League](#), [Aetolian League](#), the city-state of [Sparta](#), and the [Ptolemaic dynasty](#) of [Hellenistic Egypt](#) that intervened in wars of the [Aegean region](#) and [mainland Greece](#).^[12]

After Macedonia [formed an alliance](#) with [Hannibal](#) of [Ancient Carthage](#) in 215 BC, the rival [Roman Republic](#) responded by fighting a [series of wars](#) against Macedonia in conjunction with its Greek allies such as [Pergamon](#) and [Rhodes](#).^[13] In the aftermath of the [Third Macedonian War](#) (171–168 BC), the [Romans](#) abolished the [Macedonian monarchy](#) under [Perseus of Macedon](#) (r. 179–168 BC–) and replaced the kingdom with four [client state](#) republics.^[14] A brief revival of the monarchy by the [pretender Andriscus](#) led to the [Fourth Macedonian War](#) (150–148 BC), after which Rome established the [Roman province](#) of [Macedonia](#) and [subjugated the Macedonians](#).^[15]



PREHISTORIC HOMELAND

The positions of the Balkan tribes prior to the [Macedonian expansion](#), according to [Nicholas Hammond](#)

In [Greek mythology](#), [Makedon](#) is the eponymous hero of Macedonia and is mentioned in [Hesiod's Catalogue of Women](#).^[16] The first historical attestation of the Macedonians occurs in the works of [Herodotus](#) during the mid-5th century BC.^[17] The Macedonians are absent in [Homer's Catalogue of Ships](#) and the term "Macedonia" itself appears late.

The *Iliad* states that upon leaving [Mount Olympus](#), [Hera](#) journeyed via [Pieria](#) and [Emathia](#) before reaching [Athos](#).^[18] This is re-iterated by [Strabo](#) in his *Geography*.^[19] Nevertheless, archaeological evidence indicates that [Mycenaean](#) contact with or penetration into the Macedonian interior possibly started from the early 14th century BC.^{[20][21]}

In his *A History of Macedonia*, [Nicholas Hammond](#) reconstructed the earliest phases of Macedonian history based on his interpretation of later literary accounts and archaeological excavations in the region of Macedonia.^[22] According to Hammond, the Macedonians are missing from early Macedonian historical accounts because they had been living in the [Orestian highlands](#) since before the [Greek Dark Ages](#), possibly having originated from the same (proto-Greek) population pool that produced other Greek peoples.^{[23][24]} The Macedonian tribes subsequently moved down from Orestis in the upper [Haliacmon](#) to the Pierian highlands in the lower Haliacmon because of pressure from the [Molossians](#), a related tribe who had migrated to Orestis from [Pelagonia](#).^[25] In their new Pierian home north of Olympus, the Macedonian tribes mingled with the proto-[Dorians](#).

This might account for traditions which placed the eponymous founder, Makedon, near Pieria and Olympus.^[26] Some traditions placed the Dorian homeland in the [Pindus](#) mountain range in western [Thessaly](#), whilst Herodotus pushed this further north to the Macedonian Pindus and claimed that the Dorians were referred to as *Makednon* (*Μακεδόνες*).^{[27][28]} A different, southern homeland theory also exists in traditional historiography. [Arnold J. Toynbee](#) asserted that the Makedones migrated north to Macedonia from [central Greece](#), placing the Dorian homeland in [Phthiotis](#) and citing the traditions of fraternity between Makedon and [Magnes](#).^[29]

TEMENIDS AND ARGEADS

The Macedonian expansion is said to have been led by the ruling Temenid dynasty, known as "[Argeads](#)" or "Argives". Herodotus said that [Perdiccas](#), the dynasty's founder, was descended from the Heraclid [Temenus](#).^[30] He left Argos with his two older brothers [Aeropus](#) and [Gayanes](#), and travelled via [Illyria](#) to [Lebaea](#), a city in [Upper Macedonia](#) which certain scholars have tried to connect with the villages [Alebea](#) or [Velvedos](#).^[31] Here, the brothers served as shepherds for a local ruler. After a vision, the brothers fled to another region in Macedonia near the [Midas Gardens](#) by the foot of the [Vermio Mountains](#), and then set about subjugating the rest of Macedonia.^[32]

Thucydides's account is similar to that of Herodotus, making it probable that the story was disseminated by the Macedonian court,^[33] i.e. it accounts for the belief the Macedonians had about the origin of their kingdom, if not an actual memory of this beginning.^[34] Later historians modified the dynastic traditions by introducing variously [Caranus](#)^{[35][36][37]} or Archelaus, the son of Temenus, as the founding Temenid kings—although there is no doubt that [Euripides](#) transformed *Caranus* to *Archelaus* meaning "leader of the people" in his play [Archelaus](#), in an attempt to please [Archelaus I of Macedonia](#).^[38]



The route of the [Argeads](#) from [Argos](#), [Peloponnese](#) to [Macedonia](#)

The earliest sources, Herodotus and Thucydides, called the royal family "Temenidae". In later sources (Strabo, Appian, [Pausanias](#)) the term "Argeadae" was introduced. However, [Appian](#) said that the term Argeadae referred to a leading Macedonian tribe rather than the name of the ruling dynasty.^{[39][40]}

The connection of the Argead name to the royal family is uncertain. The words "Argead" and "Argive" derive via [Latin](#) *Argīvus*^[41] from [Ancient Greek](#): Ἀργεῖος (*Argeios*), meaning "of or from [Argos](#)",^{[42][43]} and is first attested in Homer, where it was also used as a collective designation for the Greeks ("Ἀργεῖων Δαναῶν", *Argive Danaans*).^[44]

The most common connection to the royal family, as written by Herodotus, is with Peloponnesian Argos.^[45] Appian connects it with Orestian Argos.^[39] According to another tradition mentioned by Justin, the name was adopted after Caranus moved Macedonia's capital from [Edessa](#) to [Aegae](#), thus appropriating the name of the city for its citizens.^[46]

A figure, Argeas, is mentioned in the *Iliad* (16.417), therefore it is possible that there may have been an even earlier tradition deriving the genealogy of the Macedonian kings from the heroes of the [Trojan Cycle](#), which was popular in neighbouring [Epirus](#).^[40] Taking Herodotus's lineage account as the most trustworthy, Appian said that after Perdikkas, six successive heirs ruled: [Argeus](#), [Philip](#), [Aeropus](#), [Alcetas](#), Amyntas and Alexander.^[47] [Amyntas I](#) (r. 547–498 BC–) ruled at the time of the [Persian invasion of Paeonia](#) and when [Macedon](#) became a [vassal state](#) of [Achaemenid Persia](#).^{[48][49]} However, [Alexander I](#) (r. 498–454 BC–) is the first truly historic figure.

Based on this line of succession and an estimated average rule of 25 to 30 years, the beginnings of the Macedonian dynasty have thus been traditionally dated to 750 BC.^{[40][50]} Hammond supports the traditional view that the Temenidae did arrive from the [Peloponnese](#) and took charge of Macedonian leadership, possibly usurping rule from a native "Argead" dynasty with Illyrian help.^[32] However, other scholars doubt the veracity of their Peloponnesian origins. For example, [M. B. Hatzopoulos](#) takes Appian's testimony to mean that the royal lineage imposed itself onto the tribes of the Middle Heliacmon from [Argos Orestikon](#),^[31] whilst [Eugene N. Borza](#) argues that the Argeads were a family of notables hailing from Vergina.^[51]

EXPANSION FROM THE CORE [Rise of Macedon](#) and [Colonies in antiquity](#)

Expulsion of the [Pierres](#) from the region of [Olympus](#) to the [Pangaion Hills](#) by the Macedonians

Both Strabo and Thucydides said that Emathia and [Pieria](#) were mostly occupied by Thracians ([Pierres](#), [Paeonians](#)) and [Bottiaeans](#), as well as some Illyrian and [Epirote](#) tribes.^[52] Herodotus states that the [Bryges](#) were cohabitants with the Macedonians before their mass migration to [Anatolia](#).^[53] If a group of ethnically definable Macedonian tribes were living in the Pierian highlands prior to their expansion, the first conquest was of the Pierian piedmont and coastal plain, including Vergina.^[54] The tribes may have launched their expansion from a base near Mount Bermion, according to Herodotus.^[55] Thucydides describes the Macedonian expansion specifically as a process of conquest led by the Argeads:^[56]



But the country along the sea which is now called Macedonia, was first acquired and made a kingdom by Alexander [I], father of Perdikkas [II] and his forefathers, who were originally Temenidae from Argos. They defeated and expelled from Pieria the Pierians ... and also expelled the Bottiaeans from Bottiaea ... they acquired as well a narrow strip of Paeonia extending along the Axios river from the interior to Pella and the sea. Beyond the Axios they possess the territory as far as the Strymon called Mygdonia, having driven out the Edoni. Moreover, they expelled from the district now called Eordaea the Eordi ... The Macedonians also made themselves rulers of certain places ... namely Anthemus, Grestonia, and a large part of Macedonia proper.^[56]

The Regions of [Mygdonia](#), [Edonia](#), [Bisaltia](#), [Crestonia](#) and [Bottiaea](#)

Thucydides's account gives a geographical overview of Macedonian possessions at the time of Alexander I's rule. To reconstruct a chronology of the expansion by Alexander I's predecessors is more difficult, but generally, three stages have been proposed from Thucydides' reading.

The initial and most important conquest was of Pieria and [Bottiaea](#), including the locations of [Pydna](#) and [Dium](#). The second stage consolidated rule in Pieria and Bottiaea, captured [Methone](#) and [Pella](#), and extended rule over [Eordaea](#) and [Almopia](#). According to Hammond, the third stage occurred after 550 BC, when the Macedonians gained control over [Mygdonia](#), [Edonis](#), lower Paeonia, [Bisaltia](#) and [Crestonia](#).^[57]

However, the second stage might have occurred as late as 520 BC;^[58] and the third stage probably did not occur until after 479 BC, when the Macedonians capitalized on the weakened Paeonian state [after the Persian withdrawal](#) from Macedon and the rest of their mainland European territories.^[59] Whatever the case, Thucydides' account of the Macedonian state describes its accumulated territorial extent by the rule of [Perdiccas II](#), Alexander I's son. Hammond has said that the early stages of Macedonian expansion were militaristic, subduing or expunging populations from a large and varied area.^[60] [Pastoralism](#) and highland living could not support a very concentrated settlement density, forcing pastoralist tribes to search for more arable lowlands suitable for agriculture.^[61]



ETHNOGENESIS SCENARIO

The entrance to the "Great Tumulus" Museum at [Vergina](#)

Present-day scholars have highlighted several inconsistencies in the traditionalist perspective first set in place by Hammond.^[62] An alternative model of state and [ethnos](#) formation, promulgated by an alliance of regional elites, which redates the creation of the Macedonian kingdom to the 6th century BC, was proposed in 2010.^[63] According to these scholars, direct literary, archaeological, and linguistic evidence to support Hammond's contention that a distinct Macedonian *ethnos* had existed in the Haliacmon valley since the [Aegean civilizations](#) is lacking. Hammond's interpretation has been criticized as a "conjectural reconstruction" from what appears during later, historical times.^[64]

Similarly, the historicity of migration, conquest and population expulsion have also been questioned. Thucydides's account of the forced expulsion of the Pierians and Bottiaeans could have been formed on the basis of his perceived similarity of names of the Pierians and Bottiaeans living in the [Struma valley](#) with the names of regions in Macedonia; whereas his account of Eordean extermination was formulated because such toponymic correspondences are absent.^[59]

Likewise, the Argead conquest of Macedonia may be viewed as a commonly used [literary topos](#) in classical Macedonian rhetoric. Tales of migration served to create complex genealogical connections between trans-regional ruling elites, while at the same time were used by the ruling dynasty to legitimize their rule, heroicize mythical ancestors and distance themselves from their subjects.^{[34][65]}

Conflict was a historical reality in the early Macedonian kingdom and pastoralist traditions allowed the potential for population mobility. Greek archaeologists have found that some of the passes linking the Macedonian highlands with the valley regions have been used for thousands of years. However, the archaeological evidence does not point to any significant disruptions between the [Iron Age](#) and Hellenistic period in Macedonia. The general continuity of material culture,^[66] settlement sites,^[67] and pre-Greek onomasticon contradict the alleged [ethnic cleansing](#) account of early Macedonian expansion.^[68]



An atrium with a pebble-mosaic paving in [Pella](#), the Macedonian capital

The process of state formation in Macedonia was similar to that of its neighbours in Epirus, Illyria, [Thrace](#) and Thessaly, whereby regional elites could mobilize disparate communities for the purpose of organizing land and resources. Local notables were often based in urban-like settlements, although contemporaneous historians often did not recognize them as *poleis* because they were not self-ruled but under the rule of a "king".^[69]

From the mid-6th century, there appears a series of exceptionally rich burials throughout the region—in [Trebeništa](#), [Vergina](#), [Sindos](#), [Agia Paraskevi](#), Pella-Archontiko, [Aiani](#), [Gevgelija](#), [Amphipolis](#)—sharing a similar burial rite and grave accompaniments, interpreted to represent the rise of a new regional ruling class sharing a common ideology,

customs and religious beliefs.^[63] A common geography, mode of existence, and defensive interests might have necessitated the creation of a political confederacy among otherwise ethno-linguistically diverse communities, which led to the consolidation of a new Macedonian ethnic identity.^{[63][70]}

The traditional view that Macedonia was populated by rural ethnic groups in constant conflict is slowly changing, bridging the cultural gap between southern Epirus and the north Aegean region. Hatzopoulos's studies on Macedonian institutions have lent support to the hypothesis that Macedonian state formation occurred via an integration of regional elites, which were based in city-like centres, including the Argeadae at Vergina, the Paeonian/[Edonian](#) peoples in Sindos, [Ichnae](#) and Pella, and the mixed Macedonian-Barbarian colonies in the [Thermaic Gulf](#) and western [Chalkidiki](#).^[71]

The Temenidae became overall leaders of a new Macedonian state because of the diplomatic proficiency of Alexander I and the logistic centrality of Vergina itself. It has been suggested that a breakdown in traditional Balkan tribal traditions associated with adaptation of Aegean socio-political institutions created a climate of institutional flexibility in a vast, resource-rich land.^[72] Non-Argead centres increasingly became dependent allies, allowing the Argeads to gradually assert and secure their control over the lower and eastern territories of Macedonia.^[71] This control was fully consolidated by [Phillip II](#) (r. 359–336 BC–).^[73]



CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Further information: [Culture of Greece](#)

The Golden [Larnax](#), at the Museum of [Vergina](#), which contains the remains [Philip II of Macedon](#) (r. 359–336 BC–)

Macedonia had a distinct material culture by the [Early Iron Age](#).^[74] Typically Balkan burial, ornamental, and ceramic forms were used for most of the Iron Age.^[75] These features suggest broad cultural affinities and organizational structures analogous with Thracian, Epirote, and Illyrian regions.^{[76][77]} This did not necessarily symbolize a shared cultural identity, or any political allegiance

between these regions.^[78] In the late sixth century BC, Macedonia became open to south Greek influences, although a small but detectable amount of interaction with the south had been present since late Mycenaean times.^[79]

By the 5th century BC, Macedonia was a part of the "Greek cultural milieu" according to Edward M. Anson, possessing many cultural traits typical of the southern Greek city-states.^[80] Classical Greek objects and customs were appropriated selectively and used in peculiarly Macedonian ways.^[81] In addition, influences from [Achaemenid Persia](#) in culture and economy are evident from the 5th century BC onward, such as the inclusion of Persian grave goods at Macedonian burial sites as well as the adoption of royal customs such as a Persian-style [throne](#) during the reign of Philip II.^[82]

Economy, society, and social class

Main articles: [Economy of ancient Greece](#) and [Government of Macedonia \(ancient kingdom\)](#)

Further information: [Slavery in ancient Greece](#), [Prostitution in ancient Greece](#), and [Pederasty in ancient Greece](#)

The way of life of the inhabitants of Upper Macedonia differed little from that of their neighbours in Epirus and Illyria, engaging in seasonal [transhumance](#) supplemented by agriculture. Young Macedonian men were typically expected to engage in [hunting](#) and martial combat as a byproduct of their transhumance lifestyles of herding [livestock](#) such as goats and sheep, while [horse breeding](#) and raising [cattle](#) were other common pursuits.^[83]

In these mountainous regions, upland sites were important focal points for local communities. In these difficult terrains, competition for resources often precipitated intertribal conflict and raiding forays into the comparatively richer lowland settlements of coastal Macedonia and Thessaly.^[84] Despite the remoteness of the upper Macedonian highlands, excavations at Aiani since 1983 have discovered finds attesting to the presence of social organization since the 2nd millennium BC.

The finds include the oldest pieces of black-and-white pottery, which is characteristic of the tribes of northwest Greece, discovered so far.^[85] Found with [Mycenaean sherds](#), they can be dated with certainty to the 14th century BC.^{[85][86][87]} The finds also include some of the oldest samples of writing in Macedonia, among them inscriptions bearing Greek names like *Θέμιδα* (Themida). The inscriptions demonstrate that Hellenism in Upper Macedonia was at a high economic, artistic, and cultural level by the sixth century BC—overturning the notion that Upper Macedonia was culturally and socially isolated from the rest of ancient Greece.^[85]

By contrast, the alluvial plains of [Lower Macedonia](#) and Pelagonia, which had a comparative abundance of natural resources such as timber and minerals, favored the development of a native aristocracy, with a wealth that at times surpassed the classical Greek poleis.^[88] Exploitation of minerals helped expedite the introduction of coinage in Macedonia from the 5th century BC, developing under southern Greek, Thracian and Persian influences.^[89]

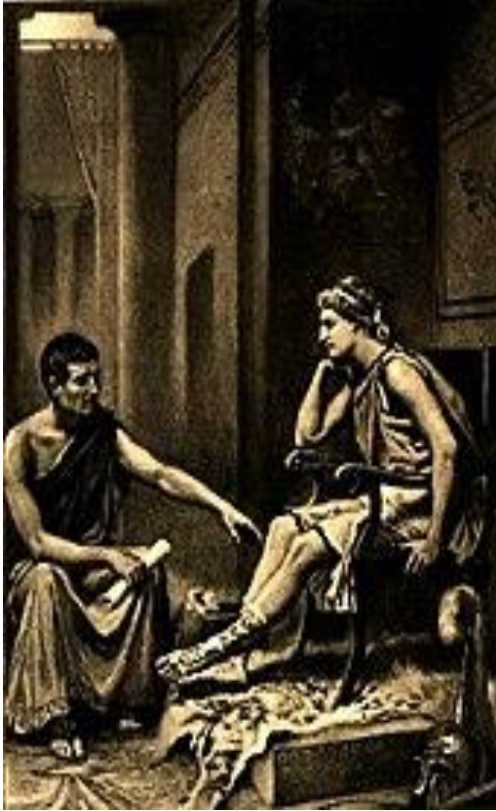
Some Macedonians engaged in farming, often with [irrigation](#), [land reclamation](#), and [horticulture](#) activities supported by the Macedonian state.^[90] However, the bedrock of the Macedonian economy and state finances was the twofold exploitation of the forests with [logging](#) and valuable [minerals](#) such as copper, iron, gold, and silver with [mining](#).^[91] The conversion of these raw materials into finished products and their sale encouraged the growth of urban centers and a gradual shift away from the traditional rustic Macedonian lifestyle during the course of the 5th century BC.^[92]



Entrance to the tomb of [Philip II of Macedon](#) (r. 359–336 BC–).

Macedonian society was dominated by [aristocratic](#) families whose main source of wealth and prestige was their herds of horses and cattle. In this respect, Macedonia was similar to Thessaly and Thrace.^[77]

These aristocrats were second only to the king in terms of power and privilege, filling the ranks of his administration and serving as commanding officers in the military.^[93] It was in the more bureaucratic regimes of the [Hellenistic kingdoms](#) succeeding Alexander the Great's empire where greater [social mobility](#) for members of society seeking to join the aristocracy could be found, especially in Ptolemaic Egypt.^[94] In contrast with classical Greek poleis, the Macedonians generally [possessed slaves](#).^{[95][96]}



[Aristotle](#), a philosopher from the Macedonian town of [Stageira](#), tutoring young [Alexander](#) in the [Royal Palace of Pella](#). The Macedonian Kings often sought the best education possible for their heirs. Artwork by [Jean Leon Gerome Ferris](#).

However, unlike Thessaly, Macedonia was ruled by a monarchy from its earliest history until the [Roman conquest in 167 BC](#). The nature of [the kingship](#), however, remains debated. One viewpoint sees it as an [autocracy](#), whereby the king held absolute power and was at the head of both government and society, wielding arguably unlimited authority to handle affairs of state and public policy.

He was also the leader of a very personal regime with close relationships or connections to his [hetairoi](#), the core of the Macedonian aristocracy.^[97] Any other position of authority, [including the army](#), was appointed at the whim of the king himself. The other, "[constitutionalist](#)", position argues that there was an evolution from a society of many minor "kings" — each of equal authority — to a sovereign military state whereby an [army of citizen soldiers](#) supported a central king against a rival class of [nobility](#).^[98]

Kingship was hereditary along the [paternal line](#), yet it is unclear if [primogeniture](#) was strictly observed as an established custom.^[99] During the Late Bronze Age (circa 15th-century BC), the ancient Macedonians developed distinct, matt-painted wares that evolved from [Middle Helladic](#) pottery traditions originating in central and southern Greece.^{[87][100]} The Macedonians continued to use an individualized form of material culture—albeit showing analogies in ceramic, ornamental and burial forms with the so-called [Lausitz culture](#) between 1200 and 900 BC—and that of the [Glasinac culture](#) after circa 900 BC.^[101]

While some of these influences persisted beyond the sixth century BC,^{[66][102]} a more ubiquitous presence of items of an Aegean-Mediterranean character is seen from the latter sixth century BC,^[103] as Greece recovered from its Dark Ages. Southern Greek impulses penetrated Macedonia via trade with north Aegean colonies such as Methone and those in the [Chalcidice](#), neighbouring Thessaly, and from the [Ionic colonies of Asia Minor](#).

Ionic influences were later supplanted by those of [Athenian](#) provenance. Thus, by the latter sixth century, local elites could acquire exotic Aegean items such as [Athenian red figure pottery](#), fine tablewares, olive oil and wine amphorae, fine ceramic perfume flasks, glass, marble and precious metal ornaments—all of which would serve as status symbols.^[104] By the 5th century BC, these items became widespread in Macedonia and in much of the central Balkans.^[105]

Macedonian settlements have a strong continuity dating from the Bronze Age, maintaining traditional construction techniques for residential architecture. While settlement numbers appeared to drop in central and southern Greece after 1000 BC, there was a dramatic increase of settlements in Macedonia.^[106] These settlements seemed to have developed along raised promontories near river flood plains called [tells](#) (Greek: τύμβοι). Their ruins are most commonly found in western Macedonia between [Florina](#) and [Lake Vergoritis](#), the upper and middle [Haliacmon River](#), and [Bottiaea](#). They can also be found on either side of the [Axius](#) and in the Chalcidice in eastern Macedonia.^[107]



RELIGION AND FUNERARY PRACTICES

Further information: [Ancient Greek religion](#), [Greek mythology](#), [Hellenistic religion](#), [Ancient Greek temple](#), [Greek hero cult](#), [Greco-Roman mysteries](#), [Oracle of Delphi](#), [Lion of Amphipolis](#), [Lion of Chaeronea](#), and [Pella curse tablet](#)

Ancient [Dion](#) was a centre of the worship of [Zeus](#) and the most important spiritual sanctuary of the Ancient Macedonians.

By the 5th century BC the Macedonians and the rest of the Greeks worshiped more or less the [same deities of the Greek pantheon](#).^[109] In Macedonia, politics and religion often intertwined. For instance, the head of state for the city of [Amphipolis](#) also served as the priest of [Asklepios](#), Greek god of medicine; a similar arrangement existed at [Cassandraia](#), where a cult priest honoring the city's founder [Cassander](#) was the nominal municipal leader.^[110] Foreign [cults from Egypt](#) were fostered by the royal court, such as the temple of [Sarapis](#) at [Thessaloniki](#), while Macedonian kings [Philip III of Macedon](#) and [Alexander IV of Macedon](#) made [votive offerings](#) to the internationally esteemed [Samothrace temple complex](#) of the [Cabeiri mystery cult](#).^[111]

This was also the same location where [Perseus of Macedon](#) fled and received sanctuary following his defeat by [the Romans](#) at the [Battle of Pydna](#) in 168 BC.^[112] The main sanctuary of [Zeus](#) was maintained at [Dion](#), while another at [Veria](#) was dedicated to [Herakles](#) and received particularly strong patronage from [Demetrius II Aetolicus](#) (r. 239–229 BC–) when he intervened in the affairs of the municipal government at the behest of the cult's main priest.^[111]

The ancient Macedonians worshipped the [Twelve Olympians](#), especially [Zeus](#), [Artemis](#), [Heracles](#), and [Dionysus](#). Ancient Greeks regarded it as an essential element of Hellenic identity to share common religious beliefs and to come together at regular intervals at Panhellenic sanctuaries ([Olympia](#), [Delphi](#), [Nemea/Argos](#), etc.) in order to celebrate Panhellenic festivals. Most of the gods who were worshipped in southern Greece can also be found in the Macedonian pantheon and the names of the most important Macedonian religious festivals are also typically Greek.^[113]

Evidence of this worship exists from the beginning of the 4th century BC onwards, but little evidence of Macedonian religious practices from earlier times exists.^[114] From an early period, Zeus was the single most important deity in the Macedonian pantheon.^[114] Makedon, the mythical ancestor of the Macedonians, was held to be a son of Zeus, and Zeus features prominently in Macedonian coinage.^[114] The most important centre of worship of Zeus was at [Dion](#) in [Pieria](#), the spiritual centre of the Macedonians, where beginning in 400 BC King Archelaus established an annual festival, which in honour of Zeus featured lavish sacrifices and athletic contests.^[114]

Worship of Zeus's son Heracles was also prominent; coins featuring Heracles appear from the 5th century BC onwards.^[114] This was in large part because the Argead kings of Macedon traced their lineage to Heracles, making sacrifices to him in the Macedonian capitals of Vergina and Pella.^[114] Numerous votive reliefs and dedications also attest to the importance of the worship of Artemis.^[115] Artemis was often depicted as a huntress and served as a tutelary goddess for young girls entering the coming-of-age process, much as [Heracles Kynagidas](#) (Hunter) did for young men who had completed it.^[115] By contrast, some deities popular elsewhere in the Greek world—notably [Poseidon](#) and [Hephaestus](#)—were largely ignored by the Macedonians.^[114]



The [Lion of Amphipolis](#) in [Amphipolis](#), [northern Greece](#), a 4th-century BC marble tomb sculpture^[108] erected in honor of [Laomedon of Mytilene](#), a general who served under [Alexander the Great](#)

Other deities worshipped by the ancient Macedonians were part of a local pantheon which included [Thaulos](#) (god of war equated with [Ares](#)), [Gyga](#) (later equated with [Athena](#)), [Gozoria](#) (goddess of hunting equated with Artemis), [Zeirene](#) (goddess of love equated with [Aphrodite](#)) and [Xandos](#) (god of light).^[116]

A notable influence on Macedonian religious life and worship was neighbouring Thessaly; the two regions shared many similar cultural institutions.^[117] The Macedonians also worshiped non-Greek gods, such as the "[Thracian horseman](#)", [Orpheus](#) and [Bendis](#), and other figures from [Paleo-Balkan mythology](#).^[citation needed] They were tolerant of, and open to, incorporating foreign religious influences such as the [sun worship](#) of the Paeonians.^[3] By the 4th century BC, there had been a significant fusion of Macedonian and common Greek religious identity,^[118] but Macedonia was nevertheless characterized by an unusually diverse religious life.^[3] This diversity extended to the belief in magic, as evidenced by curse tablets. It was a significant but secret aspect of Greek cultural practice.^[119]

A notable feature of Macedonian culture was the ostentatious burials reserved for its rulers.^[120] The Macedonian elite built lavish tombs at the time of death rather than constructing temples during life.^[120] Such traditions had been practiced throughout Greece and the central-west Balkans since the [Bronze Age](#). Macedonian burials contain items similar to those at Mycenae, such as burial with weapons, gold death masks etc.^[121] From the sixth century, Macedonian burials became particularly lavish, displaying a rich variety of Greek imports reflecting the incorporation of Macedonia into a wider economic and political network centred on the Aegean city-states.



[Hades](#) abducting [Persephone](#), fresco in the small [Macedonian](#) royal tomb at [Vergina](#), [Macedonia, Greece](#), c. 340 BC

Burials contained jewellery and ornaments of unprecedented wealth and artistic style. This zenith of Macedonian "warrior burial" style closely parallels those of sites in south-central Illyria and western Thrace, creating a [koinon](#) of elite burials.^[122] Lavish warrior burials had been discontinued in southern and central Greece from the seventh century onwards, where offerings at sanctuaries and the erection of temples became the norm.^[123] From the sixth century BC, cremation replaced the traditional inhumation rite for elite Macedonians.^[63]

One of the most lavish tombs dating from the 4th century BC, believed to be that of Phillip II, is at Vergina. It contains extravagant grave goods, highly sophisticated artwork depicting hunting scenes and Greek cultic figures, and a vast array of weaponry.^[124] This demonstrates a continuing tradition of the warrior society rather than a focus on religious piety and technology of the intellect, which had become paramount facets of central Greek society in the [Classical Period](#).^[123] In the three royal tombs at [Vergina](#), professional painters decorated the walls with a mythological scene of [Hades](#) abducting [Persephone](#) (Tomb 1) and royal hunting scenes (Tomb 2), while lavish [grave goods](#) including [weapons](#), [armor](#), drinking vessels and personal items were housed with the dead, whose bones [were burned](#) before [burial in decorated gold coffins](#).^[125]

Some grave goods and decorations were common in other Macedonian tombs, yet some items found at Vergina were distinctly tied to royalty, including a [diadem](#), luxurious goods, and arms and armor.^[126] Scholars have debated about the identity of the tomb occupants since [the discovery](#) of their remains in 1977–1978,^[127] yet recent research and forensic examination have concluded with certainty that at least one of the persons buried was [Philip II](#) (Tomb 2).^[128]

Located near Tomb 1 are the above-ground ruins of a [heroon](#), a shrine for [cult worship](#) of the dead.^[129] In 2014, the ancient Macedonian [Kasta Tomb](#), the largest ancient tomb found in Greece (as of 2017), was discovered outside of [Amphipolis](#), a city that was incorporated into the Macedonian realm after its capture by Philip II in 357 BC.^{[130][131][132]} The identity of the tomb's occupant is unknown, but archaeologists have speculated that it may be Alexander's close friend [Hephaestion](#).^[133]

The [deification](#) of Macedonian monarchs perhaps began with the death of Philip II, yet it was his son [Alexander the Great](#) who unambiguously claimed to be a [living god](#).^[134] As [pharaoh](#) of the Egyptians, he was already entitled as [Son of Ra](#) and considered the living incarnation of [Horus](#) by his Egyptian subjects (a belief that the [Ptolemaic successors](#) of Alexander would foster for [their own dynasty in Egypt](#)).^[135]

However, following his visit to the [oracle](#) of [Didyma](#) in 334 BC that suggested his divinity, he traveled to the [Oracle of Zeus Ammon](#) (the [Greek equivalent](#) of the Egyptian [Amun-Ra](#)) at the [Siwa Oasis](#) of the [Libyan Desert](#) in 332 BC to confirm his [divine status](#).^[136] After the priest there convinced him that Philip II was merely his mortal father and Zeus his actual father, Alexander began styling himself as the 'Son of Zeus', which brought him into contention with some of his Greek subjects who adamantly believed that living men could not be immortals.^[137] Although the [Seleucid](#) and Ptolemaic [diadochi successor states](#) cultivated [their own ancestral cults and deification of the rulers](#) as part of state ideology, a similar cult did not exist in the Kingdom of Macedonia.^[138]



VISUAL ARTS Main article: [Ancient Greek art](#)

Further information: [Hellenistic art](#), [Music in ancient Greece](#), [Pottery of ancient Greece](#), and [Ancient Greek sculpture](#)

Left: a fresco of a [Macedonian soldier](#) resting a spear and [wearing a cap](#), from the tomb of [Agios Athanasios, Thessaloniki](#), 4th century BC.

By the reign of [Archelaus I of Macedon](#), the Macedonian elite started importing significantly greater customs, artwork, and art traditions from other regions of Greece. However, they still retained more archaic, perhaps [Homeric](#) funerary rites connected with the [symposium](#) and drinking rites that were typified with items such as decorative metal [kraters](#) that held the ashes of deceased Macedonian nobility in their tombs.^[139] Among these is the large bronze [Derveni Krater](#) from a 4th-century BC tomb of [Thessaloniki](#), decorated with scenes of the Greek god [Dionysus](#) and [his entourage](#) and belonging to an aristocrat who had a military career.^[140] Macedonian [metalwork](#) usually followed [Athenian styles of vase shapes](#) from the 6th century BC onward, with drinking vessels, jewellery, containers, crowns, [diadems](#), and [coins](#) among the many metal objects found in Macedonian tombs.^[141]

Surviving Macedonian painted artwork includes [frescoes](#) and [murals](#) on walls, but also decoration on [sculpted artwork](#) such as [statues](#) and [reliefs](#). For instance, trace colors still exist on the [bas-reliefs](#) of the [Alexander Sarcophagus](#).^[142] Macedonian paintings have allowed historians to investigate the clothing fashions as well as military gear worn by ancient Macedonians, such as the brightly-colored tomb paintings of [Agios Athanasios, Thessaloniki](#) showing figures wearing headgear ranging from [feathered helmets](#) to [kausia](#) and [petasos](#) caps.^[143]



[Alexander](#) (left), wearing a [kausia](#) and fighting an [Asiatic lion](#) with his friend [Craterus](#) (detail); late 4th century BC [mosaic](#),^[144] [Archaeological Museum of Pella, Macedonia](#)

Aside from metalwork and painting, [mosaics](#) serve as another significant form of surviving Macedonian artwork, especially those discovered at [Pella](#) dating to the 4th century BC.^[141]

The [Stag Hunt Mosaic](#) of Pella, with its three dimensional qualities and illusionist style, show clear influence from [painted artwork and wider Hellenistic art trends](#), although the rustic theme of hunting was tailored for Macedonian tastes.^[145] The similar Lion Hunt Mosaic of Pella illustrates either a scene of Alexander the Great with his companion [Craterus](#), or simply a conventional illustration of the generic royal diversion of hunting.^[145] Mosaics with mythological themes include scenes of Dionysus riding a panther and [Helen of Troy](#) being abducted by [Theseus](#), the latter of which employs illusionist qualities and realistic shading similar to Macedonian paintings.^[145] Common themes of Macedonian paintings and mosaics include warfare, hunting and aggressive masculine sexuality (i.e. abduction of women for rape or marriage). In some instances these themes are combined within the same work, indicating a metaphorical connection that seems to be affirmed by [later Byzantine Greek literature](#).^[146]

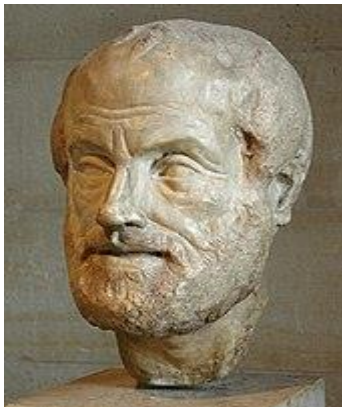
THEATRE, MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Further information: [Theatre in ancient Greece](#) and [Music in ancient Greece](#)

Philip II was assassinated by his [bodyguard Pausanias of Orestis](#) in 336 BC at the [theatre of Aigai, Macedonia](#) amid games and spectacles held inside that celebrated the marriage of his daughter [Cleopatra of Macedon](#).^[147] Alexander the Great was allegedly a great admirer of both theatre and music.^[148] He was especially fond of the [plays](#) by [Classical Athenian tragedians](#) [Aeschylus](#), [Sophocles](#), and [Euripides](#), whose works formed part of a proper [Greek education](#) for his new eastern subjects alongside studies in the Greek language and [epics](#) of [Homer](#).^[149]

While he and his army were stationed at [Tyre](#) (in modern-day Lebanon), Alexander had his generals act as judges not only for athletic contests but also stage performances of Greek tragedies.^[150] The contemporaneous famous [actors](#) [Thessalus](#) and Athenodorus performed at the event, despite Athenodorus risking a fine for being absent from the simultaneous [Dionysia](#) festival of Athens where he was scheduled to perform (a fine that his [patron](#) Alexander agreed to pay).^[151]

[Music](#) was also appreciated in Macedonia. In addition to the [agora](#), the [gymnasium](#), the [theatre](#), and [religious sanctuaries](#) and [temples](#) dedicated to Greek gods and goddesses, one of the main markers of a true Greek city in the [empire of Alexander the Great](#) was the presence of an [odeon](#) for [musical performances](#).^[152] This was the case not only for [Alexandria](#) in [Egypt](#), but also cities as distant as [Ai-Khanoum](#) in what is now modern-day [Afghanistan](#).^[152]



LITERATURE, EDUCATION, PHILOSOPHY, AND PATRONAGE

Further information: [Literature in ancient Greece](#), [Education in ancient Greece](#), [Philosophy in ancient Greece](#), [Ancient Greek medicine](#), and [Ancient Macedonian calendar](#)

[Portrait bust](#) of [Aristotle](#); an [Imperial Roman](#) (1st or 2nd century AD) copy of a lost [bronze sculpture](#) made by [Lysippos](#).

[Perdiccas II of Macedon](#) was able to host well-known Classical Greek intellectual visitors at his royal court, such as the lyric poet [Melanippides](#) and the renowned medical doctor [Hippocrates](#), while [Pindar's](#) [enkormion](#) written for [Alexander I of Macedon](#) may have been composed at his court.^[153]

Yet [Archelaus I of Macedon](#) received a far greater number of Greek scholars, artists, and celebrities at his court than his predecessors, leading M. B. Hatzopoulos to describe Macedonia under his reign as an "active centre of Hellenic culture."^[154] His honored guests included the [painter](#) [Zeuxis](#), the [architect](#) [Callimachus](#), the poets [Choerilus of Samos](#), [Timotheus of Miletus](#), and [Agathon](#), as well as the famous Athenian [playwright](#) [Euripides](#).^[155]

Although Archelaus was criticized by the philosopher [Plato](#), supposedly hated by [Socrates](#), and the first known Macedonian king to be insulted with the label of a [barbarian](#), the historian [Thucydides](#) held the Macedonian king in glowing admiration for his accomplishments, including his engagement in [panhellenic](#) sports and fostering of literary culture.^[156] The philosopher [Aristotle](#), who studied at the [Platonic Academy](#) of Athens and established the [Aristotelian school of thought](#), moved to Macedonia, and is said to have tutored the young Alexander the Great, in addition to serving as an esteemed diplomat for Alexander's father Philip II.^[157] Among Alexander's retinue of artists, writers, and philosophers was [Pyrrho of Elis](#), founder of [Pyrrhonism](#), the school of [philosophical skepticism](#).^[149] During the Antigonid period, [Antigonos Gonatas](#) fostered cordial relationships with [Menedemos of Eretria](#), founder of the [Eretrian school](#) of philosophy, and [Zeno](#), the founder of [Stoicism](#).^[148]

In terms of early [Greek historiography](#) and later [Roman historiography](#), [Felix Jacoby](#) identified thirteen possible ancient [historians](#) who wrote histories about Macedonia in his [Fragmente der griechischen Historiker](#).^[158] Aside from accounts in the works of [Herodotus](#) and Thucydides, the works compiled by Jacoby are only fragmentary, whereas other works are completely lost, such as the history of an [Illyrian](#) war fought by [Perdiccas III of Macedon](#) written by the Macedonian general and statesman [Antipater](#).^[159]

The Macedonian historians [Marsyas of Pella](#) and [Marsyas of Philippi](#) wrote histories of Macedonia, while the [Ptolemaic](#) king [Ptolemy I Soter](#) authored a history about Alexander and [Hieronymus of Cardia](#) wrote a history about Alexander's royal successors.^[160] Following the [Indian campaign of Alexander the Great](#), the Macedonian military officer [Nearchus](#) wrote a work of his [voyage](#) from the mouth of the [Indus river](#) to the [Persian Gulf](#).^[161] The Macedonian [historian](#) [Craterus](#) published a compilation of decrees made by the [popular assembly](#) of the [Athenian democracy](#), ostensibly while attending the school of Aristotle.^[161] [Philip V of Macedon](#) had manuscripts of the history of Philip II written by [Theopompus](#) gathered by his court scholars and disseminated with further copies.^[148]



SPORTS AND LEISURE

Further information: [History of sport & Ancient Greece](#), [Gymnasium \(ancient Greece\)](#), [Ancient Olympic Games](#), and [Music in ancient Greece](#)

A fresco showing [Hades](#) and [Persephone](#) riding in a [chariot](#), from the tomb of Queen [Eurydice I of Macedon](#) at [Vergina](#), Greece, 4th century BC

When Alexander I of Macedon petitioned to compete in the [foot race](#) of the ancient Olympic Games, the event organizers at first denied his request, explaining that only Greeks were allowed to compete.

However, Alexander I produced proof of an [Argead](#) royal [genealogy](#) showing ancient [Argive Temenid](#) lineage, a move that ultimately convinced the Olympic [Hellenodikai](#) authorities of his Greek descent and ability to compete, although this did not necessarily apply to common Macedonians outside of his royal dynasty.^[162] By the end of the 5th century BC, the Macedonian king Archelaus I was crowned with the [olive wreath](#) at both [Olympia](#) and [Delphi](#) (in the [Pythian Games](#)) for winning [chariot racing](#) contests.^[166]

Philip II allegedly heard of the Olympic victory of his horse (in either an individual [horse race](#) or chariot race) on the same day his son Alexander the Great was born, on either 19 or 20 July 356 BC.^[163] In addition to literary contests, Alexander the Great also staged [competitions for music](#) and athletics across his empire.^[149] The Macedonians created their own athletic games and, after the late 4th century BC, non-royal Macedonians competed and became victors in the [Olympic Games](#)^[80] and other athletic events such as the Argive [Heraean Games](#). However, athletics were a less favored pastime compared to hunting.^[164]

DINING AND CUISINE

[Ancient Greek cuisine](#) and [Wine in ancient Greece](#)



A [banquet](#) scene from a Macedonian tomb of [Agios Athanasios, Thessaloniki](#), 4th century BC; six men are shown [reclining on couches](#), with food arranged on nearby tables, a male servant in attendance, and female musicians providing entertainment.^[165]

Ancient Macedonia produced very few fine foods or beverages that were highly appreciated elsewhere in the Greek world, namely [eels](#) from the [Strymonian Gulf](#) and special [wine](#) brewed in [Chalcidice](#).^[166] The earliest known use of flat bread as a plate for meat was made in Macedonia during the 3rd century BC, which perhaps influenced the later ['trencher' bread](#) of [medieval Europe](#) if not Greek [pita](#) and Italian [pizza](#).^[166] [Cattle](#) and [goats](#) were consumed, although there was no notice of Macedonian mountain [cheeses](#) in literature until the [Middle Ages](#).^[166]

As exemplified by works such as the plays by the comedic playwright [Menander](#), Macedonian dining habits penetrated [Athenian](#) high society; for instance, the introduction of meats into the [dessert](#) course of a meal.^[167] The Macedonians also most likely introduced [mattye](#) to Athenian cuisine, a dish usually made of chicken or other spiced, salted, and sauced meats served [during the wine course](#).^[168] This particular dish was derided and connected with licentiousness and drunkenness in a play by the Athenian comic poet [Alexis](#) about the declining morals of Athenians in the age of [Demetrius I of Macedon](#).^[169]

The [symposium](#) (plural: *symposia*) in the Macedonian and wider Greek realm was a banquet for the nobility and privileged class, an occasion for feasting, drinking, entertainment, and sometimes [philosophical discussion](#).^[170] The [hetairoi](#), leading members of the Macedonian [aristocracy](#), were expected to attend such feasts with their king.^[93] They were also expected to accompany him on royal hunts for the acquisition of [game meat](#) as well as for sport.^[93] Symposia had several functions, amongst which was providing relief from the hardship of battle and marching. Symposia were Greek traditions since [Homeric](#) times, providing a venue for interaction amongst Macedonian elites.

An ethos of egalitarianism surrounded symposia, allowing all male elites to express ideas and concerns, although built-up rivalries and excessive drinking often led to quarrels, fighting and even murder. The degree of extravagance and propensity for violence set Macedonian symposia apart from classical Greek symposia.^[171] Like symposia, hunting was another focus of elite activity, and it remained popular throughout Macedonia's history. Young men participating in symposia were only allowed to recline after having killed their first wild boar.^[172]

LANGUAGE [Ancient Macedonian language](#)



The [Pella curse tablet](#) (Greek *katadesmos*): from [Prof. Radcliffe G. Edmonds III, Bryn Mawr College](#).

For administrative and political purposes, [Attic Greek](#) seems to have operated as a [lingua franca](#) among the ethno-linguistically diverse communities of Macedonia and the north Aegean region, creating a [diglossic linguistic area](#).^[173]

Attic Greek was standardized as the language of the court, formal discourse and diplomacy from as early as the time of Archelaus at the end of the 5th century BC.^[174] Attic was further spread by Macedonia's conquests.^[175] Although Macedonian continued to be spoken well into [Antigonid](#) times,^[113] it became the prevalent oral dialect in Macedonia and throughout the Macedonian-ruled Hellenistic world.^[176] However, Macedonian became [extinct](#) in either the Hellenistic or the Roman period, and entirely replaced by [Koine Greek](#).^[177]

Attempts to classify Ancient Macedonian are hindered by the lack of surviving Ancient Macedonian texts; it was a mainly oral language and most archaeological inscriptions indicate that in Macedonia there was no dominant written language besides Attic and later Koine Greek.^[177] All surviving epigraphical evidence from grave markers and public inscriptions is in Greek.^[178]

Classification attempts are based on a vocabulary of 150–200 words and 200 personal names assembled mainly from the 5th century lexicon of [Hesychius of Alexandria](#) and a few surviving fragmentary inscriptions, coins and occasional passages in ancient sources.^[177] Most of the vocabulary is regular Greek, with tendencies toward [Doric Greek](#) and [Aeolic Greek](#). There can be found some [Illyrian](#) and [Thracian](#) elements.^{[177][179]}

The [Pella curse tablet](#), which was found in 1986 at Pella and dates to the mid-4th century BC or slightly earlier,^[180] is believed to be the only substantial attested text in Macedonian. The language of the tablet is a harsh but a distinctly recognizable form of [Northwest Greek](#). The tablet has been used to support the argument that ancient Macedonian was a Northwest Greek dialect and mainly a Doric dialect.^{[181][182][183]}



Hatzopoulos's analysis revealed some tendencies toward the Aeolic Greek dialect.^[179] Hatzopoulos also states that the native language of the ancient Macedonians also betrays a slight [phonetic](#) influence from the languages of the original inhabitants of the region who were [assimilated](#) or expelled by the invading Macedonians.^[184] He also asserts that little is known about the languages of these original inhabitants aside from [Phrygian](#) spoken by the [Bryges](#), who migrated to [Anatolia](#).^[184]

An ancient Macedonian funerary stele, with an [epigram](#) written at the top, mid 4th century B.C., [Vergina, Macedonia, Greece](#)

In Macedonian [onomastics](#), most personal names are recognizably Greek (e.g. Alexandros, Philippos, Dionysios, Apollonios, Demetrios), with some dating back to Homeric (e.g. Ptolemaeos) or Mycenaean times, though non-Greek names (e.g. "Bithys") are occasionally found here.^[177]

Macedonian toponyms and hydronyms are mostly of Greek origin (e.g. Aegae, Dion, Pieria, Haliacmon), as are the names of the months of the Macedonian calendar and the names of most of the deities the Macedonians worshiped; according to Hammond, these are not late borrowings.^[185] Nevertheless, the linguistic community has not reached a definitive conclusion.^[186]

Macedonian has a close structural and lexical affinity with other Greek dialects, especially Northwest Greek and Thessalian.^{[187][188][189]} Most of the words are Greek, although some of these could represent loans or cognate forms.^{[190][191]} Alternatively, a number of phonological, lexical and onomastic features set Macedonian apart.^{[191][192]} These latter features, possibly representing traces of a [substrate language](#), occur in what are considered to be particularly conservative systems of the language.^[193]

Several hypotheses have consequently been proposed as to the position of Macedonian, all of which broadly regard it as either a peripheral Greek dialect, a closely related but separate language (see [Hellenic languages](#)),^{[191][194][195]} or a hybridized idiom.^{[196][197][198]} Drawing on the similarities between Macedonian, Greek and Brygian, several scholars wrote that they formed an [Indo-European](#) macro-dialectal group,^{[199][200]} which split before circa 14th–13th century BC before the appearance of the main Greek dialects.^[201]

The same data has been analyzed in an alternative manner, which regards the formation of the main Greek dialects as a later convergence of related but distinct groups. Macedonian did not fully participate in this process, making its ultimate position—other than being a contiguous, related 'minor' language—difficult to define.^[202]

Another source of evidence is [metalinguistics](#) and the question of mutual intelligibility. The available literary evidence has no details about the exact nature of Macedonian; however it suggests that Macedonian and Greek were sufficiently different that there were communication difficulties between Greek and Macedonian contingents, necessitating the use of interpreters as late as the time of Alexander the Great.^{[203][204][205]}

Based on this evidence, [Papazoglou](#) has written that Macedonian could not have been a Greek dialect,^[206] however, evidence for non-intelligibility exists for other ancient Greek dialects such as [Aetolian](#)^[207] and Aeolic Greek.^[208] Moreover, according to the Athenian orator [Aeschines](#),^[209] Macedonian ambassadors appeared before the Athenian Assembly, attended by all male citizens over the age of 18, without interpreters^[210] and [Livy](#) wrote that when [Aemilius Paulus](#) called together representatives of the defeated Macedonian communities, his Latin pronouncements were translated for the benefit of the assembled Macedonians into Greek.^[211]



IDENTITY

The [Vergina Sun](#) has been proposed as a symbol of ancient Macedonia or of the Argead dynasty by archeologists.

See also: [Macedonia \(terminology\)](#), [Macedonians \(Greeks\)](#), [Ethnography](#), and [Cultural anthropology](#)

NATURE OF SOURCES

Further information: [Greek historiography](#)

Most ancient sources on the Macedonians come from outside Macedonia.^[158] According to [Eugene N. Borza](#), most of these sources are either ill-informed, hostile or both, making the Macedonians one of the "silent" peoples of the ancient Mediterranean.^[212] [Ernst Badian](#) notes that nearly all surviving references to antagonisms and differences

between Greeks and Macedonians exist in the written speeches of [Arrian](#), who lived during a period (i.e. the [Roman Empire](#)) in which any notion of an ethnic disparity between Macedonians and other Greeks was incomprehensible.^[213]

Most of the literary evidence comes from later sources focusing on the campaigns of Alexander the Great rather than on Macedonia itself. Most contemporaneous evidence on Philip is Athenian and hostile.^[214] Moreover, most ancient sources focus on the deeds of Macedonian kings in connection with political and military events such as the [Peloponnesian War](#). Evidence about the ethnic identity of Macedonians of lower social status from the Archaic to the Hellenistic period is highly fragmentary and unsatisfactory.^[215] For information about Macedonia before Philip, historians must rely on archaeological inscriptions and material remains, a few fragments from historians whose work is now lost, occasional passing mentions in Herodotus and Thucydides, and universal histories from the Roman era.^[214]



ANCIENT SOURCES ON THE ARGEADS

The god [Dionysos](#) riding a [cheetah](#), [mosaic](#) floor in the "House of Dionysos" at [Pella](#), Greece, c. 330–300 BC

In [Homer](#), the term *Argead* was used as a collective designation for the Greeks ("Ἀργεῖων Δαναῶν", *Argive Danaans*).^{[44][216]} Herodotus provides the mythical story about the Greek roots of the Argead royal house and with the list of the seven earliest Macedonian kings (8.137–138), which is our essential guideline in any attempt to reconstruct early Macedonian history.^[217]

The earliest version of the Temenid foundation myth was circulated by Alexander I via Herodotus during his apparent appearance at the Olympic Games.^[218] Despite protests from some competitors, the [Hellenodikai](#) ("Judges of the Greeks") accepted Alexander's Greek genealogy, as did Herodotus and later Thucydides. In accepting his Greek credentials, the judges were either moved by the evidence or did so out of political considerations—as a reward for services to Hellas. The historicity of Alexander I's participation in the Olympics has been doubted by some scholars, who see the story as a piece of propaganda engineered by the Argeads and spread by Herodotus. Alexander's name does not appear in any list of Olympic victors.^[219]

That there were protests from other competitors suggests that the supposed Argive genealogy of the Argeads "was far from main stream knowledge".^[220] According to some, the appellation "Philhellene" was "surely not an appellation that could be given to an actual Greek",^{[220][221]} however, the term "philhellene" (*fond of the Greeks*) has been used as a title for Greek patriots.^{[222][223]} Whatever the case, according to Hall, "what mattered was that Alexander had played the genealogical game *à la grecque* and played it well, perhaps even excessively".^[224]

The emphasis on the Heracleian ancestry of the Argeads served to heroicize the royal family and to provide a sacred genealogy which established a "divine right to rule" over their subjects.^[225] The Macedonian royal family, like those of Epirus, emphasized "blood and kinship in order to construct for themselves a heroic genealogy that sometimes also functioned as a Hellenic genealogy".^[226]



Macedonian stater featuring Alexander the Great and the goddess Athena on the obverse.

Pre-Hellenistic Greek writers expressed an ambiguity about the Greekness of Macedonians—specifically their monarchic institutions and their background of Persian alliance—often portraying them as a potential barbarian threat to Greece.^[227] For example, the late 5th century sophist Thrasymachus of Chalcedon wrote, "we Greeks are enslaved to the barbarian Archelaus" (Fragment 2),^[228] however, the term *barbarian* was also used by Greeks, especially Athenians, to deride other Greeks.^[229]

The issue of Macedonian Hellenicity and that of their royal house was particularly pertinent in the 4th century BC regarding the politics of invading Persia. Demosthenes regarded Macedonia's monarchy to be incongruous with an Athenian-led Pan-Hellenic alliance. He castigated Philip II for being "not only no Greek, nor related to the Greeks, but not even a barbarian from any place that can be named with honor, but a pestilent knave from Macedonia, whence it was never yet possible to buy a decent slave".^[230]

This was obvious political slander and is regarded as "an insulting speech",^[231] but "the orator clearly could not do this, if his audience was likely to regard his claim as nonsense: it could not be said of a Theban, or even a Thessalian",^[232] however, he also calls Meidias, an Athenian statesman, "barbarian"^[233] and in an event mentioned by Athenaeus, the Boeotians, the Thessalians and the Eleans were labeled "barbarians".^[234] Demosthenes's allegations were lent an appearance of credibility by the fact that the life-style of the Macedonians, being determined by specific geographical and historical conditions, was different from that of a Greek city-state but was common to western Greeks of Epirus, Acarnania and Aetolia, as well as to the Macedonians, and their fundamental Greek nationality was never doubted.^[235]

Demosthenes regarded only those who had reached the cultural standards of southern Greece as Greek and he did not take ethnological criteria into consideration,^[236] and his corpus is considered an "oratory designed to sway public opinion at Athens and thereby to formulate public policy."^[212] Isocrates believed that only Macedonia was capable of leading a war against Persia; he felt compelled to say that Phillip was a "bona fide" Hellene by discussing his Argead and Heracleian heritage.^{[237][238]} Moreover, Philip, in his letter to the council and people of Athens, mentioned by Demosthenes, places himself "with the rest of the Greeks".^[239]

ANCIENT SOURCES ON THE MACEDONIAN PEOPLE



Ancient frescos of Macedonian soldiers from the tomb of Agios Athanasios, Thessaloniki, Greece, 4th century BC

The earliest reference about Greek attitudes towards the Macedonian *ethnos* as a whole comes from Hesiod's Catalogue of Women. The text maintains that the Macedonians descended from Makedon, son of Zeus and Thyia (daughter of Deucalion), and was therefore a nephew of Hellen, progenitor of the Greeks.^[16] Magnes, brother of the eponymous Makedon, was also said to be a son of Zeus and Thyia.^[26]

The Magnetes, descendants of Magnes, were an Aeolian tribe; according to Hammond this places the Macedonians among the Greeks.^[240] Engels also wrote that Hesiod counted the Macedonians as Greeks, while Hall said that "according to strict genealogical logic, [this] excludes the population that bears [Macedon's] name from the ranks of the Hellenes".^[241]



Two later writers deny Makedon a Hellenic lineage: Apollodorus (3.8.1) makes him a son of Lycaon, son of earth-born Pelasgus, whilst Pseudo-Scymnos (6.22) makes him born directly from the earth;^[242] Apollodorus (3.8.1), however, is technically identifying Makedon with the Greek royalty of Arcadia, thus placing Macedonia within the orbit of the most archaic of Greek myths.^[243]

At the end of the 5th century BC Hellanicus of Lesbos asserted Makedon was the son of Aeolus, the latter a son of Hellen and ancestor of the Aeolians, one of the major tribes of the Greeks.^[16] Hellanicus modified Hesiod's genealogy by making Makedon the son of Aeolus, firmly placing the Macedonians in the Aeolic Greek-speaking family.^[244] In addition to belonging to tribal groups such as the Aeolians, Dorians, Achaeans, and Ionians,



Anson also stresses the fact that some Greeks even distinguished their ethnic identities based on the *polis* (i.e. city-state) they originally came from.^[245] These early writers and their formulation of genealogical relationships demonstrate that before the 5th century, Greekness was defined on an ethnic basis and was legitimized by tracing descent from eponymous Hellen.^[246] Subsequently, cultural considerations assumed greater importance.

Fresco of an [ancient Macedonian](#) soldier (*thorakitai*) wearing [chainmail](#) armor and bearing a [thureos](#) shield, 3rd century BC

Thucydides and Herodotus regarded the Macedonians as either northern Greeks, barbarians or an intermediate group between "pure" Greeks and barbarians;^[247] however, ancient allegations that the Macedonians were non-Greek all had their origin in Athens during the city-state's struggle with Philip II.^[247] In the *Histories* (5.20.4) Herodotus calls king [Alexander I](#) an *anēr Hellēn Makedonōn huparchos*, or "a Greek who ruled over Macedonians",^[248] which may also indicate that the country was included in the Persian Empire's administrative structure.

The term *huparchos* ("subordinate governor") could indicate that Alexander submitted to the Persian king, in return keeping his reign over the Macedonians, or could have been used to describe province governors appointed to the Persian king but also to describe officials of lower rank.^[249]

In 7.130.3, he says that the Thessalians were the "first of the Greeks" to submit to Xerxes,^[250] implying that Thessalians [medised](#) as soon as Persians reached their borders.^[251] In the first book of the *Histories*, Herodotus recalls a reliable tradition according to which the Greek *ethnos*, in its wandering, was called "Macedonian" when it settled around Pindus and "Dorian" when it came to the Peloponnese,^[252] and in the eighth book he groups several Greek tribes under "Macedonians" and "Dorians", implying that the Macedonians were Greeks.^{[253][254]}

Although Thucydides's views on the Macedonians are inconsistent, it is unlikely that he considered the Macedonians as "barbarians" or even as "intermediates" since the Macedonian royal dynasty had already been recognized as Greek in Herodotus's account, which Thucydides also accepted.^[255] In parts of his work, Thucydides placed the Macedonians on his cultural continuum closer to barbarians than Hellenes,^[256] or an intermediate category between Greeks and non-Greeks.^[257] In other parts, he distinguishes between three groups fighting in the Peloponnesian War: The Greeks (including Peloponnesians), the barbarian Illyrians and the Macedonians.^[257]

Recounting Brasidas's expedition to Lyncus, Thucydides considers Macedonians separate from the barbarians; he says, "In all there were about three thousand Hellenic heavy infantry, accompanied by all the Macedonian cavalry with the Chalcidians, near one thousand strong, besides an immense crowd of barbarians",^[258] and "night coming on, the Macedonians and the barbarian crowd took fright in a moment in one of those mysterious panics to which great armies are liable".^[259] More explicit is his recounting of Brasidas's speech where he tells his Peloponnesian troops to dispel fear of fighting against "barbarians: because they had already fought against Macedonians".^[260]



Macedonian terracotta figurine, 3rd century BC; the Persians referred to the Macedonians as "Yaunā Takabara" ("[Greeks with hats that look like shields](#)").^[266]

Ancient geographers differed in their views on the size of Macedonia and on the ethnicity of the Macedonians.^[261] Most ancient geographers did not include the core territories of the Macedonian kingdom in their definition of Greece, the reasons for which are unknown. For example, [Strabo](#) says that while "Macedonia is of course part of Greece, yet now, since I am following the nature and shape of the places geographically, I have chosen to classify it apart from the rest of Greece".^{[261][262]}

Strabo supports the Greek ethnicity of the Macedonian people and wrote of the "Macedonians and the other Greeks",^[263] as does Pausanias, the latter of which did not include Macedonia in Hellas as indicated in Book 10 of his *Description of Greece*.^[261] Pausanias said that the Macedonians took part in the [Amphictyonic League](#)^[264] and that Caranus of Macedon—the mythical founder of the Argead dynasty—set up a trophy after the Argive fashion for a victory against Cisseus.^[265]

[Isocrates](#) defended Philip's Greek origins but did not think the same of his people. He wrote, "He (Perdiccas I) left the Greek world alone completely, but he desired to hold the kingship in Macedonia; for he understood that Greeks are not accustomed to submit themselves to monarchy whereas others are incapable of living their lives without domination of this sort ... for he alone of the Greeks deemed it fit to rule over an ethnically unrelated population".^[267]

Nevertheless, Philip named the federation of Greek states he created with Macedon at its head—nowadays referred to as the [League of Corinth](#)—as simply "The Hellenes" (i.e. Greeks), and the Macedonians were granted two seats in the exclusively Greek Great Amphictyonic League in 346 BC when the [Phocians](#) were expelled. Badian sees it as a personal honour awarded to Philip and not to the Macedonian people as a whole.^[268] [Aeschines](#) said that Phillip's father [Amyntas III](#) joined other Greeks in the Panhellenic congress of the Lacedaemonian allies, also known as the "Congress of Sparta", in a vote to help Athens recover possession of Amphipolis.^[269]

With Philip's conquest of Greece, Greeks and Macedonians enjoyed privileges at the royal court, and there was no social distinction among his court *hetairoi*, although Philip's armies were only ever led by Macedonians. The process of Greek and Macedonian syncretism culminated during the reign of Alexander the Great, and he allowed Greeks to command his armies.

There was also some persisting antagonism between Macedonians and Greeks lasting into Antigonid times.^[270] Some Greeks continued to rebel against their Macedonian overlords throughout the Hellenistic era.^[271] They rejoiced on the death of Phillip II^[272] and they revolted against Alexander's Antigonid successors. The Greeks called this conflict the *Hellenic War*.^[273] However, Pan-Hellenic sloganeering was used by Greeks against Antigonid dominance; it was also used by Macedonians to corral popular support throughout Greece.

Those who considered Macedonia as a political enemy, such as [Hypereides](#) and [Chremonides](#), likened the [Lamian War](#) and [Chremonidean War](#), respectively, to the earlier [Greco-Persian Wars](#) and efforts to liberate Greeks from tyranny.^[274] Yet even those who considered Macedonia an ally, such as Isocrates, were keen to stress the differences between their kingdom and the Greek city states, to assuage fears about the extension of Macedonian-style monarchism into the governance of their poleis.^[275]

After the 3rd century BC, and especially in Roman times, the Macedonians were consistently regarded as Greeks.^[276] For example, [Polybius's](#) [Acanthian](#) character Lyciscus tells the Spartans that they are "of the same tribe" as the [Achaean](#)s and the Macedonians,^[277] who should be honoured because "throughout nearly their whole lives are ceaselessly engaged in a struggle with the barbarians for the safety of the Greeks".^[278] Polybius also used the phrase "Macedonia and the rest of Greece",^[279] and says that [Philip V of Macedon](#) associates himself with "the rest of the Greeks".^[280]

In his text *History of Rome*, Livy states that the Macedonians, Aetolians and Acanthians were "all men of the same language".^[281] Similar opinions are shared by [Arrian](#),^[282] [Strabo](#)^[283] and [Plutarch](#), who wrote of Aristotle advising Alexander "to have regard for the Greeks as for friends and kindred".^[284]

M. B. Hatzopoulos points out that passages in Arrian's text also reveal that the terms "Greeks" and "Macedonians" were at times synonymous. For instance, when Alexander the Great held a feast accompanied by Macedonians and Persians, with religious rituals performed by Persian *magi* and "[Greek seers](#)", the latter of whom were Macedonians.^[285] Any preconceived ethnic differences between Greeks and Macedonians faded soon after the [Roman conquest of Macedonia](#) by 148 BC and then [the rest of Greece](#) with the defeat of the [Achaean League](#) by the [Roman Republic](#) at the [Battle of Corinth \(146 BC\)](#).^[286]

The Persians referred to both Greeks and Macedonians as *Yauna* ("Ionians", their term for "Greeks"), though they distinguished the "Yauna by the sea and across the sea" from the *Yaunā Takabara* or "Greeks with hats that look like shields", possibly referring to the Macedonian [kausia](#) hat.^[287] According to another interpretation, the Persians used such terms in a geographical rather than an ethnic sense. Yauna and its various attributes possibly referred to regions to the north and west of Asia Minor, which could have included Phrygians, Mysians, Aeolians, Thracians, and Paionians in addition to Greeks.^[288] In Hellenistic times, most Egyptians and Syrians included the Macedonians among the larger category of Greeks, as the Persians had done earlier.^[287]



MODERN DISCOURSE

A [mosaic](#) of the [Kasta Tomb](#) in [Amphipolis](#) depicting the abduction of [Persephone](#) by [Pluto](#), 4th century BC

Modern scholarly discourse has produced several hypotheses about the Macedonians' place within the Greek world. Considering material remains of Greek-style monuments, buildings, inscriptions dating from the 5th century and the predominance of Greek personal names, one school of thought says that the Macedonians were "truly Greeks" who had retained a more archaic lifestyle than those living in southern Greece.

This cultural discrepancy was used during the political struggles in Athens and Macedonia in the 4th century. Engels said the Greekness of the Epirotes, who led a similarly "archaic" life as the Macedonians, never drew as sharp a discussion than that of the Macedonians—perhaps because the Epirotes, unlike the Macedonians, never tried to achieve hegemony over all of Greece.^[217]

This has been the predominant viewpoint since the 20th century. Worthington wrote, "... not much need to be said about the Greekness of ancient Macedonia: it is undeniable".^[289] Hatzopoulos argues that there was no real ethnic difference between Macedonians and Greeks, only a political distinction contrived after the creation of the [League of Corinth](#) in 337 BC (which was led by Macedonia through the league's elected [hegemon](#) Philip II, despite him not being a member of the league itself).^[290]

Hatzopoulos stresses the fact that Macedonians and other peoples such as the [Epirotes](#) and [Cypriots](#), despite speaking a Greek dialect, worshiping in Greek cults, engaging in panhellenic games, and upholding traditional Greek institutions, nevertheless occasionally had their territories excluded from contemporary geographic definitions of "[Hellas](#)" and were even considered non-Greek barbarians by some.^[291] Other academics who concur that the difference between the Macedonians and Greeks was a political rather than a true ethnic discrepancy include Michael B. Sakellariou,^[292] [Robert Malcolm Errington](#),^[293] and Craig B. Champion.^[294]

Another perspective interprets the literary evidence and the archaeological-cultural differences between Macedonia and central-southern Greece before the 6th century and beyond as evidence that the Macedonians were originally non-Greek tribes who underwent a process of Hellenization.^{[295][296]} Accepting that political factors played a part, they highlight the degree of antipathy between Macedonians and Greeks, which was of a different quality to that seen among other Greek states—even those with a long-term history of mutual animosity (e.g. Sparta and Athens).^[297] According to these scholars, the Macedonians came to be regarded as "northern Greeks" only with the ongoing Hellenization of Macedonia and the emergence of Rome as a common enemy in the west.

This coincides with the period during which ancient authors such as Polybius and Strabo called the ancient Macedonians "Greeks".^[295] By this point, as described by Isocrates, to have been a Greek could have defined a quality of culture and intelligence rather than a racial or ethnic affinity.^{[298][299]} In the context of ethnic origins of the companions of the [Antigonid kings](#), James L. O'Neil distinguishes Macedonians and Greeks as separate ethnic groups, the latter becoming more prominent in Macedonian affairs and the royal court after Alexander the Great's reign.^[300]

Others have adopted both views. According to Sansone, "there is no question that, in the fifth and fourth centuries, there were noticeable difference between the Greeks and the Macedonians," yet the issue of Macedonian Hellenicity was ultimately a "political one".^[301] Hall adds, "to ask whether the Macedonians 'really were' Greek or not in antiquity is ultimately a redundant question given the shifting semantics of Greekness between the 6th and 4th centuries BC. What cannot be denied, however, is that the cultural commodification of Hellenic identity that emerged in the 4th century might have remained a provincial artifact, confined to the Balkan peninsula, had it not been for the Macedonians."^[302]

Eugene Borza emphasized the Macedonians "made their mark in antiquity as *Macedonians*, not as a tribe of some other people"^[303] but argued that "the 'highlanders' or 'Makedones' of the mountainous regions of western Macedonia are derived from northwest Greek stock."^[304] Worthington concludes that "there is still more than enough evidence and reasoned theory to suggest that the Macedonians were racially Greek."^[210]

Edward M. Anson argues that some Hellenic authors expressed complex if not ever-changing and ambiguous ideas about the exact ethnic identity of the Macedonians, who were considered by some such as [Aristotle](#) in his *Politics* as barbarians and others as semi-Greek or fully Greek.^[305] Roger D. Woodard asserts that in addition to persisting uncertainty in modern times about the proper classification of the Macedonian language and its relation to Greek, ancient authors also presented conflicting ideas, such as [Demosthenes](#) when labeling Philip II of Macedon inaccurately as a "barbarian",^[306] whereas [Polybius](#) called Greeks and Macedonians as *homophylos* (i.e. part of the same race or [kin](#)).^{[307][308]}

[Demographic history of Macedonia](#) [Government of Macedonia \(ancient kingdom\)](#) [History of Macedonia \(ancient kingdom\)](#)

[Macedonians \(Greeks\)](#) [Macedon](#)

NOTES

1. [Worthington 2014](#), Chapter Two: Alexander's Inheritance, p. 10; [Zacharia 2008](#), Simon Hornblower, "Greek Identity in the Archaic and Classical Periods", pp. 55–58; [Joint Association of Classical Teachers 1984](#), pp. 50– 51; [Errington 1990](#); [Fine 1983](#), pp. 607–608; [Hall 2000](#), p. 64; [Hammond 2001](#), p. 11; [Jones 2001](#), p. 21; [Osborne 2004](#), p. 127; [Hammond 1989](#), pp. 12–13; [Hammond 1993](#), p. 97; [Starr 1991](#), pp. 260, 367; [Toynbee 1981](#), p. 67; [Worthington 2008](#), pp. 8, 219; [Chamoux 2002](#), p. 8; [Cawkwell 1978](#), p. 22; [Perlman 1973](#), p. 78; [Hamilton 1974](#), Chapter 2: The Macedonian Homeland, p. 23; [Bryant 1996](#), p. 306; [O'Brien 1994](#), p. 25.
2. [Trudgill 2002](#), p. 125; [Theodossiev 2000](#), pp. 175–209.
3. [Christesen & Murray 2010](#), p. 428.
4. B. Joseph (2001): "Ancient Greek". In: J. Garry et al. (eds.) *Facts about the World's Major Languages: An Encyclopedia of the World's Major Languages, Past and Present*. [Online Paper](#)
5. [Harle 1998](#), p. 24: "The idea of the city-state was first challenged by the ideal of pan-Hellenic unity supported by some writers and orators, among which the Athenian Isocrates became a leading proponent with his Panegyrics of 380 suggesting a Greek holy war against Persia. However, only the rise of Macedonia made the realization of pan-Hellenic unity possible."
6. [Hanson 2012](#), Ian Worthington, "5. Alexander the Great, Nation Building, and the Creation and Maintenance of Empire", p. 119: "Afterward he [Alexander] revived his father's League of Corinth, and with it his plan for a pan-Hellenic invasion of Asia to punish the Persians for the suffering of the Greeks, especially the Athenians, in the Greco-Persian Wars and to liberate the Greek cities of Asia Minor."
7. [Kristinsson 2010](#), p. 79: "Both these empires [Macedonian and Roman] originated on the edges of the Greek world and were heavily influenced by Greek civilization even to the point of copying the Greek phalanx but developing it according to their own preferences ... As the Macedonians became infused with Greek civilization they developed a larger and stronger state than any in Greece proper ... The Macedonians only became important players in the Greek system after they had used what they had learned from the Greeks to expand into barbarian Europe."
8. [Kinzl 2010](#), p. 553: "He [Philip] also recognized the power of pan-hellenic sentiment when arranging Greek affairs after his victory at Chaironeia: a pan-hellenic expedition against Persia ostensibly was one of the main goals of the League of Corinth."
9. [Adams 2010](#), pp. 208–211, 216–217; [Errington 1990](#), pp. 117–120, 129, 145–147; [Bringmann 2007](#), p. 61; for a discussion about the [Hellenistic period](#) in both the [Eastern](#) and [Western Mediterranean](#) regions [in antiquity](#), see [Prag & Quinn 2013](#), pp. 1–13.

10. [Olbrycht 2010](#), pp. 365–367.
11. [Adams 2010](#), p. 223; [Errington 1990](#), pp. 174, 242; [Greenwalt 2010](#), pp. 289–304.
12. [Adams 2010](#), pp. 221–224; [Errington 1990](#), pp. 167–174, 179–185;
13. [Errington 1990](#), pp. 191–216; [Eckstein 2010](#), pp. 231–245; [Greenwalt 2010](#), p. 302; [Bringmann 2007](#), pp. 79–88, 97–99.
14. [Errington 1990](#), pp. 216–217; [Eckstein 2010](#), p. 245; [Greenwalt 2010](#), p. 304; [Bringmann 2007](#), pp. 99–100.
15. [Errington 1990](#), pp. 216–217; [Eckstein 2010](#), pp. 246–248; [Bringmann 2007](#), pp. 104–105.
16. [to: a b c Anson 2010](#), p. 16; [Rhodes 2010](#), p. 24.
17. [Anson 2010](#), p. 7 [Asirvatham 2010](#), pp. 101–102, 123.
18. Homer. *Iliad*, 14.226.
19. Strabo. *Geography*, Book 7 (Fragment 2): "What is now Macedonia was in earlier times called Emathia. Macedonia took its name from Macedon, an early ruler ..."
20. [Best & de Vries 1989](#), R. F. Hoddinott, "Thracians, Mycenaeans and 'The Trojan Question'", p. 64.
21. [Borza 1992](#), p. 64: "The existence of a Late Bronze Age Mycenaean settlement in the Petra not only confirms its importance as a route from an early period, but also extends the limits of Mycenaean settlement to the Macedonian frontier."
22. [Hatzopoulos 1996](#), p. 105; [Errington 1990](#), pp. 7–9; [Borza 1982](#), p. 8.
23. [Borza 1992](#), p. 84: "The Macedonians themselves may have originated from the same population pool that produced other Greek peoples."
24. [Vanderpool 1982](#), Eugene N. Borza, "Athenians, Macedonians, and the Origins of the Macedonian Royal House", p. 7.
25. On pages 433–434 of "The Position of the Macedonian Dialect", A. Panayotou describes the geographical delimitations of ancient Macedon as encompassing the region from Mount Pindus to the Nestos River, and from Thessaly to Paeonia (the area occupied by the kingdom of Philip II, which preceded the much larger Roman province of the same name).
26. [to: a b Hesiod. Catalogue of Women](#), Fragment 7.
27. Herodotus. *Histories*, 1.56.3, 8.43.1; [Hammond & Griffith 1972](#), pp. 430–440.
28. This was but one of several traditions regarding the "Dorian homeland" variously placing it in Phthiotis, Dryopis, Erineos, etc. For the formation of Dorian ethnicity, and its traditions, see chapters 3 and 4 of Johnathan Hall's *Ethnic Identity in Greek Antiquity*.
29. [Toynbee 1969](#), Chapter 3: "What was the Ancestral Language of the Makedones?", pp. 66–77.
30. Herodotus. *Histories*, 8.137.8.
31. [to: a b Hatzopoulos 1999](#).
32. [to: a b Hammond & Griffith 1972](#), pp. 433–434.
33. [Sprawski & Worthington 2010](#), pp. 127–128.
34. [to: a b Sprawski 2010](#), p. 129.
35. Titus Livius, "The History of Rome", [4.5.9](#): "This was the end of the war between the Romans and Perseus, after four years of steady campaigning, and also the end of a kingdom famed over a large part of Europe and all of Asia. They reckoned Perseus as the twentieth after Caranus, who founded the kingdom."
36. Marcus Velleius Paterculus, "History of Rome", [1.6](#): "In this period, sixty-five years before the founding of Rome, Carthage was established by the Tyrian Elissa, by some authors called Dido. About this time also Caranus, a man of royal race, eleventh in descent from Hercules, set out from Argos and seized the kingship of Macedonia. From him Alexander the Great was descended in the seventeenth generation, and could boast that, on his mother's side, he was descended from Achilles, and, on his father's side, from Hercules."
37. Plutarch, "Alexander", [2.1](#): "As for the lineage of Alexander, on his father's side he was a descendant of Heracles through Caranus, and on his mother's side a descendant of Aeacus through Neoptolemus; this is accepted without any question."
38. [Gagarin 2010](#), "Argeads", p. 229.
39. [to: a b Appian. Roman History](#), 11.63.333.
40. [to: a b c Sprawski 2010](#), p. 130.
41. Charlton T. Lewis and Charles Short. *A Latin Dictionary*, [Argīvus](#).
42. Henry George Liddell and Robert Scott. *A Greek-English Lexicon*, [Ἀργεῖος](#).
43. [Argive](#), Oxford Dictionaries.
44. [to: a b Homer. Iliad](#), [2.155–175](#), [4.8](#); *Odyssey*, [8.578](#), [4.6](#).
45. Herodotus. *Histories*, 5.22.
46. Justin, *Historiarum Philippicarum*, 7.1.7–10: "But Caranus, accompanied by a great multitude of Greeks, having been directed by an oracle to seek a settlement in Macedonia, and having come into Emathia, and followed a flock of goats that were fleeing from a tempest, possessed himself of the city of Edessa, before the inhabitants, on account of the thickness of the rain and mist, were aware of his approach; and being reminded of the oracle, by which he had been ordered 'to seek a kingdom with goats for his guides,' he made this city the seat of his government, and afterwards religiously took care, whithersoever he led his troops, to keep the same goats before his standards, that he might have those animals as leaders in his enterprises which he had had as guides to the site of his kingdom. He changed the name of the city, in commemoration of his good fortune, from Edessa to Aegeae, and called the inhabitants Aegeatae."

47. Herodotus. *Histories*, 8.139.
48. [Olbrycht 2010](#), pp. 343–345.
49. Herodotus. *Histories*, 5.17.1–2.
50. [Hammond & Griffith 1972](#), p. 433.
51. [Borza 1992](#), p. 82.
52. [Hammond & Griffith 1979](#), p. 434.
53. Herodotus. *Histories*, 7.73, 8.138; [Hatzopoulos 2011a](#), p. 43.
54. [Hammond & Griffith 1972](#), p. 434; [Borza 1992](#), p. 78.
55. [Hammond & Griffith 1972](#), p. 434.
56. [to: a b Thucydides. History of the Peloponnesian War](#), 2.99
57. [Hammond & Griffith 1972](#), pp. 437–438.
58. [Borza 1992](#), p. 87.
59. [to: a b Sprawski 2010](#), p. 133.
60. [Hammond & Griffith 1979](#), p. 438.
61. [Borza 1992](#), pp. 79–80.
62. [Archibald 2010](#), p. 329.
63. [to: a b c d Sprawski 2010](#), p. 134.
64. [Borza 1992](#), p. 70.
65. [Hall 2002](#), pp. 70–73.
66. [to: a b Snodgrass 2000](#), p. 163: "Altogether, the graves of Macedonia, like their contents, are best explained by the durability of the non-Greek cultural element here, in which the phenomena of Greek influence—the Protogeometric pottery, and perhaps the rare cremations at Vergina—are fleeting."
67. [Brock & Hodkinson 2000](#), Chapter 12: Zosia Halina Archibald, "Space, Hierarchy, and Community in Archaic and Classical Macedonia, Thessaly, and Thrace", pp. 222–224.
68. [Hornblower, Matthews & Fraser 2000](#), Miltiade Hatzopoulos, "'L'histoire par les noms" in Macedonia", p. 112.
69. [Brock & Hodkinson 2000](#), Chapter 12: Zosia Halina Archibald, "Space, Hierarchy, and Community in Archaic and Classical Macedonia, Thessaly, and Thrace", p. 215.
70. [Thomas 2010](#), p. 74.
71. [to: a b Hatzopoulos 1999](#), p. 464.
72. [Butler 2008](#), pp. 222–223.
73. [Butler 2008](#), p. 223.
74. [Whitley 2007](#), p. 253: "Ethnicity and culture are not the same, and however the ancient Macedonians viewed themselves, Macedonian material culture had little in common with that of central Greece. Differences are apparent from a very early date."
75. [Whitley 2007](#), p. 253: "The inhabitants at these sites continued to use a style of 'Balkan' pottery that has little in common with Greek painted wares throughout the Archaic period ..."
76. [Brock & Hodkinson 2000](#), Chapter 13: J. K. Davies, "A Wholly Non-Aristotelian Universe: The Molossians as Ethnos, State, and Monarchy", p. 251.
77. [to: a b Brock & Hodkinson 2000](#), Chapter 12: Zosia Halina Archibald, "Space, Hierarchy, and Community in Archaic and Classical Macedonia, Thessaly, and Thrace", p. 213.
78. [Whitley 2007](#), p. 233.
79. [Lemos 2002](#), p. 207.
80. [to: a b Anson 2010](#), p. 19.
81. [Whitley 2007](#), p. 254: "But, if Macedonians were beginning to make use of some central Greek objects, they were otherwise sticking to their peculiar Macedonian ways."
82. [Olbrycht 2010](#), p. 345.
83. [Hatzopoulos 2011a](#), pp. 47–48; [Errington 1990](#), p. 7.
84. [Boardman 1982](#), [Part III: The Balkans and the Aegean] Chapter 15: N. G. L. Hammond, "Illyris, Epirus and Macedonia in the Early Iron Age", pp. 621–624.
85. [to: a b c "Encyclopædia Britannica - Hellenism in Macedonia"](#).
86. [Iordanidis, Garcia-Guinea & Karamitrou-Mentessidi 2007](#), pp. 1796–1807.
87. [to: a b Karamitrou-Mentessidi 2007](#).
88. [Brock & Hodkinson 2000](#), Chapter 12: Zosia Halina Archibald, "Space, Hierarchy, and Community in Archaic and Classical Macedonia, Thessaly, and Thrace", p. 212.
89. [Anson 2010](#), p. 8.
90. [Hatzopoulos 2011a](#), pp. 47–48; for a specific example of [land reclamation](#) near [Amphipolis](#) during the reign of [Alexander the Great](#), see [Hammond & Walbank 2001](#), p. 31.
91. [Hatzopoulos 2011a](#), p. 48; [Errington 1990](#), pp. 7–8; 222–223.
92. [Hatzopoulos 2011a](#), p. 48.
93. [to: a b c Anson 2010](#), p. 10.
94. [Anson 2010](#), pp. 10–11.
95. [Engels 2010](#), p. 92.
96. [Hammond & Walbank 2001](#), pp. 12–13.

97. [Anson 2010](#), pp. 9–10.
98. [King 2010](#), pp. 374–375.
99. [King 2010](#), pp. 376–377.
100. [Horejs 2007](#).
101. [Hammond & Griffith 1972](#), pp. 420–426; [Snodgrass 2000](#), p. 257.
102. [Snodgrass 2000](#), p. 253: "The early Iron Age period of use of the Vergina cemetery must have lasted, on any view, for three centuries at the very least. Yet over this period it shows a quite astonishing consistency in metalwork."
103. [Boardman 1982](#), [Part III: The Balkans and the Aegean] Chapter 15: N.G.L. Hammond, "Illyris, Epirus and Macedonia in the Early Iron Age", pp. 644–650.
104. [Brock & Hodkinson 2000](#), Chapter 12: Zosia Halina Archibald, "Space, Hierarchy, and Community in Archaic and Classical Macedonia, Thessaly, and Thrace", p. 217.
105. [Wilkes 1995](#), pp. 104–107.
106. [Whitley 2007](#), p. 243.
107. [Brock & Hodkinson 2000](#), Chapter 12: Zosia Halina Archibald, "Space, Hierarchy, and Community in Archaic and Classical Macedonia, Thessaly, and Thrace", pp. 223–224.
108. [Sansone 2017](#), p. 223.
109. [Anson 2010](#), pp. 17–18.
110. [Errington 1990](#), pp. 225–226.
111. [to: a b Errington 1990](#), p. 226.
112. [Errington 1990](#), pp. 226–227.
113. [to: a b Engels 2010](#), p. 96.
114. [to: a b c d e f g Christesen & Murray 2010](#), p. 430.
115. [to: a b Christesen & Murray 2010](#), p. 431.
116. [Cook, Adcock & Charlesworth 1928](#), pp. 197–198; [Sakellariou 1992](#), p. 60.
117. [Graninger 2010](#), pp. 323–324.
118. [Engels 2010](#), p. 97.
119. [Christesen & Murray 2010](#), p. 434.
120. [to: a b Christesen & Murray 2010](#), p. 429.
121. [Whitley 2007](#), p. 254.
122. [Fisher & Wees 1998](#), p. 51; [Archibald 2010](#), p. 340.
123. [to: a b Whitley 2007](#), pp. 254–255.
124. [Christesen & Murray 2010](#), pp. 439–440.
125. [Borza 1992](#), pp. 257–260; see also [Hammond & Walbank 2001](#), pp. 5–7 for further details.
126. [Borza 1992](#), pp. 259–260; see also [Hammond & Walbank 2001](#), pp. 5–6 for further details.
127. [Borza 1992](#), pp. 257, 260–261.
128. [Sansone 2017](#), p. 224; [Hammond & Walbank 2001](#), p. 6; Rosella Lorenzi (10 October 2014). "Remains of Alexander the Great's Father Confirmed Found: King Philip II's bones are buried in a tomb along with a mysterious woman-warrior." *Seeker*. Retrieved 17 January 2017.
129. [Borza 1992](#), p. 257.
130. [Sansone 2017](#), pp. 224–225.
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134. [Worthington 2012](#), p. 319.
135. [Worthington 2014](#), p. 180; [Sansone 2017](#), p. 228.
136. [Worthington 2012](#), p. 319; [Worthington 2014](#), pp. 180–183.
137. [Worthington 2012](#), p. 319; [Worthington 2014](#), pp. 182–183.
138. [Errington 1990](#), pp. 219–220.
139. [Hardiman 2010](#), p. 515.
140. [Hardiman 2010](#), pp. 515–517.
141. [to: a b Hardiman 2010](#), p. 517.
142. [Head 2016](#), pp. 12–13; [Piening 2013](#), pp. 1182.
143. [Head 2016](#), p. 13; [Aldrete, Bartell & Aldrete 2013](#), p. 49.
144. [Palagia 2000](#), pp. 182, 185–186.
145. [to: a b c Hardiman 2010](#), p. 518.
146. [Cohen 2010](#), pp. 13–34.
147. [Müller 2010](#), p. 182.
148. [to: a b c Errington 1990](#), p. 224.
149. [to: a b c Worthington 2014](#), p. 186.
150. [Worthington 2014](#), p. 185.

151. [Worthington 2014](#), pp. 185–186.
152. [to: a b Worthington 2014](#), pp. 183, 186.
153. [Hatzopoulos 2011b](#), p. 58; [Roisman 2010](#), p. 154; [Errington 1990](#), pp. 223–224.
154. [Hatzopoulos 2011b](#), pp. 58–59; see also [Errington 1990](#), p. 224 for further details.
155. [Hatzopoulos 2011b](#), pp. 59; [Sansone 2017](#), p. 223; [Roisman 2010](#), p. 157.
156. [to: a b Hatzopoulos 2011b](#), pp. 59.
157. [Chroust 2016](#), p. 137.
158. [to: a b Rhodes 2010](#), p. 23.
159. [Rhodes 2010](#), pp. 23–25; see also [Errington 1990](#), p. 224 for further details.
160. [Errington 1990](#), pp. 224–225;
161. For [Marsyas of Pella](#), see also [Hammond & Walbank 2001](#), p. 27 for further details.
162. [to: a b Errington 1990](#), p. 225.
163. [Badian 1982](#), p. 34, [Anson 2010](#), p. 16; [Sansone 2017](#), pp. 222–223.
164. [Nawotka 2010](#), p. 2.
165. [Sawada 2010](#), p. 403.
166. [Cohen 2010](#), p. 28.
167. [to: a b c Dalby 1997](#), p. 157.
168. [Dalby 1997](#), pp. 155–156.
169. [Dalby 1997](#), p. 156.
170. [Dalby 1997](#), pp. 156–157.
171. [Anson 2010](#), p. 10; [Cohen 2010](#), p. 28.
172. [Sawada 2010](#), pp. 392–408.
173. [Sawada 2010](#), p. 394.
174. There were Dorian and Euboean colonies, as well as tribal *ethne* speaking Greek, Illyrian, Thracian, Paeonian, Brygian, etc.
175. [Borza 1992](#), p. 92.
176. [Christidēs, Arapopoulou & Chritē 2007](#), Chapter 6: A. Panayotou, "The Position of the Macedonian Dialect", p. 433.
177. [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", p. 161.
178. [to: a b c d e Engels 2010](#), p. 94.
179. [Anson 2010](#), p. 20.
180. [to: a b Borza 1992](#), p. 93.
181. [Voutiras 1998](#), p. 25.
182. [Engels 2010](#), p. 95: "This has been judged to be the most important ancient testimony to substantiate that Macedonian was a north-western Greek and mainly a Doric dialect".
183. [Masson & Dubois 2000](#), p. 292: "... "Macedonian Language" de l'*Oxford Classical Dictionary*, 1996, p. 906: "Macedonian may be seen as a Greek dialect, characterized by its marginal position and by local pronunciation (like Βερενικά for Φερενικά etc.)"
184. [Masson 1996](#), "Macedonian Language", pp. 905–906.
185. [to: a b Hatzopoulos 2011a](#), pp. 43–45.
186. [Worthington 2003](#), p. 20.
187. [Hall 2002](#), p. 116. Jonathan Hall warns against reaching overarching conclusions based on a single inscription. Either way, the limitations of the graphic system conceal a far greater diversity of oral idioms.
188. [Christidēs, Arapopoulou & Chritē 2007](#), Chapter 6: A. Panayotou, "The Position of the Macedonian Dialect", pp. 431–433.
189. [Hornblower, Matthews & Fraser 2000](#), Miltiade Hatzopoulos, "'L'histoire par les noms" in Macedonia", p. 111.
190. It is difficult to distinguish between words which are truly common between Macedonian and Greek from [cognates](#) and loanwords.
191. [Boardman 1982](#), Chapter 20c: R. A. Crossland, "Linguistic Problems of the Balkan Area in Late Prehistoric and Early Classical Periods", p. 846.
192. [to: a b c Woodard 2008b](#), p. 11: "If such sets are rightly analyzed as cognates, the Macedonian language departs conspicuously from Greek in showing voiced unaspirated rather than voiceless aspirated reflexes of the earlier Indo-European voiced aspirated stops."
193. [Boardman 1982](#), Chapter 20c: R. A. Crossland, "Linguistic Problems of the Balkan Area in Late Prehistoric and Early Classical Periods", pp. 846–847.
194. Personal names, names of gods and months, and phonological features. Refer to: [Christidēs, Arapopoulou & Chritē 2007](#), Chapter 6: A. Panayotou, "The Position of the Macedonian Dialect", pp. 438–439.
195. [Finkelberg 2005](#), p. 121: "Thus Macedonian, for example, does not share with Greek at least one of the features identifying the unique idiom of the latter, namely, the devoicing of the IE voiced aspirates."
196. [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", pp. 163–165.

197. [Hornblower, Matthews & Fraser 2000](#), Miltiade Hatzopoulos, "'L'histoire par les noms" in Macedonia", p. 115.
198. [Christidēs, Arapoglou & Chritē 2007](#), Chapter 6: A. Panayotou, "The Position of the Macedonian Dialect", p. 439: "It might be simpler to assume that the names manifesting this feature are substratum relics of a tribe which was linguistically assimilated by the Macedonians ..."
199. Specifically, a hybridized language incorporating Brygian, Northwest Greek and Thessalian.
200. [Papazoglou 1977](#), pp. 65–83.
201. [Woodard 2008a](#), Chapter 8: Claude Brixhe, "Phrygian", p. 72.
202. [Georgiev 1981](#), pp. 170, 360.
203. [Garrett 1999](#), pp. 146–156.
204. [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", pp. 161–163.
205. [Borza 1999](#), pp. 42–43: "Macedonian and Greek were sufficiently different as late as the time of Alexander the Great as to require interpreters and cause ancient writers to note differences."
206. [Barr-Sharrar & Borza 1982](#), E. Badian, "Greeks and Macedonians", p. 41: "The suggestion is surely that Macedonian was the language of the infantry and that Greek was a difficult, indeed a foreign, tongue to them."
207. [Papazoglou 2000](#), pp. 771–777.
208. Thucydides. *History of the Peloponnesian War*, [3.94](#).
209. Plato. *Protagoras*, [341c](#).
210. Aeschines. *Against Ctesiphon*, [3.72](#).
211. [to: a b Worthington 2014](#), Chapter Two: Alexander's Inheritance, p. 10.
212. Livy. *The History of Rome*, [45.29.3](#).
213. [to: a b Borza 1992](#), p. 5.
214. [Badian 1982](#), p. 51, n. 72; Johannes Engels comes to a similar conclusion. See: [Engels 2010](#), p. 82.
215. [to: a b Anson 2010](#), p. 7.
216. [Engels 2010](#), p. 85.
217. [Cartledge 2011](#), Chapter 4: Argos, p. 23: "The Late Bronze Age in Greece is also called conventionally 'Mycenaeen', as we saw in the last chapter. But it might in principle have been called 'Argive', 'Achaean', or 'Danaan', since the three names that Homer does in fact apply to Greeks collectively were 'Argives', 'Achaean', and 'Danaan'."
218. [to: a b c Engels 2010](#), p. 84.
219. Herodotus. *Histories*, 5.22; [Engels 2010](#), pp. 92–93.
220. [Asirvatham 2010](#), p. 101.
221. [to: a b Barr-Sharrar & Borza 1982](#), E. Badian, "Greeks and Macedonians", p. 34.
222. [Engels 2010](#), p. 93.
223. Henry George Liddell and Robert Scott. *A Greek-English Lexicon*, [φιλῆλλην](#).
224. cf. Plato. *Republic*, [5.470e](#); Xenophon. *Agesilaus*, [7.4](#) (in Greek).
225. [Hall 2002](#), p. 156.
226. [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", p. 169; [Engels 2010](#), p. 91.
227. [Malkin 1998](#), p. 140.
228. [Asirvatham 2010](#), p. 103.
229. [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", p. 160.
230. [Baracchi 2014](#), p. 292: "It is worth noting that the term "barbaric" referred primarily to the Greek's incomprehension of non-Greek tongues. Greeks, particularly the Athenians, would also use it to deride other Greeks."
231. Demosthenes *Third Philippic*, [9.31](#)
232. [Hammond 1991](#).
233. [Barr-Sharrar & Borza 1982](#), E. Badian, "Greeks and Macedonians", p. 42.
234. Demosthenes, *Against Meidias*, Speeches, [21.150](#): "And yet, though he has thus become the possessor of privileges to which he has no claim, and has found a fatherland which is reputed to be of all states the most firmly based upon its laws, he seems utterly unable to submit to those laws or abide by them. His true, native barbarism and hatred of religion drive him on by force and betray the fact that he treats his present rights as if they were not his own—as indeed they are not."
235. Athenaeus, *The Deipnosophists*, 8.42: "And when he was asked again, according to the account given by Hegesander, which were the greatest barbarians, the Boetians or the Thessalians, he said, 'the Eleians'."
236. [Errington 1993](#), p. 4.
237. [MacDowell 2009](#), 13: War and Defeat.
238. Isocrates. *Philippus*, 32–34 and 76–77; [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", pp. 159–160.

239. Isocrates. *To Philip*, 5.127: "Therefore, since the others are so lacking in spirit, I think it is opportune for you to head the war against the King; and, while it is only natural for the other descendants of Heracles, and for men who are under the bonds of their polities and laws, to cleave fondly to that state in which they happen to dwell, it is your privilege, as one who has been blessed with untrammelled freedom, to consider all Hellas your fatherland, as did the founder of your race, and to be as ready to brave perils for her sake as for the things about which you are personally most concerned."
240. Demosthenes, *Philip's Letter to Athenians*, Speeches, [12.6](#): "This is the most amazing exploit of all; for, before the king reduced Egypt and Phoenicia, you passed a decree calling on me to make common cause with the rest of the Greeks against him, in case he attempted to interfere with us".
241. [Worthington 2003](#), Chapter 2: N.G.L. Hammond, "The Language of the Macedonians", p. 20.
242. [Hall 2002](#), p. 165; [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", p. 169.
243. [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", p. 169.
244. [Daskalakis 1965](#), pp. 12–13: "Aelian and Apollodorus, both later writers, but working on the basis of very ancient Greek traditions surviving in sources lost to us, identified Makedon or Makednon as a son of Lycaon and grandson of the Arcadian Pelasgus. Of these two, Apollodorus regards Lycaon king of the Arcadians and names his fifty sons, rulers of the Greek Peoples, and among them Makednon, thus putting Macedonia within the orbit of the most ancient Greek myths."
245. [Hall 2002](#), p. 165.
246. [Anson 2010](#), p. 15.
247. [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", p. 170.
248. [Errington 1990](#), p. 4.
249. Herodotus. *The Histories*, [5.20.4](#).
250. [Sprawski 2010](#), p. 138.
251. [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", p. 171.
252. [Buckley 2010](#), p. 12.
253. Herodotus. *Histories*, 1.56.2–3.
254. Herodotus. *Histories*, [8.43](#).
255. [Hammond & Griffith 1972](#), pp. 429–430. Hammond states that Pelagonia might have been initially called Argestia.
256. [Pan-Montojo & Pedersen 2007](#), Ioannis Xydopoulos, "The Concept and Representation of Northern Communities in Ancient Greek Historiography: The Case of Thucydides", p. 8.
257. [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", pp. 171–172.
258. [to: a b Engels 2010](#), p. 85.
259. Thucydides. *History of the Peloponnesian War*, [4.124.1](#).
260. Thucydides. *History of the Peloponnesian War*, [4.125.1](#).
261. Thucydides. *History of the Peloponnesian War*, 4.126.3; [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", p. 160.
262. [to: a b c Engels 2010](#), p. 88.
263. [Strabo. Geography, Book 7, Fragment 9](#).
264. Strabo. *Geography*, [10.2.23](#).
265. Pausanias. *Description of Greece*, [10.8.2–4](#).
266. Pausanias. *Description of Greece*, [9.40.8–9](#): "The Macedonians say that Caranus, king of Macedonia, overcame in battle Cisseus, a chieftain in a bordering country. For his victory Caranus set up a trophy after the Argive fashion, but it is said to have been upset by a lion from Olympus, which then vanished. Caranus, they assert, realized that it was a mistaken policy to incur the undying hatred of the non-Greeks dwelling around, and so, they say, the rule was adopted that no king of Macedonia, neither Caranus himself nor any of his successors, should set up trophies, if they were ever to gain the goodwill of their neighbors. This story is confirmed by the fact that Alexander set up no trophies, neither for his victory over Dareius nor for those he won in India."
267. [Engels 2010](#), p. 87; [Olbrycht 2010](#), pp. 343–344.
268. Isocrates. *Philippus*, 107–108; [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", p. 169.
269. [Barr-Sharrar & Borza 1982](#), E. Badian, "Greeks and Macedonians", p. 34.
270. Aeschines. *On the Embassy*, [2.32](#).
271. [Barr-Sharrar & Borza 1982](#), E. Badian, "Greeks and Macedonians", p. 43.
272. [Asirvatham 2010](#), p. 104.
273. Diodorus Siculus. *Historical Library*, 17.3.
274. IG 2 448.58-50, SIG 317.6–19.
275. [Hatzopoulos 2011b](#), pp. 69–70.
276. [Hatzopoulos 2011b](#), pp. 68–69, 73.
277. [Anson 2010](#), p. 18: "By the second century the literary evidence suggests that the Macedonians and their southern neighbours saw themselves and each other as Greeks."
278. Polybius. *Histories*, [9.37](#).

279. Polybius. *Histories*, [9.35](#).
280. Polybius. *Histories*, [7.9](#).
281. Polybius. *Histories*, 18.4.8.
282. Livy. *History of Rome*, [31.29.15](#).
283. Arrian. *Anabasis Alexandri*, 1.16.7, 2.7.4, 2.14.4.
284. Strabo. *Geography*, 7.7.1.
285. Plutarch. *Moralia: On the Fortune of Alexander*, [I, 329b](#).
286. [Hatzopoulos 2011b](#), pp. 70–71.
287. [Hatzopoulos 2011b](#), p. 74.
288. [to: a b Engels 2010](#), p. 87.
289. [Kinzi 2010](#), Robert Rollinger, "The Eastern Mediterranean and Beyond", p. 205.
290. [Worthington 2008](#).
291. [Hatzopoulos 2011b](#), pp. 69–71.
292. [Hatzopoulos 2011b](#), pp. 52, 71–72; Johannes Engels comes to a similar conclusion about the comparison between Macedonians and [Epirotes](#), saying that the "Greekness" of the Epirotes, despite them not being considered as refined as southern Greeks, never came into question. Engels suggests this perhaps because the Epirotes did not try to dominate the Greek world as [Philip II of Macedon](#) had done. See: [Engels 2010](#), pp. 83–84.
293. [Sakellariou 1983](#), pp. 52.
294. [Errington 1990](#), pp. 3–4; [Errington 1994](#), p. 4: "Ancient allegations that the Macedonians were non-Greek all had their origin in Athens at the time of the struggle with Philip II. Then as now, political struggle created the prejudice. The orator [Aeschines](#) once even found it necessary, in order to counteract the prejudice vigorously fomented by his opponents, to defend Philip on this issue and describe him at a meeting of the Athenian Popular Assembly as being 'entirely Greek'. [Demosthenes](#)' allegations were lent an appearance of credibility by the fact, apparent to every observer, that the life-style of the Macedonians, being determined by specific geographical and historical conditions, was different from that of a Greek city-state. This alien way of life was, however, common to western Greeks of Epirus, Akarnania and Aitolia, as well as to the Macedonians, and their fundamental Greek nationality was never doubted. Only as a consequence of the political disagreement with Macedonia was the issue raised at all."
295. [Champion 2004](#), p. 41: "[Demosthenes](#) could drop the barbarian category altogether in advocating an Athenian alliance with the Great King against a power that ranked below any so-called barbarian people, the Macedonians. In the case of [Aeschines](#), Philip II could be 'a barbarian due for the vengeance of God', but after the orator's embassy to Pella in 346, he became a 'thorough Greek', devoted to Athens. It all depended upon one's immediate political orientation with Macedonia, which many Greeks instinctively scorned, was always infused with deep-seated ambivalence."
296. [b Danforth 1997](#), p. 169.
297. [Barr-Sharrar & Borza 1982](#), E. Badian, "Greeks and Macedonians", p. 47.
298. [Borza 1992](#), p. 96.
299. [Badian, Wallace & Harris 1996](#), Peter Green, "The Metamorphosis of the Barbarian: Athenian Panhellenism in a Changing World", p. 24.
300. [Isaac 2004](#), p. 113: "It is quite likely that Isocrates was interested in also representing the Hellenic community in a broader sense, so that he could include the Macedonians, who were not considered Hellenes by origin, but might claim to share Hellenic culture."
301. [O'Neil 2003](#), pp. 510–522.
302. [Sansone 2011](#), Chapter 11: "The Transformation of the Greek World in the Fourth Century" (Section: "Philip II of Macedon and the Conquest of Greece").
303. [Malkin 2001](#), Chapter 6: Jonathan M. Hall, "Contested Ethnicities: Perceptions of Macedonia within Evolving Definitions of Greek Identity", p. 172.
304. [Borza 1992](#), p. 306.
305. [Borza 1995](#), p. 114.
306. [Anson 2010](#), pp. 14–17.
307. Boardman, John; Griffin, Jasper; Murray, Oswyn, eds. (2001). *The Oxford Illustrated History of Greece and the Hellenistic World*. Oxford University Press. p. 148. By Demosthenes the interval was spent rallying Greek opinion against 'The barbarian', as he unjustly and inaccurately called the Macedonian.
308. Polybius, *Histories*, 9.37.7: "τότε μὲν γὰρ ὑπὲρ ἡγεμονίας καὶ δόξης ἐφιλοτιμείσθε πρὸς Ἀχαιοὺς καὶ Μακεδόνας ὁμοφύλους καὶ τὸν τούτων ἡγεμόνα Φίλιππον."
309. [Woodard 2010](#), pp. 9–10; Johannes Engels also discusses this ambiguity in ancient sources. See: [Engels 2010](#), pp. 83–89.

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