

# ALEXANDER THE GREAT



- ① Alexander respected Persian religions and cultures whereas his followers did not.
- ① He took the title as 'King of Kings' and adopted some elements of Persian custom.
- ① After conquering Persia, he forced a marriage with the daughter of the ruler of Persia. He also married off several of his soldiers to Persian women.

- In 334 BC he invaded Persia and began a series of campaigns lasting ten years.
- Alexander's army crossed the Hellespont with approximately 48,100 soldiers, 6100 cavalry and a fleet of 120 ships with crews numbering 38,000.
- He overthrew the Persian King, Darius III, and conquered the Persian Empire in 330 BC.



- Even though it took over one hundred triremes (boats with oars) to transport the entire Macedonian army, the Persians decided to ignore the movement. If Darius attempted to stop the crossing, he may of stopped the war before



Alexander  
fighting Darius

- King Darius didn't take Alexander seriously and didn't attack.
- Eventually, with Alexander advancing deeper into Persian territory, Darius put Memnon in control of an army, and told him to finally confront Alexander.
- After battle at the Granicus River, Alexander buried the dead, both Greeks and Persians.

- ① As Alexander pushed through Persia, he found that most towns were ruled by heavy hand tyrants. So he freed the population and allowed self-government .
- ① As these satraps (governors) gave up, Alexander appointed new ones to replace them.

- ⦿ Alexander respected Persian religions and cultures whereas his followers did not.
- ⦿ He took the title as 'King of Kings' and adopted some elements of Persian dress and customs at his court.
- ⦿ After conquering Persia, he forced a marriage with the daughter of the ruler of Persia. He also married off several of his soldiers to Persian women.



# Halicarnassus

- Before the siege of Halicarnassus, Ada of Caria, the former queen of Halicarnassus, surrendered the fortress she was in possession of to Alexander and they became emotionally connected. Alexander would call her mother as he found her more caring and friendly than his real mother. After the battle, he committed the government of Caria to Ada and she then adopted him as her son.

# After battle of Issus

- Darius III fled the battle after his horses pulling his chariot were injured. He wrote a letter to Alexander saying he would pay ransom for the prisoners of war and to sign a treaty of alliance.
- Alexander returned the prisoner without ransom, but told Darius they were not equals and for now on, Darius should refer to Alexander as 'King of all Asia'.

# Seige of Tyre

- Tyre was the last remaining Persian port and was a major threat to Alexander as he did not have a navy.

# Seige of Tyre

- Alexander sent an envoy to Tyre, proposing a peace treaty, and asked to visit their city and offer sacrifices to their God Melqart. The Tyrians politely told Alexander that their town was neutral in the war, and allowing him to do so would mean they would have to recognize him as their King.
- Alexander wanted his engineers to build a causeway to the island but they didn't think it would be possible.

# Seige of Tyre

- So Alexander sent peace envoys once more to propose an alliance. The Tyrians believed this to be a sign of weakness, and so they killed the envoys and threw their bodies over the city wall.
- Alexanders engineers then decided to try and build the causeway but was soon set on fire by the Tyrians.



# Seige of Tyre

- Alexander decided he could not be able to take Tyre without a navy. But luckily Persian navies who returned to their home cities previously taken over by Alexander, they let Alexander have their navy.
- Cyprus heard of all the victories and helped Alexander by giving him 120 ships. Now with 200 ships he attacked Tyre.

# Seige of Tyre

- It is said that Alexander was so enraged at the Tyrians' defense and the loss of his men that he destroyed half the city.
- Alexander granted pardon to the king and his family, whilst 30,000 residents and foreigners taken were sold into slavery.

# End of the Achaemenid Persian Empire

- Darius fled the battle of Gaugamela and his army collapsed, although the Bactrian cavalry and Bessus soon caught up with him.
- Darius dispatched letters to his eastern satrapies asking them to remain loyal. The satrapies, however, had other intentions, and quickly surrendered to Alexander.

# End of the Achaemenid Persian Empire

- Bessus fatally stabbed Darius, before fleeing eastwards.
- Darius was found by one of Alexander's scouts.
- He asked for water, and then, clutching the Macedonian soldier's hand, said that he was thankful that he would not die utterly alone and abandoned.

- Alexander, who may have felt genuinely saddened at Darius' death, buried Darius next to his Achaemenid predecessors in a full military funeral.



- ◎ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander\\_the\\_Great](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_the_Great)
- ◎ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wars\\_of\\_Alexander\\_the\\_Great](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wars_of_Alexander_the_Great)