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Hippoclus of Lampsacus

Alain Duploux

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Hippoclus of Lampsacus

Summary :

Hippoclus was a tyrant of Lampsacus during the reign of Darius I of Persia. He took part in Darius' Scythian campaign.

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH

Around the middle of the 6th century BC- Lampsacus

DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH

1st half of the 5th century BC

MAIN ROLE

Tyrant of Lampsacus

1. Introduction

Hippoclus, tyrant of Lampsacus. Information on Hippoclus is very scanty, and is actually limited to one mention in [Herodotus](#) and another in Thukydidēs.

2. Hippoclus-Darius-Histiaeus

Hippoclus was one of the vassal tyrants Darius took with him during his [campaign](#) against Scythia in c. 513 BC. According to Herodotus (IV 138), he gave [Histiaeus](#) of Miletus his support in the debate between the Milesian leader and Miltiades tyrant of Chersonesos. The latter spoke for breaking the bridge on the Danube River and leaving Dareios at his fate, for he was late. Histiaios held the contrary opinion, arguing that without Dareios none of them would ever rule anymore their home cities. Actually, quarels between Philaids and Lampsacus are well attested since Miltiades the Oecist (uncle of the former) felt into a trap in the territory of Lampsacus (Herodotus VI 37).

3. Hippoclus-Peistratids

Tyrannical affinities are well attested between Hippoclus and the Athenian tyrants. According to Thukydidēs (VI 59), Hippias, in need of external support as his rule was becoming more and more contested, married his daughter Archedike to Hippoclus' son Aiantides, for he considered these people powerful and influential upon Darius. Moreover, when Hippias was expelled from Athens, he sought refuge in Sigeion and then in Lampsacus, before rejoining Darius.

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SOURCES

Herodotus, *Histories*, 4.37, 138

Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*, 6.59