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0521662591 - Herodotus in Context: Ethnography, Science and the Art of Persuasion -

Rosalind Thomas

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Herodotus in Context

Herodotus called his work an enquiry and wrote before ‘history’ was a separate discipline. Coming from Halicarnassus, at the crossroads between the Persian and Athenian spheres of influence, he combined the culture of Athens with that of the more pluralistic and less ethnocentric cities of east Greece. Alive to the implications of this cultural background for Herodotus’ thought, this study explores the much neglected contemporary connotations and context of the *Histories*, looking at them as part of the intellectual climate of his time. Concentrating on Herodotus’ ethnography, geography and accounts of natural wonders, and examining his methods of argument and persuasion, it sees the *Histories*, which appear virtually without antecedents, as a product of the late fifth-century world of the natural scientists, medical writers and sophists – a world of controversy and debate.

ROSALIND THOMAS is Reader in Ancient History at Royal Holloway, University of London. She is the author of *Oral Tradition and Written Record in Classical Athens* (1989) and *Literacy and Orality in Ancient Greece* (1992).

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[More information](#)

Contents

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Acknowledgements</i> | <i>page</i> vi |
| <i>References and texts</i> | vii |
| 1 Introduction | 1 |
| 2 Medicine and the ethnography of health | 28 |
| 3 Dividing the world: Europe, Asia, Greeks and barbarians | 75 |
| 4 <i>Nomos</i> is king: <i>nomos</i> , environment and ethnic character in Herodotus | 102 |
| 5 ‘Wonders’ and the natural world: natural philosophy and <i>historie</i> | 135 |
| 6 Argument and the language of proof | 168 |
| 7 Persuasion and polemic | 213 |
| 8 Performance, competitive display and <i>apodeixis</i> | 249 |
| 9 Epilogue | 270 |
| <i>Appendix: beavers and female ailments</i> | 286 |
| <i>Bibliography</i> | 289 |
| <i>Index locorum</i> | 311 |
| <i>General index</i> | 317 |

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[More information](#)

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Frontmatter/Prelims

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References and texts

In the notes I use the Harvard system of author and date with the sole exception of modern commentaries. For greater ease of reference, commentaries are referred to by the name of the scholar and a reference to the commentary in question: thus commentaries by Stein, for example, Asheri, A. Lloyd, etc. will be clearly signalled in the notes.

For works in the Hippocratic Corpus, the best modern texts, used here where available, are listed below. The only complete edition is the nineteenth-century edition of Littré, *Hippocrate*. W. H. S. Jones' edition (1923–31), for the Loeb Classical Library, maintains a reference system similar to Littré's, of line-numbering within each chapter. Where possible, I use more recent texts (Budé series and the *Corpus Medicorum Graecorum* (= *CMG*)); otherwise the Littré and Jones texts. Littré references (Littré volume + page + line) are signalled with a capital L after the reference. For the more recent texts, I use their system of subdividing chapters (either by line or other subdivision); the general division into chapters is usually similar to that found in the Loeb editions but subdivisions within chapters vary between editors. The following are the main modern texts used:

Airs, Waters, Places (= *Airs*)

Hippocrate, Airs, Eaux, Lieux, vol. II.2, Budé series: text, translation and commentary by J. Jouanna (Paris 1996). (Note that there is also an edition of *Airs* by H. Diller, in the *CMG* series, *Hippocratis De aere aquis locis*, *CMG* I 1.2 (Berlin 1970).)

On the Art (= *Art*), also known as *On the Art of Medicine*

Hippocrate, Des Vents – De l'Art, vol. V.1, Budé series: text, translation and commentary by J. Jouanna (Paris 1988).

On Breaths (= *Breaths*)

Hippocrate, Des Vents – De l'Art, vol. V.1, Budé series: text, translation and commentary by J. Jouanna (Paris 1988).

Cambridge University Press

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Frontmatter/Prelims

[More information](#)

viii References and texts

Ancient Medicine (= *Anc. Med.*)

Hippocrate, L'Antienne Médecine, vol. II.1, Budé series: text and translation and commentary by J. Jouanna (Paris 1990).

Epidemics I and III (= *Epid. I and III*)

Hippocrates, vol. I, Loeb Classical Library, translation and introduction by W. H. S. Jones (Cambridge, Mass., 1923).

On Generation/Nature of the Child/Diseases IV (= *Gen/Nat. Child/Dis. IV*)

Hippocrate, De la Génération, De la Nature de l'Enfant, Des Maladies IV, Du Foetus de Huit Mois, vol. XI, Budé series: text, translation and notes by R. Joly (Paris, 1970).

On the Nature of Man (= *Nat. Man*)

Hippocrate, Nature de l'Homme, text, translation and commentary by J. Jouanna, *CMG* vol. I 1.3 (Berlin, 1975).

Regimen (= *Regimen*)

Hippocrate, Du Régime, text, translation and commentary, R. Joly with collaboration of S. Byl, *CMG* I. 2.4 (Berlin, 1984).

Regimen in Acute Diseases (= *Acut.*)

Hippocrate, Du Régime des maladies aiguës, vol. VI.2, Budé series: text and translation by R. Joly (Paris, 1972).

On the Sacred Disease (= *Sacr. Dis.*)

Hippocrates, vol. II Loeb Classical Library, translation and Introduction by W. H. S. Jones. Jones' chapter divisions are used; but reference is also made to the text of H. Grensemann, *Die hippokratische Schrift 'Über die heilige Krankheit'*: text, Introduction and Commentary (Berlin, 1968).

Note also:

Diseases of Women I and II (= *Mul. I, Mul. II*)

The Littré text is used.