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0521812089 - Polybius, Rome and the Hellenistic World: Essays and Reflections

Frank W. Walbank

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POLYBIUS, ROME AND THE HELLENISTIC WORLD

This volume contains nineteen of the more important of Frank Walbank's recent essays on Polybius and is prefaced by a critical discussion of the main aspects of work done on that author during the last quarter of a century. Several of these essays deal with specific historical problems for which Polybius is a major source. Five deal with Polybius as an historian and three with his attitude towards Rome; one of these raises the question of 'treason' in relation to Polybius and Josephus. Finally, two papers (one now appearing for the first time in English) discuss Polybius' later fortunes – in England up to the time of John Dryden and in twentieth-century Italy in the work of Gaetano de Sanctis. Several of these essays originally appeared in journals and collections not always easily accessible and all students of the ancient Mediterranean world will welcome their assembly within a single volume.

FRANK WALBANK is Professor Emeritus of Ancient History at the University of Liverpool and Honorary Fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge. He has published continually on Polybius and Hellenistic history since 1933 and is the author of the standard commentary on his work, *A Historical Commentary on Polybius* (1957–1979). His other books include *The Awful Revolution* (1969), *Polybius* (1972), *The Hellenistic World* (1981), *Selected Papers: Studies in Greek and Roman History and Historiography* (1985) and, with N. G. L. Hammond, *A History of Macedonia, Vol. III: 336–167 BC*. He also co-edited both parts of volume VII of *The Cambridge Ancient History* (second edition). He is a Fellow of the British Academy and was awarded the CBE in 1993.

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Essays and Reflections

FRANK W. WALBANK

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Preface

In 1985 the Cambridge University Press published a score of my *separata* in a volume entitled *Selected Papers*. The present volume contains a further nineteen papers, mostly dealing with Polybius. The majority of these were originally published after 1985, but I have included a few earlier ones, for which there was no room in the earlier volume. I have prefaced them with a newly written chapter, in which I have attempted a survey of the main topics and directions apparent in Polybian studies over the last twenty-five years and have indicated how the papers appearing here fit in with those trends. These papers are arranged in four sections. First, there are nine historical and geographical papers; next, five concerned with Polybius as a historian; then, three on Polybius and Rome; and finally two dealing with the later significance of Polybius, the first in seventeenth-century England at the time of Dryden and the second in twentieth-century Italy, as seen in the writings of the historian Gaetano De Sanctis.

In one or two places, and especially in papers which involve Polybius' views on the Roman constitution, there is some slight repetition; this is unfortunate, but was inevitable if the argument was to be clearly presented in each paper. After full consideration, it seemed better to reprint the articles as they were written and not to abbreviate them in a way likely to cause confusion in any reference to them. There is one partial exception to this, in chapter 4, where I have added a substantial note (in square brackets) giving what now seems to me a more correct and straightforward solution to an old problem in Ptolemaic dating. Elsewhere I have added a few notes in square brackets, giving cross-references and an occasional more recent item of bibliography; but generally I have confined later bibliography to the first chapter. I have of course corrected misprints, false references and the like, where I have detected them. The method of reference adopted is to quote author, date and pagination at the relevant point in the text, but to leave the full details of title and place of publication for the comprehensive bibliography.

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Ever since I approached the Press with this project, it has received enthusiastic and constructive support; in particular I am indebted to Michael Sharp, who has done much to improve the book, as indeed have two anonymous referees, who came up with many useful suggestions, including an advantageous change in the choice of papers to be included. Linda Woodward has been a thoughtful and consistently helpful copy-editor. To Dorothy Thompson I am greatly indebted for help with library references and computer problems; and to John Thompson for meticulously reading the whole of chapter 1 and suggesting decided improvements, including a radical change in its construction. My greatest debt, however, is to Pauline Hire, who most generously volunteered to take on the formidable task of bringing all the chapters into line, checking the bibliographical items and reducing the forms of reference, which originally varied from paper to paper, to a single system. To all the above I should like to express my most grateful thanks.

Finally, I should like to say that it is a matter of considerable satisfaction to me that this book continues an association with the Cambridge University Press going back almost seventy years. I have dedicated it to two Cambridge institutions, Peterhouse and the Faculty of Classics, which have meant a great deal to me during the years since I retired here in 1977.

Peterhouse, Cambridge

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Abbreviations

For classical authors and journals the usual forms, as given in *The Oxford Classical Dictionary*, third edition, ed. S. Hornblower and A. Spawforth (Oxford, 1999) or *L'Année Philologique*, are employed.

<i>ANRW</i>	H. Temporini and W. Haase, eds., <i>Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt: Geschichte und Kultur Roms im Spiegel der neueren Forschung</i> , Berlin–New York 1972–
<i>CAH</i>	<i>The Cambridge Ancient History</i> , Cambridge
<i>D–K</i>	H. Diels and W. Kranz, <i>Die Fragmente der Vorsokratiker</i> , 6th edn, Berlin 1952
<i>FGH</i>	F. Jacoby, <i>Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i> , Berlin–Leiden 1923–
<i>FHG</i>	C. Müller, <i>Fragmenta Historicorum Graecorum</i> , Paris, 1841–70
<i>HRR</i>	H. W. E. Peter, <i>Historicorum Romanorum Reliquiae</i> , 2 vols., Leipzig, vol. I ² 1914, vol. II 1906
<i>IC</i>	M. Guarducci, <i>Inscriptiones Creticae</i> , 4 vols., Rome 1935–50
<i>IG</i>	A. Kirchhoff et al., <i>Inscriptiones Graecae</i> , Berlin 1873–
<i>ILS</i>	H. Dessau, <i>Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae</i> , 3 vols., 1892–1916
<i>ISE</i>	L. Moretti, <i>Iscrizioni storiche ellenistiche</i> , 2 vols., Florence, 1967–75
<i>LSJ</i>	H. G. Liddell and R. Scott, <i>Greek–English Lexicon</i> , 9th edn rev. H. Stuart Jones, Oxford 1925–40
<i>MRR</i>	T. R. S. Broughton, <i>The Magistrates of the Roman Republic</i> , 2 vols., New York 1951; Supplementary volume 1960

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OGIS	W. Dittenberger, <i>Oriens Graeci Inscriptiones Selectae</i> , 2 vols., Leipzig 1902–5
ORF	H. Malcovati, <i>Oratorum romanorum fragmenta</i> , 4th edn, Turin 1976–9
RE	A. Pauly, G. Wissowa and W. Kroll, <i>Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft</i> , 83 vols. Stuttgart 1893–1980
SB	F. Preisigke and F. Bilabel, <i>Sammelbuch griechischer Urkunden aus Aegypten</i> , Strassburg 1915–
Scott–Saintsbury	Dryden, <i>Collected Works</i> , ed. W. Scott, 18 vols., London 1808; revised edn by G. Saintsbury, London 1893
SEG	<i>Supplementum epigraphicum Graecum</i> , Leiden 1923–
SGDI	H. Collitz and F. Bechtel, <i>Sammlung der griechischen Dialekt-Inschriften</i> , 4 vols., Göttingen 1885–1910
SVA	<i>Die Staatsverträge des Altertums</i> : II <i>Die Verträge der griechisch-römischen Welt von 700 bis 338 v. Chr.</i> ed. H. Bengtson, Munich 1962; III: <i>Die Verträge der griechisch-römischen Welt von 338 bis 200 v. Chr.</i> ed. H. H. Schmitt, Munich 1969
Syll.	W. Dittenberger, <i>Sylloge inscriptionum Graecarum</i> , 3rd edn, 4 vols., Leipzig 1915–24
Walbank, <i>Comm.</i>	F. W. Walbank, <i>A Historical Commentary on Polybius</i> , 3 vols., Oxford, 1957, 1967 and 1979

Note: To give help in following up references, the original pagination of the reprinted articles is indicated at the top of each page on the inner margin, and the original page divisions are marked in the course of the text by a pair of vertical lines, ||.