

## CENTRAL GREECE AND THE POLITICS OF POWER IN THE FOURTH CENTURY BC

The streams of Greek history in the fourth century are highly controversial. Sandwiched between the Classical fifth century and the Hellenistic period, the era has invited various readings, most prominently the verdict of decrepitude and decline. Recent discoveries, however, indicate that the period was not simply illustrative of the political, social, and economic weaknesses of the Greek city-state.

This book examines the fourth century from an area with its own regional dynamics: central Greece, a region often considered a backwater for macropolitics. The authors disclose a vivid tension between regional politics in Boeotia and its adjacent territories and Greek affairs. They provide a meticulous and, at times, microscopic investigation into the region's military and political history, together with detailed analyses of the topography of the places "where history was made." The result is a dazzling account of Greece's power-transition crisis on the eve of the Macedonian conquest.

JOHN BUCKLER, Emeritus Professor of Greek History, specializes in the history of Greece during the fourth century BC. His publications include *The Theban Hegemony, 371–362 BC* (1980), *Philip II and the Sacred War* (1989) and *Aegean Greece in the Fourth Century BC* (2003).

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John Buckler, Hans Beck  
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JOHN BUCKLER AND HANS BECK



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*To Paul Cartledge*

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Pelopidas Epaminondas greetings

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## *Preface*

Throughout the twentieth century and now into the twenty-first, Athens and Sparta have largely dominated Classical Greek scholarship. In recent years, however, wider perceptions of the Greek world have become increasingly prominent. While the merits of studying Athens and Sparta remain unchallenged, the critical look beyond them has generated a truly multi-faceted picture of Greek political culture. At the same time, interest in, if not obsession with, the *polis* as *the* form of Greek statehood is now being balanced by growing research on the *ethnos*. Scholars explore patterns of constructing collective ethnic identities, expressions of such identities in material and immaterial culture, and their interaction with relation to the rise of urban communities that fostered the development of distinct, and exclusive, city identities. These approaches, in turn, all make their individual contributions to understanding the vexed question of the relationships prevalent in *polis*-politics.

This book reflects both changes. It focuses on a region that we believe decisively shaped Greek affairs of the Classical period. Conceiving of central Greece and its core Boeotia as an area with its own regional dynamics, this collection of essays attempts to examine Greek history in a test tube: while paying particular attention to regional patterns of interstate relations, we also hope to disclose the interaction between regional politics and Panhellenic affairs. This approach should add to the rising interest in a period in Greek history that still widely lacks understanding.

As the title indicates, we emphasize power in its broadest sense. Just as politics and diplomacy play major roles in the discussion, so do military affairs. History does not benefit from narrowly separating one from the others; indeed, any approach that divides them leads only to an imperfect account. Necessity calls for one further note. As can readily be seen, pitched battles played a significant part in this era of Greek history. No battle

receives treatment here without personal investigation of and attention to the battlefields themselves.

Several chapters of this book have been published before, some in standard journals, others in – at times, remote – conference proceedings and collections. As so often, it took much longer than anticipated to collect and rework those articles, to add new ones, and to put them into what is hopefully a coherent perspective. To accommodate the widest audience we also decided to transliterate, whenever possible, the Greek passages for easy reading. For simplicity and convenience, we likewise included a glossary to explain technical terms that lack English equivalents.

An unalloyed pleasure of scholarship springs from the opportunity to thank those who have helped us along the way. Our gratitude, “a gift that is a light and dear one” (*Odyssey* 6, 208), we offer to all those who improved the book. Foremost among them stands Karl-Joachim Hölkeskamp who liberally devoted his time and learning to bring the manuscript to press. He freely shared with us his valuable suggestions, and resources, to see this project successfully to completion. Ingo Witzke and Vinzenz Borchert (Cologne), Andreas Schneider (Frankfurt) and Andrew Swidzinski and Connie Galatas (Montreal) lent their efforts to the task of putting the manuscript into publishable form. Caroline Buckler kindly translated the typewritten documents into a form that the computer could read. She always willingly discussed not simply the manner of presentation, but also the content of the material. S. C. Buckler lent his own idiosyncratic help. Since we wholeheartedly believe in William Blake’s sentiment that “He who would do good to another must do it in minute particulars” (*Jerusalem* 55–56), we list those particulars in the accompanying acknowledgements. To all we offer heartfelt thanks.

J. B.  
Dry Run Creek, Indiana  
H. B.  
Montreal

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in *Transitions to Empire. Essays in Greco-Roman History, 360–146 BC in Honor of Ernst Badian* (Norman, 1996).

Hans Beck provided the inspiration for this project. He realized that many of the papers had first appeared in scattered journals and acts of international congresses not easily available to many Classical scholars. He further saw the value of collecting them and adding other pieces to weave them into a coherent whole. To enhance their usefulness, he divided them into three major interrelated themes, thereby bringing unity to them all. Finally, he saw the whole project through from start to submission to Cambridge University Press. Without his vision and energy, these essays would never have taken the form of a book.

J. B.

## *Abbreviations*

<i>AD</i>	<i>Ἀρχαιολογικὸν Δελτίον</i>
<i>AHB</i>	<i>Ancient History Bulletin</i> . Revue d'histoire ancienne
<i>AJAH</i>	<i>American Journal of Ancient History</i>
<i>AJArch.</i>	<i>American Journal of Archaeology</i>
<i>AJPhil.</i>	<i>American Journal of Philology</i>
<i>Anc. Soc.</i>	<i>Ancient Society</i>
<i>AncW</i>	<i>The Ancient World</i>
<i>ANRW</i>	<i>Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt</i>
<i>Ant. Class.</i>	<i>L'Antiquité classique</i>
<i>Antichthon</i>	<i>Antichthon</i> . Journal of the Australian Society for Classical Studies
<i>Arch. Anz.</i>	<i>Archäologischer Anzeiger</i>
<i>Athenaeum</i>	<i>Athenaeum</i> . Studi periodici di letteratura e storia dell'antichità
<i>BCH</i>	<i>Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique</i>
<i>BICS</i>	<i>Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies</i>
<i>BMCR</i>	<i>Bryn Mawr Classical Review</i>
<i>BSA</i>	<i>Annual of the British School at Athens</i>
<i>CAH</i>	<i>Cambridge Ancient History</i>
<i>Chiron</i>	<i>Chiron</i> . Mitteilungen der Kommission für Alte Geschichte und Epigraphik des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts
<i>CISA</i>	<i>Contributi dell' istituto di storia antica</i>
<i>Cl. Ant.</i>	<i>Classical Antiquity</i>
<i>C&amp;M</i>	<i>Classica et Mediaevalia</i> . Revue danoise de philologie et d'histoire
<i>CPh</i>	<i>Classical Philology</i>
<i>CQ</i>	<i>Classical Quarterly</i>
<i>CR</i>	<i>Classical Review</i>
<i>CSCA</i>	<i>California Studies in Classical Antiquity</i>

xvi	<i>Abbreviations</i>
DNP	<i>Der Neue Pauly</i>
EA	<i>Epigraphica Anatolica</i>
EMC	<i>Classical Views. Echos du monde classique</i>
<i>Emerita</i>	<i>Emerita. Revista de linguística y filología classica</i>
<i>Eranos</i>	<i>Eranos. Acta Philologica Suecana</i>
FD	<i>Fouilles de Delphes</i>
FGrH	<i>Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i> , ed. F. Jacoby
G&R	<i>Greece and Rome</i>
GRBS	<i>Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies</i>
<i>Harv. Stud.</i>	<i>Harvard Studies in Classical Philology</i>
<i>Hermes</i>	<i>Hermes. Zeitschrift für klassische Philologie</i>
<i>Hesp.</i>	<i>Hesperia. Journal of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens</i>
<i>Hist.</i>	<i>Historia. Zeitschrift für die Alte Geschichte</i>
HThR	<i>Harvard Theological Review</i>
ICS	<i>Illinois Classical Studies</i>
IG	<i>Inscriptiones Graecae</i>
<i>IranAnt</i>	<i>Iranica Antiqua</i>
<i>Jahrb. f. cl. Phil.</i>	<i>Jahrbücher für classische Philologie</i>
JHS	<i>Journal of Hellenic Studies</i>
JÖAI	<i>Jahreshefte des Österreichischen Archäologischen Instituts</i>
<i>Klio</i>	<i>Klio. Beiträge zur Alten Geschichte</i>
<i>Kodai</i>	<i>Kodai. Journal of Ancient History</i>
LCM	<i>Liverpool Classical Monthly</i>
LSJ	<i>Greek–English Lexicon</i> . Compiled by H. G. Liddell and R. Scott, revised and augmented by H. Stuart Jones
MDAI (A)	<i>Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts. Athenische Abteilung</i>
Meiggs–Lewis	Meiggs and Lewis 1988
<i>Mnemos.</i>	<i>Mnemosyne. Bibliotheca Classica Batavia</i>
NJ	<i>Neue Jahrbücher für Antike und Deutsche Bildung</i>
<i>Num. Chron.</i>	<i>Numismatic Chronicle</i>
OCD <sup>3</sup>	<i>The Oxford Classical Dictionary</i> , third edition
PAPhS	<i>Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society</i>
PCPS	<i>Proceedings of the Cambridge Philological Society</i>
<i>Phoenix</i>	<i>Phoenix. The Journal of the Ontario Classical Association</i>

## Abbreviations

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<i>PSQ</i>	<i>Political Science Quarterly</i>
<i>Pulpudeva</i>	<i>Pulpudeva. Semaines Philippopolitaines de l'histoire et de la culture de Thrace</i>
<i>Quaderni di storia</i>	<i>Quaderni di storia. Rassegna di antichità</i>
<i>RE</i>	<i>Real-Encyclopädie der klassischen Altertumswissenschaft</i>
<i>Rev. Ét. Anc.</i>	<i>Revue des études anciennes</i>
<i>Rev. Ét. Grec.</i>	<i>Revue des études grecques</i>
<i>Rev. Hist.</i>	<i>Revue Historique</i>
<i>Rh. Mus.</i>	<i>Rheinisches Museum für Philologie</i>
Rhodes–Osborne	Rhodes and Osborne 2004
<i>Riv. Fil.</i>	<i>Rivista di filologia e di istruzione classica</i>
<i>SCI</i>	<i>Scripta Classica Israelica</i>
<i>SdA</i>	<i>Die Staatsverträge des Altertums</i>
<i>SEG</i>	<i>Supplementum epigraphicum Graecum</i>
<i>SIG</i>	see <i>Syll.</i> <sup>3</sup>
<i>Syll.</i> <sup>3</sup>	<i>Sylloge Inscriptionum Graecarum</i> , ed. W. Dittenberger
<i>Symb. Osl.</i>	<i>Symbolae Osloenses auspiciis societatis Graeco-Latinae</i>
<i>TAPA</i>	<i>Transactions of the American Philological Association</i>
<i>Teiresias</i>	<i>Teiresias. A Review and Continuing Bibliography of Boiotian Studies</i>
Tod	Tod 1949
<i>Wien. Stud.</i>	<i>Wiener Studien. Zeitschrift für Klassische Philologie und Patristik</i>
<i>YCS</i>	<i>Yale Classical Studies</i>
<i>ZPE</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik</i>