

## The Court and Court Society in Ancient Monarchies

Monarchy was widespread as a political system in the ancient world. This volume offers the first substantial discussion of ancient monarchies from the viewpoint of the ruler's court. The monarchies treated are Achaemenid and Sasanian Persia, the empire of Alexander, Rome under both the early and later Caesars, the Han rulers of China and Egypt's Eighteenth Dynasty. A comparative approach is adopted to major aspects of ancient courts, including their organisation and physical setting, their role as a vehicle for display, and their place in monarchical structures of power and control. This approach is broadly inspired by work on courts in later periods of history, especially early modern France. The case studies confirm that ancient monarchies created the conditions for the emergence of a court and court society. The culturally specific conditions in which these monarchies functioned meant variety in the character of the ruler's court from one society to another.

A. J. S. SPAWFORTH is Professor of Ancient History at the University of Newcastle. His publications include *Hellenistic and Roman Sparta: A Tale of Two Cities* (with Paul Cartledge, 2nd edition, 2002), *The Complete Greek Temples* (2006) and co-editing, with Simon Hornblower, *The Oxford Classical Dictionary* (3rd edition revised, 2003).

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Edited by A. J. S. Spawforth  
Frontmatter  
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*Edited by*

A. J. S. SPAWFORTH



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Tony Spawforth

## Abbreviations

<i>AchHist</i>	<i>Achaemenid History</i>
<i>AJA</i>	<i>American Journal of Archaeology</i>
<i>AJP</i>	<i>American Journal of Philology</i>
Akk.	Akkadian
<i>ANET</i>	<i>Ancient Near Eastern Texts relating to the Old Testament</i> , ed. J. B. Pritchard, 3rd rev. edn. Princeton (1969)
<i>AnSt</i>	<i>Anatolian Studies</i>
<i>AntAfr</i>	<i>Antiquités Africaines</i>
Bab.	Babylonian
<i>BEFAR</i>	<i>Bulletin de l'Ecole française à Rome: Antiquité</i>
<i>CahDAFI</i>	<i>Cahiers de la Délégation Archéologique Française en Iran</i>
<i>CIL</i>	<i>Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum</i> (1863–)
<i>CQ</i>	<i>Classical Quarterly</i>
<i>CR</i>	<i>Classical Review</i>
DB	Darius (Inscriptions of) Bisitun
<i>DF</i>	E. Gibbon, <i>Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire</i> , ed. O. Smeaton, vols. I–VI, London (1910)
<i>DHA</i>	<i>Dialogues d'Histoire Ancienne</i>
DN	Darius (Inscriptions of) Naqsh-i Rostam
<i>DOP</i>	<i>Dumbarton Oaks Papers</i>
DP	Darius (Inscriptions of) Persepolis
DS	Darius (Inscriptions of) Susa
<i>EA</i>	<i>Egyptian Archaeology</i>
Elam.	Elamite
<i>EncIr</i>	<i>Enciclopedia Iranica</i> , ed. E. Yar-Shater (1985–)
<i>FGH</i>	C. and T. Müller, <i>Fragmenta Historicorum Graecorum</i> (1841–72)
<i>FGrH</i>	F. Jacoby, <i>Fragmente der griechischer Historiker</i> (1923–)
Gr.	Greek
<i>GRBS</i>	<i>Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies</i>
grI	Greek version of the royal inscription(s)
<i>HHS</i>	<i>Hou Han-shu</i>
<i>HS</i>	<i>Han-shu</i>

ILS	H. Dessau, <i>Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae</i> (1892–1916)
IrAnt	<i>Iranica Antiqua</i>
JÖB	<i>Jahrbuch des österreichischen Byzantinistik</i>
JRA	<i>Journal of Roman Archaeology</i>
JWCI	<i>Journal of the Courtauld and Warburg Institutes</i>
LÄ	<i>Lexikon der Ägyptologie</i>
MAAR	<i>Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome</i>
MCAAS	Memoirs of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences
MDAI(R)	<i>Mitteilungen des deutschen archäologischen Instituts: Römische Abteilung</i>
mpI	Middle Persian version of the royal inscription(s)
Neh.	Book of Nehemiah
NPi	(Inscription of) N(arseh from) P(aikul)i (ed. H. Humbach and P. O. Skjærvø, 1978–83)
OCD <sup>3</sup>	S. Hornblower and A. Spawforth (eds.), <i>The Oxford Classical Dictionary</i> , 3rd edn. Oxford (2003)
paI	Parthian version of the royal inscription(s)
PdP	<i>Parola di Passato</i>
PF	R. T. Hallock, <i>Persepolis Fortification Tablets</i> . Chicago (1969)
PFS	R. T. Hallock, ‘Persepolis Fortification texts’, <i>CahDAFI</i> 8: 109–36
PFS	Persepolis Fortification Seals
RE	A. Pauly, G. Wissowa and W. Kroll, <i>Real-Encyclopädie der klassischen Altertumswissenschaft</i> (1893–)
SAA	State Archives of Assyria
SC	Ssu-ma T’an and Ssu-ma Ch’ien (eds.), <i>Shih-chi (Records of the Scribe)</i> . Peking (1959)
ŠH	(Inscription of) Sh(abuhr I from) H(ajjiabad)
SHA	Scriptores Historiae Augustae
SIG <sup>3</sup>	W. Dittenberger, <i>Sylloge Inscriptionum Graecarum</i> , 3rd edition (1915–24)
ŠKZ	(Inscription of) Sh(abuhr I on the) K(a’ba-i) Z(ardusht at Naqsh-i Rostam), ed. P. Huyse (1999)
SO	<i>Symbolae Osloenses</i>
SSC	<i>Shi-san ching chu-shü (The Thirteen Classics)</i>
StIr	<i>Studia Iranica</i>
XP	Xerxes (Inscriptions of) Persepolis
YClS	<i>Yale Classical Studies</i>
ZAW	<i>Zeitschrift für alttestamentliche Wissenschaft</i>
ZPE	<i>Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik</i>