

Alexander the Great: The Conqueror of the Known World

Alexander the Great was one of the most successful military commanders in history. He conquered a vast empire that stretched from Greece to India. He was also a brilliant strategist and tactician. In this article, we will explore the life and career of Alexander the Great.



Alexander of Macedon, 356–323 B.C.: A Historical Biography by Peter Green

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Early Life

Alexander was born in Pella, the capital of the Kingdom of Macedon, in 356 BC. His father was King Philip II of Macedon, and his mother was Olympias, the daughter of King Neoptolemus I of Epirus. Alexander was a precocious child, and he showed an early interest in military affairs. He was tutored by the philosopher Aristotle, who taught him about politics, ethics, and warfare.

When Alexander was 20 years old, his father was assassinated. Alexander succeeded his father as king of Macedon, and he immediately began to prepare for war. He raised a large army and set out to conquer the Persian Empire.

Conquest of the Persian Empire

Alexander's first major victory was at the Battle of Granicus River in 334 BC. He defeated the Persian army led by satrap Memnon of Rhodes, and he crossed the Hellespont into Asia Minor. Alexander then marched south and defeated the Persian army at the Battle of Issus in 333 BC. He then captured the city of Tyre and the island of Cyprus.

In 331 BC, Alexander defeated the Persian army led by King Darius III at the Battle of Gaugamela. Darius III fled the battlefield, and Alexander entered Babylon and Susa. He then marched to Persepolis, the capital of the Persian Empire, and burned it to the ground.

Alexander's conquest of the Persian Empire was one of the most impressive military achievements in history. He defeated a much larger army, and he conquered a vast territory in a relatively short period of time.

Conquest of India

After conquering the Persian Empire, Alexander turned his attention to India. He crossed the Indus River in 326 BC and defeated the Indian army led by King Porus at the Battle of the Hydaspes. He then marched east and conquered the Punjab region.

However, Alexander's army was exhausted, and he was forced to turn back. He returned to Babylon in 323 BC, where he died of a fever. He was only 32 years old.

Legacy

Alexander the Great is considered one of the greatest military commanders in history. He conquered a vast empire in a relatively short period of time, and he was undefeated in battle. He was also a brilliant strategist and tactician.

Alexander's legacy is still felt today. He is considered a hero in many cultures, and his military campaigns are still studied by military historians. He is also credited with spreading Greek culture throughout the world.



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