

Decline of Alexander the Great

02/20

1. Battle of Gaugamela
 - a. Darius III out to take Alexander again
 - b. They meet at Gaugamela
 - i. Darius feels and Persians are defeated
 1. One of Darius' commanders stabs the king and leaves him to die
2. Alexander King of Asia
 - a. Alexander stretches empire further from home
 - b. Wants to rule by custom/persuasion
 - i. Encourages fusion
 - c. Begins to follow Persian customs (b/c of wife)
 - d. Kills the man who saved him at Granicus when he was drunk
 - i. Regrets killing Cleitus
 - ii. Cleitus suggested Alexander had changed and only wanted people around who pleased him
3. Campaign in the East
 - a. Crosses into India
 - b. Alexander's men terrified by the water elephants of the enemy
 - i. Still victorious
 - ii. After Alexander's men force him to begin marching back home
4. Demise of Alexander the Great
 - a. After returning from India Alexander begins plans for invading North Africa
 - b. Loses best friend from drinking too much
 - c. Alexander dies afterwards from fever and heavy drinking at 33
5. Diadochi
 - a. "Successor kings"
 - b. Alexander's kingdom is divided up by his commanders
6. Hellenistic Period
 - a. Alexander spread hellenic (greek) culture on his conquests
 - i. Language spreads
 - ii. New Testament is written in Greek
 - b. Hebrews under Seleucid Rule
 - i. Maccabean revolt-resist Hellenic influence
 - ii. Hanukkah - cleansing of the temple