

Repercussions of Violence under Alexander (the Great) and the Successors



ALEXANDER THE GREAT MASSACRE AND TERROR: THE ANCIENT GREEK HISTORY OF WAR

Sept. 5, 2024
7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

CEC, Room 201/205/209
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Sponsored by the Leonard and Shirley Goldstein Center for Human Rights and the Sam and Frances Fried Holocaust and Genocide Academy, plus the UNO Ancient Mediterranean Studies Program, the Departments of History, Art History, English, Religious Studies, and Philosophy, and with the support of the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences.

Presented in collaboration with the School of American and Global Studies at South Dakota State University.

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When comparing the list of war crimes compiled by the United Nations with the activities of Alexander the Great, the Macedonian king would have been a notorious offender of human rights. His atrocities have been compared to those of Adolf Hitler. While a bit of an exaggeration, it is only so because the ancients lacked the technology to kill and destroy on such a massive scale. What limited the extent of massacres in the Greek world was the physical requirements to achieve them. Violence and terror were often “what the weak had to suffer.”

In the Greek world violence had a long history as an approved means of seeking revenge, pursuing glory, or simply acquiring what one needed. Committing genocide through the annihilation of peoples or the enslaving of survivors, was the ultimate measure of triumph and superiority, the decisive proclamation by the victors, the Champions.

Presented by Edward M. Anson, Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

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