

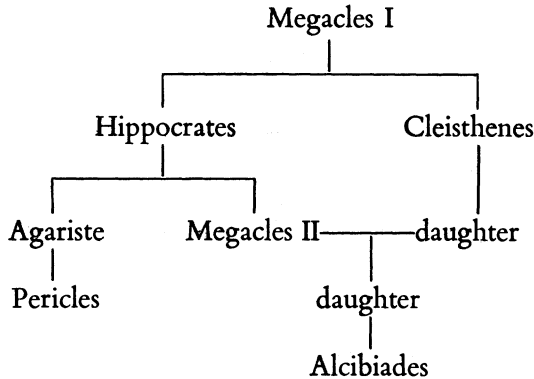
# EURYPTOLEMUS

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The purpose of this note is to present what is known of the three Alcmeonids named Euryptolemus and to suggest the likely relationships among them and the rest of their family.

Kirchner's stemma of the Alcmeonidae<sup>1</sup> has been largely invalidated by an analysis of the *testimonia* concerning the lineage of Alcibiades made first by Raubitschek<sup>2</sup> and extended by Shear.<sup>3</sup> The conclusions of their research, to which we must relate the evidence for the three men named Euryptolemus, may be shown as follows:<sup>4</sup>



To this stemma we must add (1) Euryptolemus son of Megacles,<sup>5</sup> (2) Euryptolemus,<sup>6</sup> and (3) Euryptolemus son of Peisianax.<sup>7</sup> We do not

<sup>1</sup> Johannes Kirchner, *Prosopographia Attica* (Berlin 1901-3) no. 9688. Note especially that his Megacles IV and Megacles V should be the same man.

<sup>2</sup> *RhM* 98 (1955) 258-62.

<sup>3</sup> *Phoenix* 17 (1963) 99-112.

<sup>4</sup> Most of the evidence for this stemma is summarized in *Phoenix* 21 (1967) 273; cf. also Herodotus 6.131.2 for Agariste and Pericles.

<sup>5</sup> Plutarch, *Cimon* 4.

<sup>6</sup> Plutarch, *Per.* 7.

<sup>7</sup> Xenophon, *Hellenica* 1.4.19 and 1.7.12; Plutarch, *Alc.* 32.

know the patronymic of the second man or the demotic of any of the three.

The only thing we know of the first man is that his daughter Isodice married Cimon.<sup>8</sup> Although we cannot positively fix his position in the family on the basis of our present evidence, we can offer an economical hypothesis: since Isodice must belong to the same generation as Cimon or to the one following his,<sup>9</sup> let Euryptolemus be the brother of Cleisthenes and Hippocrates, and thus contemporary with Miltiades. Cimon and Isodice then will be of the same generation.<sup>10</sup>

Plutarch calls our second man Pericles' *anepsios*.<sup>11</sup> If the term is used in its precise sense of *first-cousin*, then we can infer that either Euryptolemus' father or his mother must be a sibling of Pericles' Alcmeonid mother, Agariste. Agariste's father, Hippocrates, is *ex hypothesi* the brother of Euryptolemus I. Euryptolemus II would then be named after his grandfather's brother. However, if *anepsios* is used in a wider sense, meaning simply "cousin," the possible relationships are numerous. I shall suggest a plausible one after finishing with our last Euryptolemus.

Xenophon uses the vague terms *anankaaios* (blood relation) and *epitédeios* (friend) to describe the connection between Euryptolemus III and the younger Pericles,<sup>12</sup> but calls Euryptolemus III the *anepsios* of Alcibiades.<sup>13</sup> Since Xenophon was surely acquainted with these men, we are probably on safer ground in seeing here a precise use of the term to mean "first cousin."<sup>14</sup> If so, then either the father (Peisianax)

<sup>8</sup> Plutarch, *Cimon* 4.

<sup>9</sup> Johannes Toepffer, *Attische Genealogie* (Berlin 1889) 244 and 281, makes the improbable suggestion that Cimon was two generations older than Isodice.

<sup>10</sup> Kirchner (above, note 1) places Isodice one generation later than Cimon and must, therefore, add another Megacles, his Megacles III.

<sup>11</sup> *Per.* 7. At *Dem.* 27 Plutarch apparently applies the word *anepsios* to a first-cousin once removed.

<sup>12</sup> *Hellenica* 1.7.16. One can see from the stemma offered below that Pericles II was probably the second cousin of Euryptolemus III.

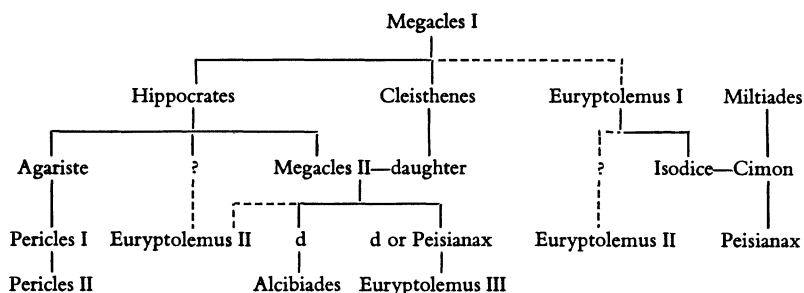
<sup>13</sup> *Hellenica* 1.4.19.

<sup>14</sup> Kirchner (above, note 1), following Georg Busolt, *Griechische Geschichte* 3 (Gotha 1897-1904) 363, note 5, makes Euryptolemus III and Alcibiades third-cousins, which is impossible. In every instance where the context makes the relationship clear, Attic writers always use *anepsios* to mean *first-cousin* except at [Demosthenes] 43.41 and 49, where it refers to a first-cousin once removed.

or the mother of this Eurypptolemus must be a sibling of Alcibiades' Alcmeonid mother.

Kirchner lists two notables named Peisianax:<sup>15</sup> one founded the Stoa Poecile ca. 460,<sup>16</sup> and the other fathered Eurypptolemus III.<sup>17</sup> It is possible that we are dealing with only one man, since the father of Eurypptolemus III belongs to the same generation as the elder Pericles. In addition to Kirchner's pair, Connor has now drawn attention to the fact that a scholiast on Aelius Aristeides names a Peisianax as one of Cimon's children.<sup>18</sup>

The following stemma will show the likely genealogy of the men named Eurypptolemus:



It is possible to equate the two men named Peisianax in this stemma and to assume that he married his second cousin, a daughter of Megacles II. Such marriages of near relations were fairly frequent among the Athenian aristocracy.<sup>19</sup>

Finally, we can examine how the name Eurypptolemus was passed on from generation to generation, bearing in mind that only a fraction of all Athenian children could be named after their grandfathers.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Kirchner (above, note 1) nos. 11775–76.

<sup>16</sup> For the date cf. R. E. Wycherley, *The Athenian Agora 3, Literary and Epigraphical Testimonia* (Princeton 1957) 45, and L. H. Jeffery, *BSA* 60 (1965) 41–57.

<sup>17</sup> Xenophon, *Hellenica* 1.4.19 and 1.7.12.

<sup>18</sup> *TAPA* 98 (1967) 67–75.

<sup>19</sup> Cf. *Phoenix* 21 (1967) 273–82. If the son of Cimon is the man who founded the Stoa Poecile, his birth will have to be much earlier than Connor (above, note 18) 70–71 suggests. Conversely, if we accept Connor's date, then we must believe that it was not Cimon's son, but another Peisianax, who founded the Stoa.

<sup>20</sup> The view that Peisianax was Cimon's brother-in-law originates in the assumption that Eurypptolemus I must be the grandfather of Eurypptolemus III and that, therefore, Peisianax is the son of Eurypptolemus I and the brother of Isodice; cf. Busolt (above, note 14) 363, note 5.

Euryptolemus II may have been the grandson of Euryptolemus I. If so, one can see from the stemma that he was the second cousin of Pericles. But if Plutarch intended *anepsios* in its precise sense, Euryptolemus I was probably the brother of Euryptolemus II's grandfather. Euryptolemus III was probably named after one of two men, either his great-grandfather or his uncle (i.e. if Euryptolemus II was the son of Megacles II).<sup>21</sup>

<sup>21</sup> We know nothing of the relationship between a fourth Euryptolemus (cf. Xenophon, *Hellenica* 1.3.12) and the Alcmeonidae.