



Περίληψη :

Ariarathes IV Eusebes (220-164/163 BC) was king of Cappadocia. His external policy was defined by his alliances, initially with the Seleucids and later with the Attalids and Rome. During his reign the Ariarathid dynasty established its relations with the Greek cities of the West.

Τόπος και Χρόνος Γέννησης

c. 230 BC, Kingdom of Cappadocia

Τόπος και Χρόνος Θανάτου

164/163 BC, Kingdom of Cappadocia

Κύρια Ιδιότητα

King of Cappadocia

1. Family – Ascension to Power

The king of [Cappadocia](#) Ariarathes IV was a member of the Ariarathid dynasty. According to their family tree, handed down by Diodorus Siculus and considered partly as mythical, he was descended from a noble Persian family. Among his distant ancestors were Anaphas (or Otanes), one of the seven Persians that murdered pseudo-Smerdis, and the Persian king Cyrus the Great (559-530 BC). Ariarathes IV was the son of King [Ariarathes III](#) (c. 255/240/230-220 BC) and Stratonice, daughter of the [Seleucid](#) king [Antiochus II Theos](#) (261-247/246 BC).

Ariarathes IV ascended the throne at a very young age in 220 BC and, after reestablishing friendly relations between the Cappadocian Kingdom and the Seleucids, he married Antiochis, daughter of the Seleucid king [Antiochus III the Great](#) (223-187 BC). Diodorus Siculus says that the cunning Antiochis, as she was unable to have children in the beginning, deceived her husband by presenting him two suppositious sons, Ariarathes and Orophernes. However, when she later gave birth to two daughters and a son, Mithridates, she revealed the truth to her husband, who removed the two unlawful sons from the kingdom in order to secure the succession of the legal heir to the throne, Mithridates, who was renamed Ariarathes and succeeded his father on the throne as [Ariarathes V Eusebes Philopater](#).

Recent research, however, considers very possible that the two alleged sons were natural children of Ariarathes IV –probably from another, unknown wife– and the story was invented in order to legalise the disputable rights of Ariarathes V to the throne. According to this theory, Ariarathes IV had two daughters and three lawful sons, while Demetrius of Ariarathes, reported by Polybius, might also have been his child, too. His one daughter, Stratonice, married [Eumenes II](#), king of [Pergamon](#), and later his brother and successor [Attalus II](#).¹

2. Political Activities

The external policy of Ariarathes IV may be divided into two phases and be defined by the intermarriage between the Cappadocian royal house and two powerful Asia Minor dynasties. In the early decades of his reign, Ariarathes IV allied politically with the Seleucid Antiochus III, who aimed at consolidating his relations with neighbouring kingdoms through kinship because he discerned his forthcoming conflict with Rome. Within this framework Ariarathes IV was involved in the [war between the Romans and Antiochus](#) (192-190 BC) taking sides with the forces that were attempting to prevent Rome from controlling Asia Minor. Therefore, he offered his army initially to Antiochus III in the [Battle of Magnesia](#) (190/189 BC) and later to Antiochus' allies [Galatians](#) during the Roman operations against them in the same year.

The [Peace of Apamea](#) (188 BC), which put an end to the war, signalled a change in the Cappadocian external policy. The terms of the peace were in every respect severe for the Cappadocian Kingdom, which had to pay war indemnities amounting to 600 **talents**.



At the same time due to the defeat of the Seleucids and their subsequently shrinkage and weakening state, Cappadocia lost a powerful patron force, which had secured its territorial independence since the establishment of the Cappadocian Kingdom.

In search of new local support, Ariarathes IV abandoned the Seleucid alliance and approached the kingdom of Pergamon, the great victor of the war between Rome and Antiochus in Asia Minor, which was to play a key role in the political matters of the region as supervisor of Rome's interests. This change in the political orientation of the Cappadocian kingdom is expressed through the marriage between the daughter of Ariarathes IV, Stratonice, and the king of Pergamon Eumenes II, whose support and intervention helped Cappadocia to sign a separate treaty of friendship and alliance with Rome. Thanks to this intervention, the Cappadocian ruler had to pay half the war indemnities.²

From that moment until the end of its history the kingdom was under the Roman sphere of influence, while its external policy in Asia Minor was closely interwoven with that of Pergamon. As part of their alliance, Ariarathes IV joined Eumenes II in the victorious war against [Pharnaces I of Pontus](#) in 183-179 BC. During the reign of the Seleucid [Antiochus IV](#) (175-164 BC), the rapprochement of the two traditional enemies of Asia Minor, the [Attalids](#) and the Seleucids, contributed to the immediate cooperation between Cappadocia and Syria, which by all accounts resulted in the issuing of the first silver Cappadocian coins probably struck by the Seleucid mint of [Soloj](#), Cilicia.

The coalition among Cappadocia, Pergamon and Syria in that period framed a joint external policy and defined the developments in Asia Minor. But because Rome was suspicious that the rulers were conspiring against its interests, Roman delegates were sent to Cappadocia, Pergamon and Antioch of Syria in 166/165 BC to investigate the situation. However, as soon as they got there, the rulers conciliated their concerns.³

In the Third Macedonian War (172-168/167 BC) Ariarathes, as it happened with Eumenes, showed his devotion to Rome by sending military forces. However, when the war ended Rome changed policy towards its loyal allies and, as a result, all requests made by Ariarathes and others asking for Rome's intervention to put an end to the Galatian revolt were rejected. In the ensuing war against the Galatians (168-166 BC) Ariarathes probably sent troops to Eumenes. But the Roman Senate, in an attempt to emasculate the kingdom of Pergamon, recognised the Galatian independence, which encouraged the latter to pursue the annexation of a Cappadocian area in 163 BC, though without success. Finally, shortly before his death, Ariarathes intercepted the attack of [Ptolemy](#), tyrant of [Commagene](#), who wanted to capture [Melitene](#).⁴

3. Cultural Activities

Ariarathes IV, whose coins carried the paronym Eusebes, probably gave to the Cappadocian cities of [Tyana](#), Mazaca and [Caesarea](#) the common name Eusebeia and introduced Charondas' legislation into Mazaca. The representation of [Athena](#) on coins proves that the goddess was worshipped in Great Cappadocia during his reign. The relations of the Cappadocian dynasty with the Greek states of the West and Rome at both a political and cultural level were possibly established in the years of Ariarathes IV. On the king's initiative, one of his unlawful sons, Orophernes, was sent to [Priene](#). The Sacred Stoa of the city might have been dedicated by Ariarathes IV.

His second unlawful son was sent to Rome, while the third and subsequent heir to the throne, Ariarathes V, received a Greek education in Athens.⁵ At the same time the alliance with the Attalids, who were closely connected with Kos, probably became the reason for the development of friendly relations between the Ariarathids and the sacred island of [Asclepius](#). A vote of the island of [Kos](#), possibly dated to the war of Ariarathes IV and Eumenes II against Pharnaces I of Pontus, reveals the establishment of a procession and sacrifices followed by prayers to gods for the prosperity of Kos and the Cappadocian royal house. Moreover, Ariarathes IV must have been among the kings that financed building activities at the gymnasium of the island.

Finally, his daughter Stratonice was honoured by Athens with a votive statue in [Delos](#).⁶



1. For the family tree, see Diod. S. 31.19.6-8. Information about Demetrius son of Ariarathes is provided by Polybius 33.12.1. It is presumed that the one son, called Ariarathes by birth, died at a very early age and the Ariarathes who was sent to Rome is possibly identified with Mithridates/Ariarathes V who visited Athens. According to this theory, Ariarathes IV must have had three sons apart from Demetrius, whose identity is absolutely hypothetical. See also Günther, L.M., "Kappadokien, die seleukidische Heiratspolitik und die Rolle der Antiochis, Tochter Antiochos' III" (*Asia Minor Studien* 16, 1995), p. 51 ff; Müller, H., "Königin Stratonike, Tochter des Königs Ariarathes", *Chiron* 21 (1991), p. 406 ff.
2. After Ariarathes supported the Galatians with his army, Cn. Manlius Vulso started making preparations for invading Cappadocia, an operation he cancelled after he was bribed by Ariarathes with 200 talents. See Livy 37.31.4, 38.26.4; Appian, *Syr.* 32.164. See also Hopp, J., *Untersuchungen zur Geschichte der letzten Attaliden* (*Vestigia* 25, München 1977), p. 27 ff; Hansen, E.V., *The Attalids of Pergamon*² (Ithaca – London 1971), p. 94 ff; Liebmann-Frankfort, T., *La frontière orientale dans la politique extérieure de la République romaine depuis le traité d' Apamée jusqu' à la fin des conquêtes asiatiques de Pompée* (Académie royale de Belgique, Mémoires LIX, fasc. 5, Bruxelles 1969), p. 67 ff. For the marriage of Stratonice and its date, see Allen, R.E., *The Attalid Kingdom. A Constitutional History* (Oxford 1983), p. 201 ff.
3. For the war with Pharnaces I, see McGing, B.C., *The foreign policy of Mithridates VI Eupator King of Pontus* (*Mnemosyne Supplement* 89, Leiden 1986), p. 26 ff. For the coalition among the three powers, see Morkholm, O., *Antiochus IV of Syria* (*Classica et Mediaevalia, Dissertationes VIII*, Kopenhagen 1966), p. 54 ff. For the coins minted by Ariarathes IV, see Simonetta, B., *The coins of the Cappadocian Kings* (Typos Monographien zur antiken Numismatik 2, Fribourg 1977), p. 21 ff; Morkholm, O., "Seleucid Coins from Cilicia ca. 220-150 B.C.", *ANSMN* 61 onwards. Bibliography on the coinage allegedly attributed to Ariarathes IV is included in Morkholm, O., "The Cappadocians again", *NC* 21 (1979), p. 245.
4. For the Galatians, see Polybius 31.8.1. For Ptolemy, see Diod. S. 31.19a. See also Hansen, E.V., *The Attalids of Pergamon*² (Ithaca – London 1971), from p. 122 onwards.
5. For the Sacred Stoa in Priene, see Bringmann, K. – Steuben, H.V. (eds), *Schenkungen hellenistischer Herrscher an griechische Städte und Heiligtümer 2.1: Archäologische Auswertung* (Berlin 2000), pp. 248, 276. For the coinage, see Simonetta, B., *The Coins of the Cappadocian Kings* (Typos. Monographien zur antiken Numismatik 2, Fribourg 1977), from p. 21 onwards; Mørkholm, O., "The Cappadocians again", *NC* 21 (1979), p. 245.
6. Ariarathes IV might have financed the restoration of the statue and the temple of Athena Parthenos at the acropolis of Athens, according to a rather improbable view supporting that the temple and the statue were destroyed by fire around 165 BC. See Bringmann, K. – Steuben, H.V. (eds), *Schenkungen hellenistischer Herrscher an griechische Städte und Heiligtümer*, Teil. 1: *Zeugnisse und Kommentare* (Berlin 1995), p. 442.

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Δικτυογραφία :

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<http://www.csad.ox.ac.uk/CSAD/Images/500/Image502.html>

Γλωσσάριο :

- talent, the
Numismatic weight unit. The silver talent equaled 60 mnai or 6000 silver drachmas.

Πηγές

Diodorus Siculus, *Bibliotheke*, 31.19.6-8.

Appian, *Syrian*, 32.164.

Χρονολόγιο

Βοηθ. Κατάλογοι

The Kings of Cappadocia. Ariarathes Dynasty.

Ariarathes I: circa 350-322 BC

Ariarathes II: circa 301-280 BC or 281/280-(?) or circa 260-250 BC

Ariaramnes: circa 280-230 BC or 250-225 BC

Ariarathes III: circa 255-220 BC or circa 240-220 BC or circa 230-220 BC

Ariarathes IV: 220-164/163 BC

Ariarathes V: 164/163-159 BC and 157/156-130 BC

Orophernes: 159-157/156 BC

Ariarathes VI: circa 130-116 BC

Ariarathes VII: circa 116-101/100 BC

Ariarathes VIII: circa 100-98 BC

Ariarathes IX: circa 100-85 BC