

CHRONOLOGY OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

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THAMES AND HUDSON

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THE TABLES

TABLE I

The Astronomical Canon

The Canon, reproduced here after C. Wachsmuth, *Einleitung in das Studium der Alten Geschichte* (1895), 305, has been preserved in astronomical manuscripts which generally continue the list up to the time of the scribe, e.g. until AD 911. The Canon was established by astronomers of Alexandria as a chronological basis for their computations. It goes back to the Babylonian king Nabonassar since the continuous astronomical observations began under his reign. The astronomers of Alexandria, who used the Egyptian mobile year, reduced the dates of their sources to the same reckoning. For instance, Nabopolassar died on 8 Abu of his 21 regnal year, that is on 15 August 605. But the Canon ends his reign at the date of the last day of the Egyptian year 605/4, that is on 20 January 604. The names of Babylonian kings became corrupted in Greek translation and transmission. According to Babylonian documents they are as follows:

Nabonassar

Nabunadinzri

Ukinzir and Pulu (= Tiglathpileser III; cf. II *Kings* 15, 19)

Ululas = Shalmaneser IV

Mardukbaliddin

Arkeanos = Sargon II

'Kingless', that is the period of local pretenders, Mardukzakirshum and Mardukbaliddin, whose legitimacy was denied by the Babylonian author of the list

Belibni

Ashurnadinshum

Nergalushezib

Mushezib Marduk

'Kingless' (from the destruction of Babylon by Sennacherib to the restoration by Esarhaddon)

Esarhaddon

Shamashshumkin

Kandalanu = Ashurbanipal

Nabopolossar
 Nebuchadrezzar
 Amel-marduk (Evil-Merodach)
 Neriglissar
 Nabonidus

Βασιλέων	ἔτη αγωγῇ ἐπίσυν			
Ναβονασσάρου	ιδ	ιδ	27 Feb.	747—22 Feb. 733
Ναδίου	β	ις	23 Feb.	733—21 Feb. 731
Χινζήρος καὶ Ἡώρου	ε	κα	22 Feb.	731—20 Feb. 726
Ἰλουλαίου	ε	κς	21 Feb.	726—19 Feb. 721
Μαρδοκεμπάδου	ιβ	λη	20 Feb.	721—16 Feb. 709
Ἀρκεανού	ε	μγ	17 Feb.	709—14 Feb. 704
Ἀβασίλευτα	β	με	15 Feb.	704—14 Feb. 702
Βιλίβου	γ	μη	15 Feb.	702—13 Feb. 699
Ἀπαρναδίου	ς	νδ	14 Feb.	699—12 Feb. 693
Ῥηγεβήλου	α	νε	13 Feb.	693—11 Feb. 692
Μεσησιμορδάκου	δ	νθ	12 Feb.	692—10 Feb. 688
Ἀβασίλευτα	η	ξζ	11 Feb.	688—8 Feb. 680
Ἀσαραδίνου	ιγ	π	9 Feb.	680—5 Feb. 667
Σαοσδουχίνου	κ	ρ	6 Feb.	667—31 Jan. 647
Κινηλαδάνου	κβ	ρκβ	1 Feb.	647—26 Jan. 625
Ναβοπολασσάρου	κα	ρμγ	27 Jan.	625—20 Jan. 604
Ναβοκολασσάρου	μγ	ρπς	21 Jan.	604—10 Jan. 561
Ἰλλοαρουδάμου	β	ρπη	11 Jan.	561—9 Jan. 559
Νηριγασολασσάρου	δ	ρρβ	10 Jan.	559—8 Jan. 555
Ναβοναδίου	ιζ	σθ	9 Jan.	555—4 Jan. 538

Περσῶν βασιλεῖς

Κύρου	θ	σιη	5 Jan.	538—2 Jan. 529
Καμβύσου	η	σκς	3 Jan.	529—31 Dec. 522
Δαρείου πρώτου	λς	σξβ	1 Jan.	521—22 Dec. 486
Ξέρξου	κα	σπγ	23 Dec.	486—16 Dec. 465
Ἀρταξέρξου πρώτου	μα	τκδ	17 Dec.	465—8 Dec. 424
Δαρείου δευτέρου	ιθ	τμγ	7 Dec.	424—1 Dec. 405
Ἀρταξέρξου δευτέρου	μς	τπδ	2 Dec.	405—20 Nov. 359
Ὡχου	κα	υι	21 Nov.	359—15 Nov. 338
Ἀρωγοῦ	β	υιβ	16 Nov.	338—14 Nov. 336
Δαρείου τρίτου	δ	υις	15 Nov.	336—13 Nov. 332
Ἀλεξάνδρου Μακεδόνας	η	υκδ	14 Nov.	332—11 Nov. 324

βασιλεῖς Μακεδόνων

Φιλίππου τοῦ μετ'					
'Αλέξανδρον τὸν					
κτίστην	ζ	υλα	ζ	12 Nov. 324—	9 Nov. 317
'Αλεξάνδρου ἑτέρου	ιβ	υμγ	ιθ	10 Nov. 317—	6 Nov. 305
Ητολεμαίου Λάγου	κ	υξγ	λθ	7 Nov. 305—	1 Nov. 285
Φιλαδέλφου	λη	φα	οζ	2 Nov. 285—	23 Oct. 247
Εὐεργέτου	κε	φκς	ρβ	24 Oct. 247—	17 Oct. 222
Φιλοπάτορος	ιζ	φμγ	ριθ	18 Oct. 222—	12 Oct. 205
'Επιφάνους	κδ	φξζ	ρμγ	13 Oct. 205—	6 Oct. 180
Φιλομήτορος	λε	χβ	ροη	7 Oct. 180—	28 Sept. 146
Εὐεργέτου δευτέρου	χθ	χλα	σζ	29 Sept. 146—	20 Sept. 117
Σωτήρος	λς	χξζ	σμγ	21 Sept. 117—	11 Sept. 81
Διονύσου νέου	κθ	χρς	σοβ	12 Sept. 81—	4 Sept. 52
Κλεοπάτρας	κβ	ψιη	σρδ	5 Sept. 52—	30 Aug. 30
