

Dynastic Lycia: A Political History of the Lycians and Their Relations with Foreign Powers, c. 545–362 BC. By ANTONY G. KEEN. Mnemosyne, Bibliotheca Classica Batava, Supplementum 178. Leiden, Boston, and Cologne: E. J. Brill, 1998. Pp. xii + 268 + 1 map. \$94.50.

Study of Lycia and other states of western Asia Minor in the first millennium B.C.E. has suffered from a split between modern academic disciplines. Lycian history and culture are largely the province of Hellenists. The Lycian language, however, is closely related to second-millennium Hittite, and the some 150 texts in Lycian and questions of Lycian prehistory must be examined in the context of Anatolian studies. The present book represents a rare serious attempt to bridge this gap, and from my perspective as an Anatolianist, I judge it a largely successful one.

Four introductory chapters give a general orientation to Lycian history, geography, social structure, and culture. These are followed by the heart of the book, seven chapters that try to reconstruct as detailed a history of Lycia as possible from the Persian conquest to the end of the dynastic period. Two brief chapters carry the story on to the Roman conquest, and a series of appendixes either offer convenient schemata of vital information or excurses on especially problematic topics. A very useful map, subject index, and exhaustive bibliography complete the volume. The book deserved better proofreading: there are a number of misprints in the English text, most fortunately self-correcting (but not all). Also distressing is the frequent omission of the special symbols for Lycian nasalized vowels in text citations, producing strangely shaped words that will nonplus specialists as well as the general reader.

I stress that the contents amply reward the effort to read through these minor annoyances. The author displays suitable caution and admirable common sense throughout. He is well aware that nearly everything that he or anyone else says about Lycian history is indeed a reconstruction, and he constantly reminds the reader of the tenuous and fragmentary nature of the evidence. Nonetheless, he does not hesitate to make analyses and to draw conclusions—to try to make coherent sense of all the data we have.

The emphasis here is on *all* the data. Besides his own original ideas, Keen's great contribution is to bring to bear on questions of Lycian history every available kind of evidence: the Greek historians, the native texts in Lycian, archaeological data, coinage, and more. Each issue is closely argued, and at times the careful weighing of alternative solutions and evaluation of every relevant datum makes for hard reading, at the expense of the narrative flow. In the present state of our knowledge, however, the author could not honestly proceed otherwise. His conclusions are clear, and he provides the reader with the complete basis for them, so that one may easily judge their validity. His analyses are hardly definitive, but they are state-of-the-art, and they challenge others who would seek to improve on them.

As an Anatolianist, I assure Hellenists that Keen's use of the Lycian-language materials is generally reliable and judicious. One must be sure, however, to take all qualifiers seriously (including those applied to interpretations that are due to me!). The one issue on which he actually is too cautious is the identification of the Lukka-Lands of Hittite texts with historical Lycia (p. 27 and Appendix 3). The evidence of the new Yalburt Hieroglyphic Luvian inscription now assures us that the second-millennium Lukka-Lands at least included the Xanthos valley. When Tuthaliya IV tells us that he visited *on the same campaign* Talawa, Pinata, Awarna, and Patara, these must be historical Tlos, Pinara, Xanthos, and Patara, not like-named cities elsewhere. The absence of archaeological evidence for second-millennium settlement in Lycia remains a problem to be addressed.

This book represents a major contribution to Lycian studies, and I heartily recommend it to all who share an interest in the topic. I am firmly convinced that the integrated approach so well exemplified here can lead to significant further progress. I hope that this work will stimulate others to respond and to develop further the initiative that Keen has undertaken.

H. CRAIG MELCHERT

University of North Carolina