

Arrian of Nicomedia: A Life of Duty and Adventure

Arrian of Nicomedia was a Greek historian, philosopher, and military commander who lived in the 2nd century AD. He is best known for his works on the life of Alexander the Great, which are considered to be among the most accurate and reliable accounts of the Macedonian king's life.



Arrian of Nicomedia (Unc Press Enduring Editions)

by Philip A. Stadter

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 2932 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 272 pages



Early Life and Education

Arrian was born in Nicomedia, Bithynia (modern-day Izmit, Turkey) in 92 or 93 AD. His father, Flavius Arrianus, was a Roman senator and governor of Cappadocia. Arrian's mother's name is unknown.

Arrian received a classical education, studying rhetoric, philosophy, and history. He was particularly drawn to the works of Xenophon, the Greek historian and military commander who wrote about the life of Cyrus the Great.

Military Career

In 124 AD, Arrian joined the Roman army and served under the emperor Hadrian. He participated in the Roman campaign against the Parthians, and was awarded a military decoration for his bravery.

In 131 AD, Arrian accompanied Hadrian on a tour of the Roman provinces in the East. He was particularly impressed by the ruins of Alexander the Great's city of Alexandria in Egypt.

Governor of Cappadocia

In 134 AD, Arrian was appointed governor of Cappadocia, a province in central Asia Minor. He served as governor for three years, during which time he suppressed a revolt by the local tribes.

As governor, Arrian also wrote his first major work, the *Anabasis of Alexander*. This work is a detailed account of Alexander the Great's campaign against the Persian Empire.

Later Life and Works

After completing his term as governor, Arrian returned to Rome and continued to write about Alexander the Great. He also wrote works on other historical and philosophical topics, including the *Indica*, a description of India, and the *Cynegeticus*, a treatise on hunting.

Arrian died in Rome in 175 AD. He is remembered as one of the most important historians of the ancient world.

Legacy

Arrian's works have had a lasting impact on the study of ancient history. His accounts of Alexander the Great's life and campaigns are considered to be among the most accurate and reliable sources of information about the Macedonian king.

Arrian's works have also been used to teach military strategy and tactics for centuries. His *Art of War* is still studied by military commanders today.

Arrian's Works

- *Anabasis of Alexander*
- *Indica*
- *Cynegeticus*
- *Tactica*
- *Epictetus' Discourses* (editor)

Further Reading

- Arrian (Britannica)
- Arrian (Livius)
- The Anabasis of Alexander (Gutenberg)



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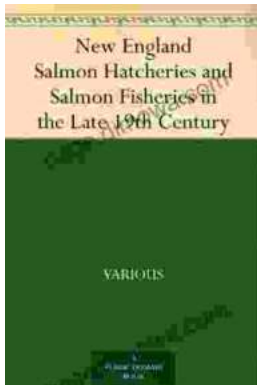
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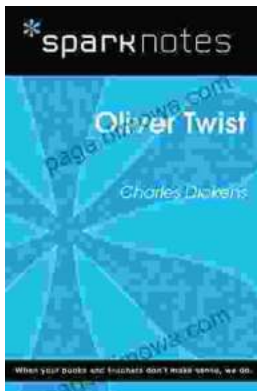
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