

## **Sparte and Stratonike: notes on the two women from the “Tomb of Lyson and Kallikles”**

The “Tomb of Lyson and Kallikles” was built at the turn of the third and second centuries BC and was used for four generations of the noble family from Mieza. Sparte, the daughter of Lyson (I) and the wife of Euippos, probably her uncle, belonged to the first generation; Stratonike, the daughter of Lyson (II) and the wife of Hippias, was the last known member of that family.

The name Σπάρτη is attested in Macedonia only twice and only in this family (LGPN IV). We can assume that Lyson (I) participated in the Cleomenic War (229–222) and named his daughter to commemorate the Macedonian victory over Sparta (cf. the name Thessalonike, the daughter of Philip II).

The man with the same name as of Stratonike’s husband – Ἰππίας – was among the retinue of King Perseus. He was from Beroia, the neighboring city to Mieza. In 1993 S. Miller supposed that the husband of Stratonike could be the *philos* of Perseus. But she made this observation with reservations also noting that Ἰππίας was a common Panhellenic name, and did not develop her hypothesis.

However, according to LGPN IV the name Ἰππίας was rare in Macedonia. It’s very significant that Stratonike was buried in the tomb of her original family, not in the tomb of her husband; i.e. for some reason Stratonike returned home.

After the battle of Pydna Hippias, the *philos* of Perseus, surrendered to the Romans and obviously he was deported to Italy in 167 BC along with other members of the Macedonian court elite and their sons over 15 years (Liv. 44.45.2; 45.32.3–6). However, their wives, daughters and sons under 15 years obviously stayed in Macedonia.

If the hypothesis about Stratonike’s husband as a man from the retinue of Perseus is correct we have a reason for the reconstruction of the wedding alliance between the noble families from neighboring Macedonian cities, Mieza and Beroia. Also we can trace the fate of the wives of the *philo*i of Perseus after the deportation of the Macedonian court elite to Italy.

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