

Alexander the Great

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King Philip II

- Alexander the Great's father, Philip II, takes advantage of Greece's weakened state (remember the Peloponnesian War?)
- He was from Macedon (Macedonia), just north of Greece

Philip II

- He was a dictator and ended Greek democracy (338 BCE)
- Ultimately, wanted to take over Persia
- Assassinated at daughter's wedding in 336 BCE.

Alexander

Philip's son, Alexander, took over (at age 20) after Philip was assassinated

He had learned military strategies from his dad, and was tutored by Greek scholars



Alexander

- His cruel tactics when one Greek city-state rebelled inspired fear in other city-states
- Was ruthless— sacrificed thousands of his troops to defeat Persia
- Conquered Persia by 331 BCE
- Died at age 32 from a fever in Babylon, Mesopotamia

Alexander

He wanted a bigger empire (to take over Persia via Egypt)

Egypt, controlled by the hated Persians, welcomed Alexander

He was successful:
Alexander's empire is in red

He became known as
"Alexander the Great"

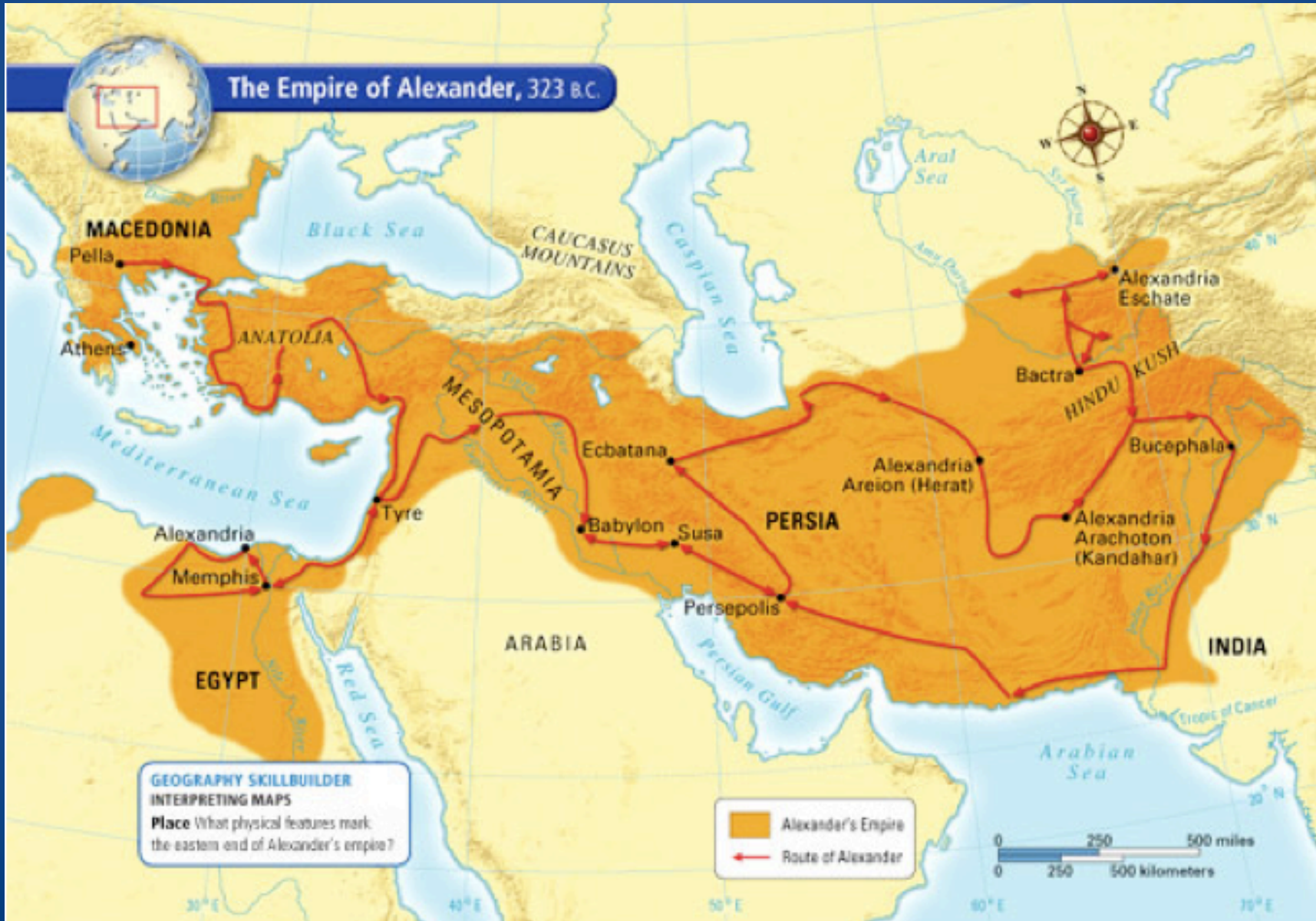


Alexander's Contributions

- Lots of cities called “Alexandria” (70!)
- Blend of cultures (Greek, Persian, Egyptian, Indian)
 - The blend of cultures was called “Hellenistic”
 - It included customs, language, dress, and especially, learning (“Temple of the Muses” = museum)



Cities named for Alexander



Artist's rendition of Library at Alexandria, Egypt



Reconstruction of library inside



Works Cited

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