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Alexander the Great: What If?

World Civilization I

Alexander the Great was a great kingdom and military ruler that expanded his empire through most of Persia and parts of India. However, what would have history looked like if Alexander never won his first battle. Would there have been a Hellenistic Kingdom? Would Greek and Persian ideas and culture be mixed together? I think without Alexander the Great; history would look much different. I believe that the Persian Empire could have stood on its own for longer. As shown in the text, prior to Alexander the Great conquering Persia, the Persian Empire was one of the largest empires and consisted of land that we know as India, Middle East, Africa, and Greece. There was a strong possibility that Alexander could have possibly not even made it to his first battle. In the video Alexander the Great by Epic History TV, one of the leaders of the first Persian city-state that Alexander was planning on invading suggested that they burn all the resources within the city-state so that Alexander and his armies would starve to death and suffer. However, the other leaders went against his suggestion. If the leaders would have followed this plan, Alexander would have been

defeated right then and there. King Darius, the ruler of the Persian Empire at that time would have still had control over his Empire and possibly could have worked on making peace with Greece. Through this peace treaty with Greece, Persia and Greece cultures and ideas could have still blended later down the road, but not that quickly.

Without the conquering of Alexander, the Great, the other empires that followed his empire structure, would have never come to be. For example, the Mauryan Empire would have looked very different. It is possible that this empire could have modeled after the Persian Empire and took on one of the religions within the empire instead of Buddhism. Another alternative could be the empire creating its own model and following the guides of Buddhism from the beginning; Chandragupta Maurya would have never had that militaristic influence he had from Alexander the Great and could have turned to a more peaceful style of ruling from the beginning. Overall, I do believe even if the Persian Empire would have stood and other empires followed its suit, the Romans would have still most likely take over all of it.

Citations

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YouTube. (2017). *Alexander the Great (All Parts)*. *YouTube*. Retrieved February 20, 2023, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K7lb6KWBanI>.