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Research and Writing Assignment- Alexander the Great

Alexander won many battles, leading him to rule over the Persian Empire and create one of the largest empires known to man. Many of the battles he won were due to his confident, arrogant, but strategic personality, which ultimately made him great. Now, what if Alexander the Great had died in his first battle? What if he had never conquered Persia and never established the Hellenistic World? Well, to begin with, he would not be considered "Alexander the Great" but instead simply referred to as "Alexander."

Because Alexander invaded many of the smaller neighboring areas of the Greek empire, he would have ultimately successfully united Greece without Sparta, as the Battle at the River Granicus was after that time. Assuming Persia continued its ruling, eventually, someone would want to conquer it, and it was ultimately collapsing or face the same outcome. Maybe someone who was a general or part of Alexander or his father and wanted to follow through on their plans and intent to capture the Persian Empire. Without Alexander coming in to claim the whole area, there is also the possibility that the empire would break up into separate kingdoms because of the possible armies and ruler uprisings.

As far as the age of the empires goes, culture is one thing that comes to mind, as that is what made the Greek Empire so unique in the first place. Therefore, the culture would not have been negatively impacted even without Alexander the Great stepping in and conquering the Persian Empire. Greek art, drama, and philosophy were brought upon by the people, never taken down by rulers at war, which is why culture would not have been affected or changed significantly. Of course, Greek culture did not spread without Alexander and his army traveling through the middle east and Indian regions during that time. But as per how trade worked, I assume that surrounding kingdoms would have eventually experienced and received some type of exposure to Greek culture as the Persian Empire did when Alexander took rule.

The Hellenistic period in the Greek Empire was between Alexander the Great's death and the emergence of Athens and Sparta. In my opinion, I really do not think the Hellenistic period would not have even existed without the journey and campaign of Alexander as a rightful ruler of the empires. Although Alexander's father had already unified the Greek city-states and put them in the position for a Hellenistic period, not much could have happened after two of their rulers passed. At some point, the Hellenistic period had to end, which would have occurred whether Alexander had passed away earlier or later. The custom of experiencing a Hellenistic period would not have spread throughout the surrounding empires as when Alexander made it so.

With his early death, the people of his Macedonaina Kingdom would have never experienced rightful ruling and would have never experienced the existence of the greatest empire that ever existed. Alexandria, one of the most progressive cities then, would not have been founded. Without Alexander the Great's success in battle, a

Hellenistic period would not have even begun, and its influence would not have reached the rest of the world or at least not last very long. Not only would this be affected, but Alexander's death would lead to a thirst for power amongst rulers of surrounding kingdoms, thus leading to endless battles for control. And, of course, the Persian Empire would continue to dominate the region without Alexander, making the world change as we know it.

