

## Civic Center

- Militia Thureos Spearman: **Thureophóros Politès**

The thureophoroi are flexible light infantry, able to fight both at a distance with their javelins, and at close quarters relying on their thureoi, although during close combat they are at a disadvantage when facing more heavily armed troops. Thureophoroi first appear during the early third century and are named after the oval thureos shield. Funerary stelai, such as those depicting members of a Pisidian mercenary garrison at Sidon, suggest the shield is commonly painted white, with a spined boss and central handgrip. Thureophoroi are better suited to the tactical needs of many smaller Hellenistic armies than the less mobile phalangite. At the Battle of Azotos (148 BC) against the Maccabean army the Seleukid army was called the 'Power of the Cities', due to the high proportion of citizen militia mobilized from the coastal cities of Syria. They were most probably thureophoroi as the chief function of these armies is the defence of border areas and thureophoroi are able to move rapidly over more varied terrain, screening heavier troops in difficult country or on the march if required to do so. On the battlefield these troops can protect the vulnerable flanks of the phalanx formation or they can form part of the main line of battle themselves. The typical thureophoros wears a simple tunic, the chiton, and an undecorated cloak. In addition to the thureos, protection is provided by an iron or bronze Hellenistic helmet. Weapons include a thrusting spear, probably used underarm during close combat, and a clutch of javelins. A short sword is also commonly carried, hung from a leather baldric.

- Militia Thureos Cavalryman: **Thureophóros Hippeus Politès**

Along with the citizen militia infantry there were also cavalry regiments of militia from the cities, known as Politikoi. The citizen cavalry was recruited from the richest citizens of the cities who did not hold the legal status of 'Macedonians'. They were mentioned during the Daphne parade. The Politikoi were probably not a unitary regiment of horse, but a collection of separate squadrons with each squadron having its own distinctive dress and equipment. Late 3rd century BC saw the rise of new type of Hellenistic cavalry - Thureopherontes Hippeis. They were medium skirmish cavalry, armoured and armed with javelins and a spear, they are better able to survive in a protracted melee than the old Hippakontistai of earlier Hellenistic period who they replace. They carried thureos shields, to be able to last in melee. After throwing their iron tipped javelins, they will retreat behind the shock cavalry, and then help to exploit the breakthrough made by the Hellenistic lancers. These men were very versatile so they were ideal to garrison Seleukid cities and satrapies. They solved a very practical problem- How do you soften up an infantry line for a charge, and then exploit it afterward.

## **Military Colony** (*has "Syrian Tetrapolis" upgrade*)

- Military Settler Phalangite: **Phalangitès Kataikoi** (*has "Gold Shield" upgrade*)

Macedonian phalanx was the largest corps of the Seleukid army. It was recruited from settled descendants of Macedonians and descendants of Greek mercenaries who fought in Macedonian phalanx and were given a legal status as 'Macedonians'. Military settlers in Seleukid Empire are called by Katoikoi. By the reign of Antiochos IV Epiphanes the phalanx was composed of khryaspides (ten thousand strong/twenty thousand strong – there are several different translations and interpretations on how many Macedonians were present at Daphne parade as the Greek text is corrupted) and khalkaspides (five thousand strong), in addition to the Argyraspides, the infantry Guard attached to it (five thousand strong, rest of infantry Guard was trained in Roman style). Each phalangite carries the sarissa, the small shield called pelte (which lacked a rim, had an elbow sling and was suspended over the shoulder with a baldric). For close fighting the phalangite carried a sword or dagger. After the victory in Egypt Antiochos IV Epiphanes most likely decorated shields of Seleukid phalanx with thin golden layer, khryaspides are mentioned during Daphne parade and during Battle of Beth-Zechariah.

- Macedonian Settler Cavalry: **Hippeus Makedonikos** (*has "Agema" upgrade*)

The Macedonian cavalry of the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC and 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC was armed with xyston, they were usually called after their principal weapon as xystophoroi. It is generally thought that Hellenistic cavalry began to use shields only after the Galatian invasions of Greece, which began in 279 BC. These were wooden, sometimes covered in hide or felt, circular in shape, and large – over a metre in diameter, covering the rider from neck to thigh. They were of two main varieties. The first was reinforced in the centre by a large, circular, bronze boss (umbo). The second was reinforced with a smaller 'barleyvorn'-shaped umbo set on spina (reinforcing rib) across the front. The latter type only seems to have become popular in the 2nd century BC. They also used cuirass or only chitons with Hellenistic helmets. If they are not wearing helmets, they use famous Macedonian hat called kausia to show their Macedonian heritage of which they are proud of.

The Agema was the widely regarded as the crack cavalry force par excellence of the Seleukid army. It seems likely that following the Parthian occupation of Media (148 – 147 BCE) the epigonoi (descendants) of Thessalian military settlers at Syrian town

Larissa replaced the Medians in the Agema. The title of Agema was given to them by Alexander Balas.

## Barracks

- "Bronze Shield" Pike Infantry: **Phalangitēs Khalkaspides** (*available after "Phalanx expansion" upgrade*)

Khalkaspides was regimental title of Antigonid phalanx regiment. Most references to this phalanx regiment occur within Antigonid contexts with two exceptions: the part of Seleukid phalanx at the Daphne parade and Battle of Beth-Zechariah is called bronze Shields, the late Pontic phalanx is also called as Bronze Shields. The Antigonid regiment of Khalkaspides had ceased to exist after Battle of Pydna (168 BC). One explanation may be that Antiochos IV as Macedonian himself wished to perpetuate the regiment title in his own army to stop its extinction. This Seleucid regiment might have been constituted, at least in part, from exiles and fugitives fleeing from defeated Makedonia. It's reasonable to suppose that there was an exodus of Macedonians who made their living or wished to made their living as professionals soldiers. At the start of Third Macedonian War the Macedonian phalanx after years of relative peace was around 26000 strong of which 20000 were killed on the field of Pydna.

- Neo-Cretan Archer: **Toxótēs Neokrētikós**

The most famous of Hellenistic mercenaries, the Cretan archers were highly valued throughout the Hellenistic world. The political instability and endemic warfare of Crete meant a steady supply of Cretans available for mercenary service overseas. The Seleukid kings settled Cretans who wished so in their cities, these settlers were most probably called Neocretans. Neocretans were in every major battle and major campaign of Empire. After the Battle of Magnesia Antiochos III settled more Cretans and other Greeks who were his allies during Roman war (Aetolians, Euboians) in the new district of Antioch. They are usually joined by Cretan mercenaries recruited by treaties with Cretan cities. Wearing a simple plain tunic, the chiton, maybe even linen cuirass, and Macedonian hat called kausia to mark service for one of Macedonian kings the Neocretan archer is also protected by a small, bronze boss-less round shield strapped to the forearm so as to enable both arms to be free to work the composite bow. The small round shields were a distinctive feature of the Neocretan archers and with the short sword the Neocretan archers were able to engage in hand-to-hand combat. Neocretan and Cretan archers formed the archer units of Seleukid regular army. They were often supplemented by native troops such as Persians and Mysians.

- Thureos Skirmisher: **Thureophóros Akontistès**

The thureophoroi are flexible light infantry, able to fight both at a distance with their javelins, and at close quarters relying on their thureoi, although during close combat they are at a disadvantage when facing more heavily armed troops. Thureophoroi first appear during the early third century and are named after the oval thureos shield. Funerary stelai, such as those depicting members of a Pisidian mercenary garrison at Sidon, suggest the shield is commonly painted white, with a spined boss and central handgrip. Thureophoroi are better suited to the tactical needs of many smaller Hellenistic armies than the less mobile phalangite. At the Battle of Azotos (148 BC) against the Maccabean army the Seleukid army was called the 'Power of the Cities', due to the high proportion of citizen militia mobilized from the coastal cities of Syria. They were most probably thureophoroi as the chief function of these armies is the defence of border areas and thureophoroi are able to move rapidly over more varied terrain, screening heavier troops in difficult country or on the march if required to do so. On the battlefield these troops can protect the vulnerable flanks of the heavy phalanx formation or form part of the main line of battle themselves. The typical thureophoros wears a simple tunic, the chiton, and an undecorated cloak. In addition to the thureos, protection is provided by an iron or bronze Hellenistic helmet. Weapons include a thrusting spear, probably used underarm during close combat, and a clutch of javelins. A short sword is also commonly carried, hung from a leather baldric. After the Battle of Magnesia, during which the various native light infantry performed very bad, the majority of Seleukid skirmishers were mercenaries armed with thureos shields to provide better protected and more disciplined skirmish screen of heavy troops.

- Companion Heavy Cavalry: **Hippeus Hetairike**

The Seleukid kings deployed two elite regiments: Agema, consisting mostly of Medians, and Hetairoi, comprising mostly of Macedonians settled in Syria, Phrygia and Lydia. Both these units had 1,000 horsemen. The Seleukid Companion cavalry is described in action at Magnesia with lighter armour for themselves and their horses, but otherwise with equipment not unlike the rest'. Their panoply may have resembled those depicted on the reliefs of the Temple of Athena. Namely linothorax, decorated pteruges, Hellenistic helmets, laminated armpieces (but no leg-armour) and oval shields. These reliefs also show horses fitted out with narrow bronze chamfron with a traverse crest of feathers, and a small poitrail of embossed bronze or moulded leather. Weapons would have been a heavy Macedonian lance (xyston) a curved sword (kopis). The original Macedonian regimental colours of saffron and purple may have been retained.

## Mercenary Camp

- Thracian Swordsman: **Rhomphaiphoros Thrakikós**

These men are warriors of great renown, able to chop their way through heavily armored enemy soldiers. These Thraikian masters of battle are even effective against cavalry, since their large Rhomphaiai have been known to sheer through the legs of horses. The Rompaianai do not need heavy armour as they are protected by thracian shields and helmets. They were ubiquitous mercenary swordsmen throughout Hellenistic times, even serving in two opposing armies during the same battles. They are attested in Seleukid armies as mercenaries and military settlers. For example the 3000 Macedonian and Thracian military settlers were killed during the rebellion in Persis.

- Jewish Spearmen: **Ioudaioi Taxeis**

Ioudaioi Taxeis have been recruited in the army for the purpose of providing reliable garrison troops, useful for policing borders and keeping the general population in line, but can fill a gap in a battle line in a pinch. Their equipment is fairly basic (a couple of solid javelins and a thrusting spear; most have access to helmets, but few of them had access to armour. Their main defenses are their peltai or thureos shields. Even before the Seleukid conquest of Iudea, the Jewish spearmen were used as military settlers by Seleukid kings. For example 8000 Jewish spearman with 4000 Macedonian military settlers faced the Galatian invasion of Babylonia (most probably during the first civil war of Seleucid reign between the Seleukos II and his brother Antiochos Hierax, who was supported by Galatians), after rebellion in Lydia Antiochos III send to Zeuxis, governor of Asia Mikra, 2000 Jewish military settlers with their families to garrison the region. After the Seleukid victory in Fifth Syrian War, the Hellenized Jews were important part of Seleukid garrison in Jerusalem during the 2nd century BC. Demetrios II used Cretan and Jewish vassal troops to put down the revolt in Antioch. Also Antiochos VII after his reconquest of Iudea used several thousands of Jewish vassal troops under John Hyrkanos during his Eastern expedition. In my opinion the Jewish spearmen were more important part of Seleukid armies than Arabic allies at the Battle of Raphia, because they were used in many parts of Empire during the whole Seleukid Era.

- Cretan Archer: **Toxótēs Krētikós**

The most famous of Hellenistic mercenaries, the Cretan archers were highly valued throughout the Hellenistic world. The political instability and endemic warfare of Crete meant a steady supply of Cretans available for mercenary service overseas. Wearing a simple plain tunic, the chiton, maybe even linen cuirass, and bronze helmets the Cretan archer is also protected by a small, bronze boss-less round shield strapped to the forearm so as to enable both arms to be free to work the composite

bow. The small round shields were a distinctive feature of the Cretan archers and with the short sword the Cretan archers were able to engage in hand-to-hand combat. Cities of Crete encouraged the recruitment of their people as mercenaries overseas, reaching treaties with foreign rulers to facilitate the activities of mercenary recruiters.

- Galatian Heavy Infantry: **Thorakitès Galatikoi**

Thorakitès Galatikoi were an late Hellenistic heavy infantry force formed from Galatian Celts. were used as mercenaries by all the Hellenistic powers. They are armoured in good quality armour. They are given various Hellenistic helmets. The Galatians were loyal to their paymasters. They were an important part of Seleukid army as they are well equipped and they are superb infantry for most tasks in every kind of terrain. They are impetuous but well trained and capable of keeping good order.

- Tarentine Cavalry: **Hippeus Tarantinoi**

Hippeis Tarantinoi were the elite Hellenistic skirmisher cavalry that found its origin in the city of Taras. There were few in numbers, but they had an important part in Hellenistic armies. Tarantinoi are found as mercenaries serving in Greece and in the armies of the Seleukid kings. By the late 3rd century BC and 2nd century BC the term Tarantinoi was pseudo-ethnic - no longer specific to the cavalrymen of Taras, but cavalryman fighting in Tarentine style.

Dahae Horse Archer: **Hippotoxotès Dahae**

Dahae were a confederacy of three Iranian tribes who lived in the region to the east of the Caspian Sea. They spoke an Eastern Iranian language. They were known as the Dāha to the Persians, they also saw a mercenary service in Seleukid armies. Most famously the 1200 Dahae horse archers were part of Seleukid right wing during the Battle of Magnesia. They are equipped with spears and the traditional curved bow of the steppes. These horsemen are excellent skirmishers, ready to charge after their enemy has been spent by a permanent rain of arrows.

## Fortress

- Silver Shield" Pike Infantry: **Phalangitès Argyraspides**

Seleukid kings mixed two traditions together when they formed their Argyraspides corp. Numbering 10000 men after the Achaemenid Immortals, these soldiers were drawn from across the Seleukid Empire. It has been suggested that they were the sons

of military settlers in the prime of their life rather than the land-owning settlers themselves. Although their exact tenure of service is unknown, they may have been military professionals as under Antiochos III they would have been on campaign for several years at a time. Before reforms of Antiochos IV Epiphanes the Argyraspides are hypothesized to have been formed of two strategiai of 4000 men each of phalangites and two chiliarchies of 1000 men each of more specialized hypaspistai/elite peltastai as in Antigonid and Ptolemaic armies. Argyraspides were traditionally armed in the Macedonian manner and at Raphia and Magnesia numbered ten thousand men. However at Daphne there were only five thousand Argyraspides counted amongst the strength of the Macedonian phalanx. Accordingly it is surmised that the five thousand men in the prime of life armed after the Roman fashion and bearing breastplates of chain-armor were also members of the infantry Guard of the Argyraspides.

Argyraspides are the elite royal guard armed in the Macedonian fashion, half of them were still armed in Macedonian fashion even during the Daphne parade. As they were not fully replaced by troops armed in Roman fashion, they should be available after *Reform army event* triggered by player.

- Traditional Army

- Median Cavalry: **Hippeus Medikos**

The pragmatic vision of Alexandros Megas for Medians and Greek to fight side by side has not diminished in the least since the conqueror's death. The Seleukid kings made widespread use of Median cavalrymen to augment their mounted contingents. Heirs to the lesser Persian aristocracy Median cavalry are fully part of the trend away from the lighter skirmishing of Achaemenid times and towards a greater emphasis on shock action. The cavalryman's spear constitutes their primary armament, supported by an array of personal sidearms from the kopis sword to tabar axe. They use combination of Macedonian and Eastern equipment. These Median cavalryman were settled in military colonies and their picked members were recruited in the guard cavalry regiment called Agema. They were replaced by cataphracts, there is a possibility that around 4000-5000 Median military settlers were serving as cataphracts to Seleukid kings as during the Daphne parade there were 1500 cataphracts from Western part of Empire. There is a little possibility that troops from Eastern part of Empire took part in procession, due to unrest in Upper satrapies. After the Parthian conquest of Media these excellent horsemen were lost to Seleukid kings.

- Scythed Chariot: **Harmata Drepanèphoros**

Harmata Drepanephora (scythe-bearing chariot) is simply a war chariot with spinning blades extending out a meter from both ends of the axle. Heavily armoured, it is meant to devastate foot formations, but it is best used against closely packed lower-class infantry in open terrain. A successful chariot charge will disorder the enemy ranks and kill men. When Seleukos I Nikator cemented his hold over most of what was the Persian empire, he likely came into possession of several scythed chariots. Despite the size of his holdings, his available army was quite small when he marched into Asia Minor for the fight against Antigonos I Monophthalmos. He took whatever resources he could on his march - including the chariots. Though present, they do not seem to have been used at the Battle of Ipsos; however, they continued to make appearances. Molon, a potential usurper of the Seleukid throne, used chariots in his last battle against Antiochos III. The latter then used chariots against the Romans at the Battle of Magnesia, where they likely cost him the battle when the drivers lost control of their horses. Antiochos IV had several chariots of varying types at his procession in the Antiochene suburb of Daphne for ceremonial display and it seems they may have been used in some capacity during his earlier invasion of Egypt.

- Reform Army

- Romanized Heavy Swordsman: **Thorakitès Argyraspides**

It is believed that the five thousand men in the prime of life armed after the Roman fashion and bearing breastplates of chain-armor were also members of the infantry Guard of the Argyraspides. Armed with a short sword, thureos, javelins, and mail armor they are a highly effective fighting force. These men are an excellent supporting force for the phalanx and can also operate much better on broken ground and rough terrain. These forces were formed after the Battle of Magnesia (190 BC) and Battle of Pydna (168 BC) in response to the new Roman threat. These reforms were started by Antiochos IV Epiphanes and are first mentioned at the description of the Daphne Parade (166 BC).

- Seleucid Cataphract: **Seleukidón Kataphraktos**

Kataphraktos was a heavy cavalryman par excellence protected by a armour, segmented arm and leg defences and an iron or bronze helmet. These warriors charge into contact equipped with heavy lances (kontoi) and on mounts often protected by defensive armour. Kataphraktoi became a regular feature of Seleukid armies following the Parthian anabasis of Antiochos III in 210 -206. They are specifically mentioned in action during the Battle of Panion in 200 BCE and their tactical success seems to have led to a major reorganization of the Seleukid cavalry arm. Their famous achievement was during the Battle of



Magnesia where 3000 kataphraktoi and Agema regiment commanded by Antiochos III routed a Roman legion. Kataphraktoi were partly comprised by native Iranians, subsequently formed the majority of the cavalry with a total of six thousand deployed at Magnesia. In 166 BC in the western part of Empire Seleukid kings were able to recruit 1500 of these excellent horsemen as described by Polybios.

- Armored War Elephant: **Thorakisménos Eléphantos**

Incredibly powerful and destructive, few can withstand an elephant charge. These beasts also carry men with missile weapons to provide support and snipe at enemy troops during the battle. They were vulnerable to light troops, so they were escorted during the battle by attached light infantry. Each elephant had 40-50 men to act as elephant guard. After the war between Seleukos I Nikator and Chandragupta Maurya in the late 4th century, Seleukos gave up a large swathe of land in exchange for 500 Indian elephants as part of the peace arrangements, which shows the importance of these animals. Indian elephants became an important part of Hellenistic warfare, being used as far away as Italy by Pyrrhos. Even Antiochos III received 150 Indian elephants as a tribute from the Indian King Subhagasena during his Indian campaign in 206 BC. Even the smaller African Bush elephants, famous for service in Ptolemaic and Carthaginian armies, saw service in Seleukid military as Demetrios II Nikator captured Ptolemaic elephant corp after death of Ptolemy VI Philopator few days after the Battle of Oinoparas River.

- Siege Catapult: **Lithóbolos**

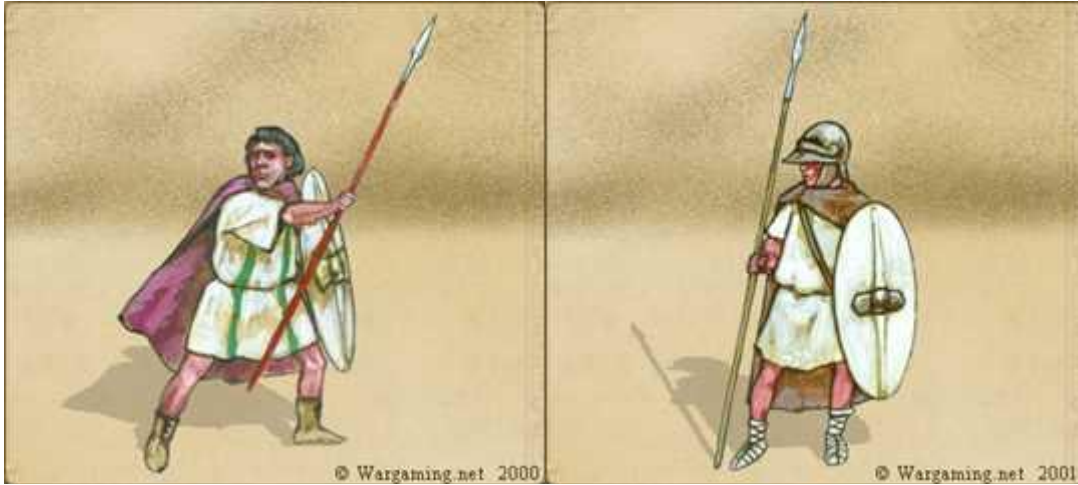
These are regular stone projectors, which can launch weights from 5 to 30 Mina, more or less 2.2 to 13.1 kg. Slightly expensive, slow moving and needing specialised maintenance, these siege engines can nevertheless break down a section of the enemy walls with expediency, without shedding a single drop of blood. These siege engines are epitome of Hellenistic military engineering and, although requiring fine tuning and adjustments, they can strike down even rather small targets with great precision. They are attested in sieges of Beth-Zur and Jerusalem.

- Siege Tower: **Helépolis**

When Demetrius Poliorcetes besieged Salamis, in Cyprus, he instructed that a machine be constructed, which he called "the taker of cities." Its form was that of a square tower, each side 90 cubits high and 45 wide. It rested on four wheels, each eight cubits high. It was divided into nine stories, the lower of which contained machines for throwing great stones, the middle large catapults for throwing spears, and the highest, other machines for throwing smaller stones, together with smaller catapults. It was manned with 200 soldiers, besides those that moved it by pushing the parallel beams at the bottom.

## Reference pictures:

Thureophóros Politès:



Terracotta from Asia Minor showing two Greek warriors fighting with thureos shields:



Thureos shields from Pergamane victory relief:



Thureophóros Hippeus Polités:



Thureophóros Hippeus and Hippeus Tarantinoi at the Battle of Magnesia:



Seleukid phalanx at the Battle of Magnesia:



Seleukid phalangite in mail armour:

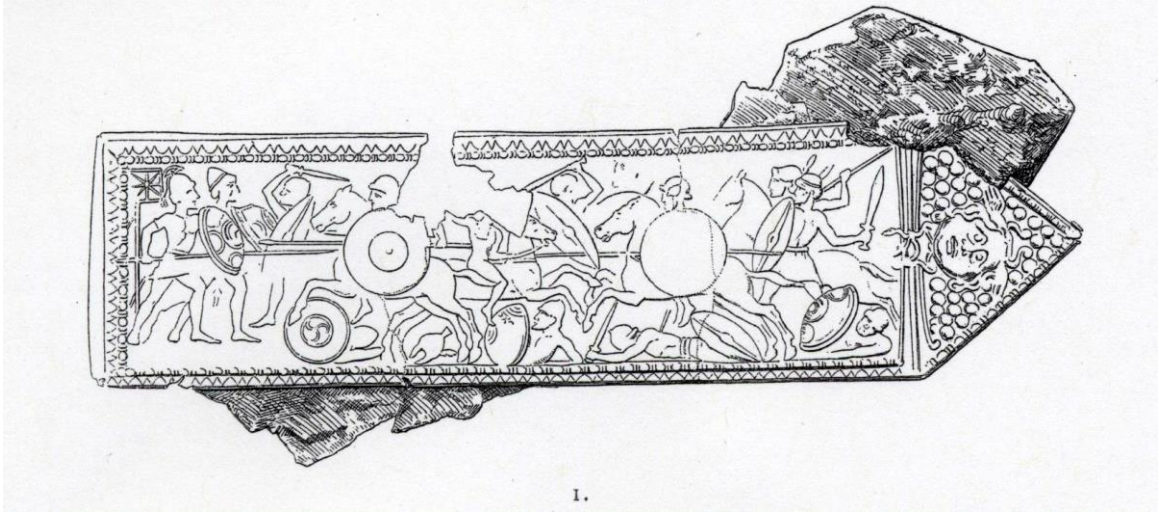


Phalanx in training:



Hippeus Makedonikos of 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC:





Agema and cataphracts at the Battle of Magnesia:



Phalangitès Khalkaspides:



Romanized Guard infantryman, light Cilician infantryman, Bronze Shield phalangite:





Toxótēs Neokrētikós:



Thureophóros Akontistēs:





Equipment of companions:



Thureophóros Akontistès, Hippius Hetairike and Galatians:



Hippeus Hetairike at the Battle of Magnesia:



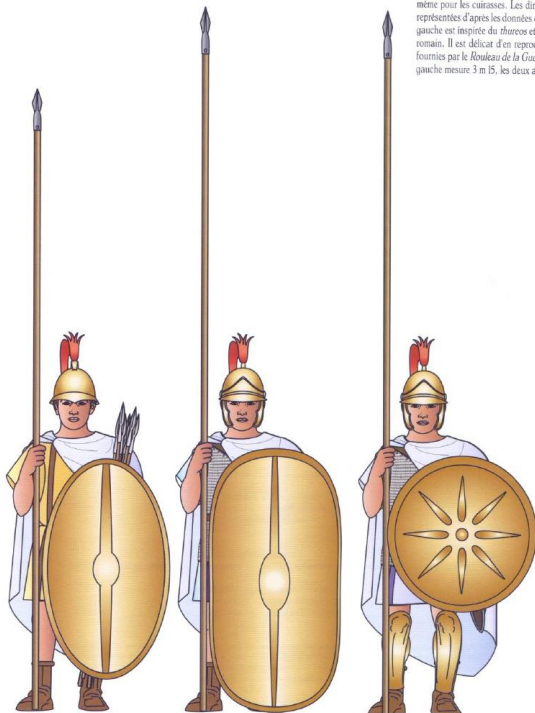
Seleukid cataphract, Eastern Seleukid cataphract, Companion cavalryman, Mercenary infantryman:



Rhomphaiaphoros Thrakikós (here in Macedonian service):



Ioudaioi Taxeis (left figure):



Équipement de soldats juifs maccabéens ou hasmonéens d'après le *Recueil de la Guerre des Maccabées de la mer Morte*. À gauche soldat de ligne, au centre un soldat des tours, à droite un cavalier d'élite. Les casques, non mentionnés dans le manuscrit pour l'infanterie, ont été récupérés sur les dépouilles ennemies. Il en est probablement de même pour les cuirasses. Les dimensions des armes et boucliers ont été représentées d'après les données du manuscrit. La forme des boucliers de gauche est inspirée du *thureos* et celle du bouclier du milieu, du *scutum* romain. Il est délicat d'en reproduire le motif, les quelques indications fournies par le *Recueil de la Guerre* n'étant pas suffisantes. La lance de gauche mesure 3 m 15, les deux autres 3 m 60.

Toxótēs Krētikós:



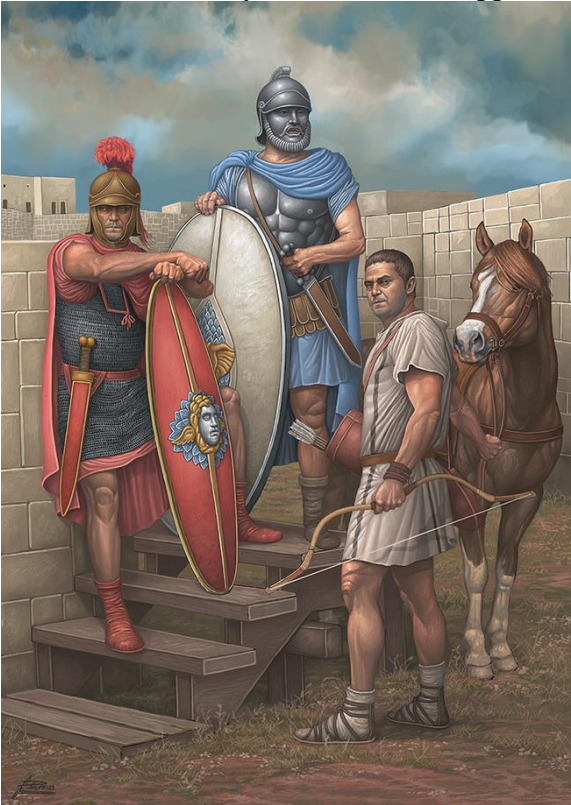
Thorakitēs Galatikoi:



Elephant-guard, armoured Bush African elephant, Galatian and Mercenary Infantry:



Romanized Infantry, Galatian and Hippotoxotai of Antiochos IV:



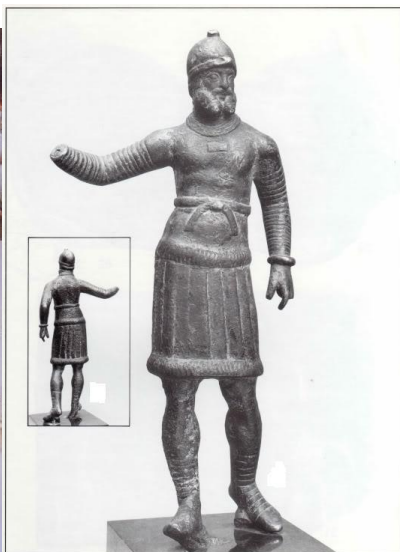
Hippotoxotès Dahae:



Phalangitès Argyraspides (left figure):



Seleukidón Kataphraktos:





Hippeus Medikos:

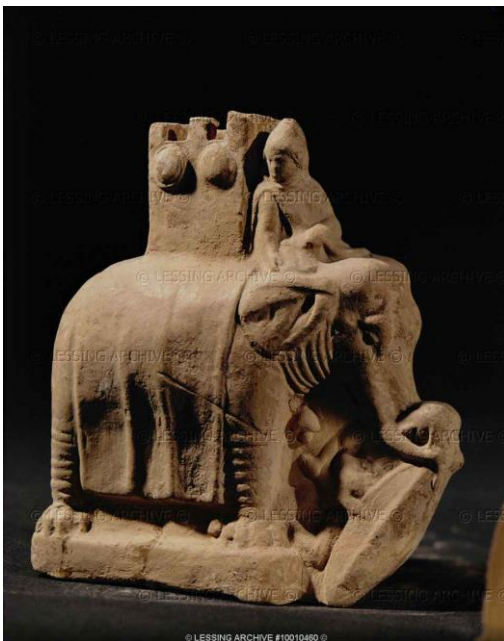




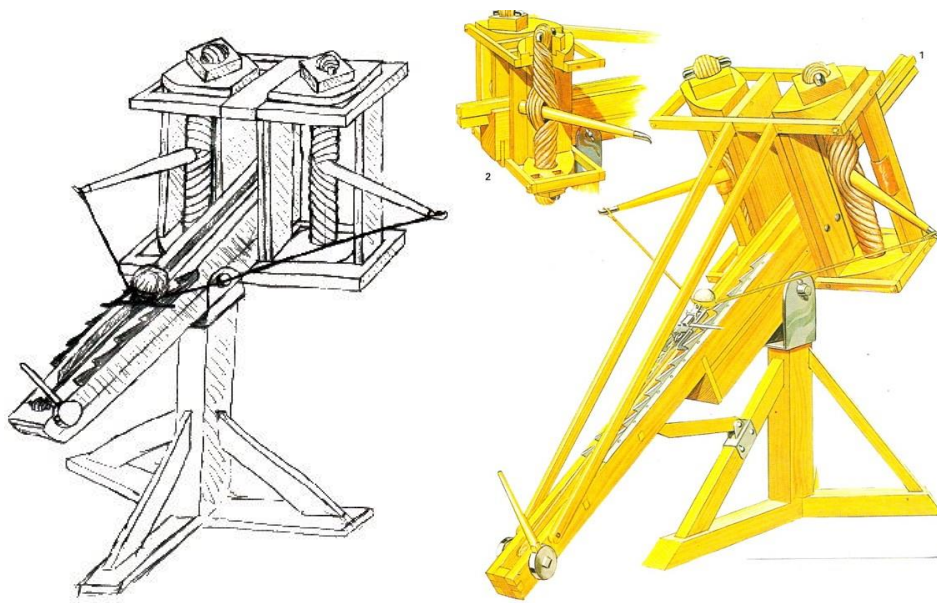
Harmata Drepanèphoros:



Thorakisménos Eléphantos:



Lithóbolos:



Helépolis:

