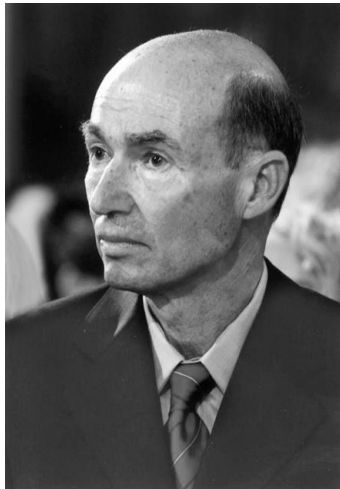




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THE 70TH BIRTHDAY OF MILTIADES HATZOPOULOS



January 2014 marked the celebration of the 70th birthday of the prominent Greek classicist and epigraphist Miltiades B. Hatzopoulos. In recent decades he has undoubtedly become the world's leading specialist in the history of ancient Macedonia. Dr. Hatzopoulos's initial research, however, was devoted to other regions and topics: the cult of the Dioscuri and the dual monarchy in Sparta (doctoral thesis, University of Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne, 1971). Moreover, he also researched the history of the Greeks of Sicily under Roman rule from the mid-third century BC to the first century BC (monograph published in Athens in 1976).

In 1979, Dr. Hatzopoulos began to work at the Centre for Greek and Roman Antiquity in Athens (KERA), which he later headed from 1992 to 2010. This was a time of rapid growth of interest in the history of ancient Macedonia that followed M. Andronikos's sensational discoveries of the royal tombs at Vergina in the late 1970s.

In 1981 an archive of the inscriptions from Macedonia was established at KERA. Thus, the collection and publishing of the inscriptions (those recently found, as well as those stored in museums in northern Greece yet never published) became a major focus of Dr. Hatzopoulos and his colleagues in the *Macedonian Programme*.

Beginning in the mid-1980s, Dr. Hatzopoulos published more than a dozen monographs (some of them co-authored) on a variety of aspects of the history and culture of ancient Macedonia. Among them were separate commented editions of important inscriptions, books on the topography and historical geography of Macedonia, on beliefs and cults of the Macedonians, Macedonian military organization in the Hellenistic period, etc.

In 1996 the two-volume monograph *Macedonian Institutions under the Kings* was published. Until now, this pioneering work, which has led to discussions on many issues, remains the most recent research of note in the study of the political and social institutions of the Macedonian state.

Dr. Hatzopoulos is one of the publishers of the corpus *The Inscriptions of Lower Macedonia* (in 1998 Dr. Hatzopoulos and L. Gounaropoulou published together the first volume, which included Greek and Latin inscriptions from Beroia; a second volume is forthcoming). With his assistance, a collection of inscriptions from the sanctuary of the Mother of Gods at Leukopetra was published in 2000. Since the latter half of the 1980s, Dr. Hatzopoulos has published annual reviews of Macedonian epigraphy in the *Bulletin épigraphique*. The list of Dr. Hatzopoulos' works includes more than 150 titles: books, epigraphic corpora and surveys, articles and reviews, as well as collective volumes under his editorship.

The highest international scientific recognition of Dr. Hatzopoulos' achievements is evidenced by his membership in the Institut de France (Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres) and the German Archaeological Institute. Dr. Hatzopoulos is also a member of the Athens Archaeological Society.

In addition to continuing his studies of the history of ancient Macedonia and neighboring regions (Epirus, Thessaly and Thrace), Dr. Hatzopoulos has in recent years begun to study the modern history of Cyprus before the time of the Turkish invasion in 1974 and the subsequent division of the island. Cypriot topics are reflected in Dr. Hatzopoulos' scientific works, as well as in his novels.

Macedonian inscriptions of Roman times repeatedly record the names of people called *makedoniarches* (apparently they headed provincial *Koinon Makedonon*, and were also associated with the Emperor cult). It seems that in light of his outstanding achievements in the study of the history of ancient Macedonia Dr. Miltiades Hatzopoulos could be appropriately called the μακεδονίαρχης.