

[home](#) : [ancient Persia](#) : [ancient Greece](#) : [Seleucids](#) : [index](#) : article by Jona Lendering

Seleucus II Callinicus



Seleucus II Callinicus

Seleucus II Callinicus ('bautiful victor'): name of a [Seleucid](#) king, ruled from 246 to 225.

Successor of: [Antiochus II Theos](#)

Relatives:

- Father: [Antiochus II Theos](#)
- Mother: [Laodice I](#)
- Wife: [Laodice II](#)
- Children:
 - Antiochis (married to Xerxes of Armenia),
 - [Alexander](#) (= Seleucus III Keraunos)
 - Lu-xxx (mentioned in the [Seleucus III chronicle](#); BCHP 12)
 - [Antiochus III the Great](#)
 - daughter

Main deeds:

- Born c.265
- Early July 246: [Antiochus II Theos](#) dies, leaving a confused dynastic situation.
 - From his first marriage, with [Laodice II](#), he had two sons [Seleucus II Callinicus](#) (immediately recognized as king) and Antiochus Hierax (co-ruler in [Sardes](#)); they live in [Ephesus](#)
 - From his second marriage, with the [Ptolemaic](#) princess [Berenice Phernephorus](#), he had a five-year old son Antiochus; they live in [Antioch](#)
- Late summer 246: the child Antiochus is killed by partisans of Laodice
- September 246: King [Ptolemy III Euergetes](#) decides to avenge his relative: outbreak of the [Laodicean War](#) or [Third Syrian War](#). He captures [Seleucia](#) and Antioch, but cannot prevent that Berenice is killed by the populace
- December 246: Ptolemy proceeds to [Babylon](#); he is still there in February 245
- 245: The king's sister "[Laodice](#)" marries Mithridates II of Pontus; [Phrygia](#) is awarded to him as a marriage gift
- 245: Revolt of Andragoras in [Parthia](#)
- 243: Birth of Alexander (= [Seleucus III Keraunos](#))
- 242/241: Unsuccessful Seleucid attack on Egypt
- 241: End of the Third Syrian War
- 240: War between king Seleucus II and Antiochus Hierax; the latter is successful but loses his territories to [Attalus I Soter](#) of Pergamon

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- 239/238: The Seleucid princess [Stratonice II](#), who had been queen of [Macedonia](#) (married to [Demetrius II](#)) returns; Seleucus refuses to marry her; she attempts an insurrection but is killed
- 238: The [Parni](#) overrun Astavene
- 235: The Parnian leader Tiridates settles in Parthia; beginning of the [Parthian Empire](#)
- 230-227: Seleucus tries to suppress the revolt in Parthia, but instead loses [Hyrcania](#); Diodotus declares himself independent in [Bactria](#)
- 229: Stay in [Babylon](#)
- 228: Unsuccessful insurrection of Antiochus Hierax in [Mesopotamia](#)
- The Macedonian king [Antigonos III Doson](#) intervenes in [Caria](#)
- December 225: Seleucus II dies after a fall from his horse

Succeeded by: [Seleucus III Keraunos](#) (or Soter)

Sources:

- [Seleucid successions chronicle](#) (BCHP 10)
- [Invasion of Ptolemy III chronicle](#) (BCHP 11)
- [Adoulis inscription](#) (OGIS 54)
- [Appian of Alexandria, *Syrian Wars*, 66](#)
- [Polyaenus, *Stratagems*, 4.17](#)

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[home](#) : [ancient Persia](#) : [ancient Greece](#) : [Seleucids](#) : [index](#)

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