

# Antiochus I Soter



Coin of Antiochus I Soter  
(Museum of Anatolian  
Civilizations, Ankara)

**Antiochus I Soter** ('the savior'): name of a [Seleucid](#) king, ruled from 281 to 261.

**Successor of:** [Seleucus I Nicator](#)

## Relatives:

- Father: [Seleucus I Nicator](#)
- Mother: [Apame I](#), daughter of [Spitamenes](#)
- Wife: [Stratonice I](#) (his stepmother), daughter of [Demetrius Poliorcetes](#)
- Children:
  - Seleucus
  - Laodice
  - [Apame II](#) (married to Magas of [Cyrene](#))
  - [Stratonice II](#) (married to [Demetrius II](#) of [Macedonia](#))
  - [Antiochus II Theos](#)

## Main deeds:

- 301: Present during the [Battle of Ipsus](#)
- 294/293: marriage with his father's wife [Stratonice I](#)
- 292: made co-regent and [satrap](#) of [Bactria](#) (perhaps Seleucus was thinking of the ancient [Achaemenid](#) office of *mathišta*)
- Stay in [Babylon](#) (on several occasions?), where he showed an interest in the cults of Sin and Marduk, and in the rebuilding of the [Esagila](#) and [Etemenanki](#)
- September 281: death of Seleucus ([more...](#)); accession of Antiochus; [Philetaerus](#) of Pergamon buys back Seleucus' corpse
- 280-279: Brief war against [Ptolemy II Philadelphus](#) ([First Syrian War](#), first part); [Cappadocia](#) becomes independent when its leader [Ariarathes II](#) and his ally Orontes III of [Armenia](#) defeat the Seleucid general Amyntas
- 279: Intervention in Greece: soldiers sent to [Thermopylae](#) to fight against the Galatians; they are defeated
- 275 Successful "Elephant Battle" against the Galatians; they enter his army as mercenaries; Antiochus is called *Soter*, 'victor'
- 274-271: Unsuccessful war against Ptolemy ([First Syrian War](#), second part)
- 268: Stay in Babylonia; rebuilding of the Ezida in Borsippa
- 266: Execution of his son Seleucus
- 263: [Eumenes I](#) of Pergamon, successor of Philetaerus, declares himself independent
- 262: Antiochus defeated by Eumenes

## Antiochus I Soter

- Dies 2 June 261

**Succeeded by:** [Antiochus II Theos](#)

### Sources:



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(Archaeological museum,  
[Antioch](#))

- During Antiochus' years as crown prince, he played a large role in Babylonian policy. He is therefore often mentioned in the [Babylonian Chronicles: Antiochus I and Sin temple chronicle](#) (BCHP 5), [Ruin of Esagila chronicle](#) (BCHP 6), [Antiochus, Bactria, and India chronicle](#) (BCHP 7), [Juniper garden chronicle](#) (BCHP 8), and [End of Seleucus I chronicle](#) (BCHP 9)
- [Antiochus Cylinder](#)
- [Appian of Alexandria, \*Syrian Wars\*, 65](#)
- [Diodorus of Sicily, \*Library of World History\*, 21.20](#)
- [Pausanias, \*Guide to Greece\*, 1.7.3, 10.20.3](#)
- [Pliny the Elder, \*Natural history\*, 6.47](#)
- [Plutarch of Chaeronea, \*Demetrius\*, 28-29](#)
- [Strabo, \*Geography\*, 11.516 and 13.623](#)

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