

**Carney, E.D. (1992) "The Politics of Polygamy: Olympias, Alexander, and the Murder of Philip," *Historia* 40, 2, 169-189.**

This article examines the possible role of Olympias and her son Alexander in the murder of Philip II in 336 (on the eve of Philip's planned departure for the invasion of the Persian Empire) by discussing it in the context of royal polygamy rather than in the context of modern, monogamous marriage. Philip's actual assassin was known; the question has been whether he, Pausanias, acted alone or as the agent of others, whether Olympias and Alexander, the Persian king, or some assortment of Macedonian or Greek enemies. It argues that Philip's murder, whoever was responsible, was a political crime closely tied to succession to the Macedonian throne, especially in relation to Philip's imminent invasion.