



SPARTA



THE LACEDAEMONIAN AND THEIR ALLIES

AGENDA

Developing a comprehensive strategy to establish Lacedaemonian hegemony in the Oikoumene.

FREEZE DATE

25th Mounichion,
Year of the Archon
Glaucippus

PORTFOLIO GUIDE



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Lysander

Lysander, though not of the highest Spartan aristocratic lineage and often regarded as the “mothax” rose rapidly through the Spartan military and political establishment through his political acumen and strategic foresight.

Distinguished by calculated ambition and a willingness to depart from traditional Spartan restraint, he proves himself to be an exceptionally capable diplomat and commander.



He actively seeks to secure Persian financial support necessary for the reconstruction of Sparta's weakened naval forces. Through these efforts, he aims to consolidate his influence within Spartan command and establish himself as a major architect of Sparta's maritime resurgence.

Callicratidas

Callicratidas stands as a traditional Spartiate of noble blood, firmly rooted in austere customs and values of the Spartan state. He embodies the virtues of honour, discipline and unwavering loyalty to ancestral principles, while openly disdaining foreign influence and dependence on Persian resources. Resentful of the necessity of seeking aid from the Persian empire against fellow Greeks, he views such alliances as a stain upon Spartan dignity.



He seeks victory over Athens through courage, military excellence and the preservation of Sparta's self-reliance, believing that triumph must be won through Greek strength alone.

King Agis II

Agis II, of the Eurypontid dynasty and one of the kings of Sparta, exercises direct authority over Spartan land operations from the fortified position of Decelia. A resolute and highly pragmatic commander, he is marked by aggression in strategy and unwavering commitment to weakening Athens through sustained pressure. His leadership is further sharpened by personal hostility towards Alcibiades, whose betrayal and alleged personal affront intensify his determination.



He seeks to force Athens into submission by maintaining the Spartan occupation of Decelia, severing its access to resources and exhausting its capacity for prolonged resistance.

King Pausanias

King Pausanias, of the Spartan Agiad dynasty and the co-king, remains in the capital to oversee the affairs of the state and maintain internal stability. Marked by caution and adherence to traditional Spartan principles, he approaches matters of war and diplomacy with measured restraint. He remains wary of extensive military expansion and deeply distrusts reliance upon foreign powers, particularly Persian influence in Spartan affairs.



His chief concern lies in maintaining order within Sparta, guarding against the constant threat of Helot unrest and ensuring that policies remain balanced within the Spartan state.

Pedaritus

Pedaritus, serving as the Spartan harmost and entrusted with the governance of key allied territories, exercises authority as an instrument of Spartan control over multiple major territories. Stern and uncompromising in temperament, he governs with strict discipline and expects absolute obedience from Sparta's allies. His rigid adherence to Spartan martial order frequently brings him into conflict with local populations resistant to external control.



He remains chiefly concerned with suppressing disloyalty, enforcing strict military order, and ensuring allied cities remain firmly aligned with Spartan interests during critical phases of the war.

Timaea

Timaea of Sparta, the wife of Agis II, occupies a delicate and politically charged position within the Spartan royal household. Rumours surrounding her alleged “association” with Alcibiades and questions regarding the legitimacy of her son, Leotychides, cast uncertainty over the royal succession. Amid these tensions, she seeks to secure the formal recognition of her child as the rightful heir to the Eurypontid line.



Her actions are therefore guided by the preservation of her son’s political future and the protection of his claim with Sparta’s contested dynastic order.

Theban Polemarch

As the fierce representative of Sparta's most powerful land ally, the Theban Polemarch commands the Boeotian league with uncompromising anti-Athenian brutality. Protective of Boeotian autonomy, this shrewd commander treats the war as a total struggle for survival and dominance. Recalling the ruthless precedent set at Plataea, he pressures the Spartan board for the absolute destruction of Athens and the enslavement of its citizens. His primary intent is to ensure that upon the final Spartan victory, Thebes reaps the total geographic spoils of central Greece.

Corinthian Admiral

Representing the wealthy merchant city-state whose initial friction with Athens ignited the war, the Corinthian Admiral is a naval-savvy but anxious commander. Embittered by recent devastating maritime losses, he fiercely protects Corinth's commercial interests against the relentless Athenian privateers. He aggressively demands that the Spartan board prioritise securing the crucial trade routes of the Aegean and Ionian seas. For him, victory requires using the fleet to save Corinthian merchant shipping and dismantle Athens' maritime supremacy.

Hermocrates

As the military envoy from Syracuse, this battle-hardened general represents the powerful Sicilian state that utterly shattered Athens' imperial ambitions in the West. Fiercely democratic at home yet strategically aligned with Peloponnesian oligarchs abroad, he is determined to bring an end to the vulnerable Athenian empire to permanently insulate Sicily from future threats.



However, following the recent catastrophic defeat of Cyzicus, he is deeply frustrated by Spartan naval incompetence. He supports continued Sicilian efforts to strengthen Sicilian security with more competent tactical leadership.

Tissaphernes

As the Persian satrap of Lydia and Caria, Tissaphernes serves as the essential yet highly fickle financial pipeline of the Peloponnesian war effort. Devious, calculating and masterfully manipulative, he plays a dangerous double game designed to keep the Greek powers permanently exhausted. Actively following the strategic council of Alcibiades, his true intent is to bleed both Athens and Sparta dry.



He systematically cripples Spartan operations by promising massive injections of Persian gold, only to continuously delay actual pay-outs and withhold the vital Phoenician fleet.

Pharnabazus II

As the Persian Satrap of Hellespontine Phrygia, Pharnabazus II ruled the northern territories as a fierce rival to the deceptive Tissaphernes.

Energetic, direct and honourable in his alliances, he is deeply frustrated by Athenian dominance over the vital Hellespont grain routes. Unlike his southern counterpart, he intends to aggressively fund and physically assist the Spartans in rebuilding their lost fleet.



Following the disaster at Cyzicus, he provides timber and funds out of his own pocket, aiming to drive the Athenians from the straits once and for all.

Chian representative

Representing one of the wealthiest island states of the Aegean, the Chian diplomat speaks from a position of absolute vulnerability. Having recently revolted against the Athenian empire to ally with the Peloponnesians, Chios now finds itself exposed to the ruthless enemy counterattacks. Terrified and desperate, the representative harbours a deep mistrust of Sparta's idealistic promises of Panhellenic "liberation". He explicitly begs the board for immediate, concrete military reinforcement. Fearing that any delay will invite brutal Athenian retaliation and total re-enslavement, his sole objective is to secure garrison forces before his homeland is completely devastated.

Eponymous Ephor of Sparta

As the elected head of the five-man board, the eponymous ephor wields immense civil authority, holding direct veto power over the Spartan kings. Rigidly conservative and deeply obsessed with constitutional laws, he views the growing influence of ambitious military commanders abroad with profound suspicion. His primary aim is to maintain an iron grip on generals like Lysander, ensuring their foreign operations do not corrupt Spartan austerity or overstep the authority of the state. Above all, he is hyper-focused on securing the home front, prioritising strict domestic vigilance to ensure that the ever-present threat of a Helot revolt does not cause the Eurotas valley to collapse while the army fights overseas.

Ephor of Foreign Affairs

The Spartan ephor of foreign affairs, one of the five annually elected magistrates entrusted with the oversight of diplomacy and interstate policy, exercises significant influence over treaties, declarations of war, and foreign embassies. Methodical and secretive in conduct, he approaches external relations with deep suspicion shaped by Sparta's traditional distrust of foreign powers. Though pragmatic enough to recognise the strategic necessity of negotiation, he remains profoundly wary of dependence upon so-called "barbarian" states. He seeks to maintain strict control over all correspondence with the Achaemenid Persian intervention in the Peloponnesian War, ensuring that Spartan interests are preserved without compromising the autonomy and dignity of the state.

Senior Member of the Gerousia

The senior member of the Gerousia, elected for life from among Sparta's most distinguished citizens above the age of 60, represents the conservative authority of the Spartan state. Deeply committed to ancestral tradition and religious observance, he approaches questions of policy with caution and strict adherence to traditional principles. He remains profoundly sceptical of ventures that extend beyond Sparta's established land-based military strength, viewing excessive naval ambition as a dangerous departure from discipline that defines Spartan society. He therefore opposes prolonged maritime expansion, believing that the pursuit of seaborne power threatens to corrupt Sparta's austere warrior culture and compromise the stability of the state.

Endius

Endius, an influential Spartan aristocrat and member of the political elite, holds considerable sway in matters of diplomacy and interstate negotiations. Bound by longstanding hereditary ties to Alcibiades, he occupies a delicate position within Spartan politics, balancing personal connections with demands of statecraft.



He quietly advocates for the possibility of a negotiated settlement with Athens, seeking to restore equilibrium among the Greek poleis while preserving his influence and maintaining his connection to Alcibiades. Skilled in negotiation and marked by political moderation, he often favours calculated diplomacy over uncompromising confrontations.

Gylippus

Gylippus, celebrated as the commander whose intervention during the Sicilian expedition secured the salvation of Syracuse and delivered a great blow to Athenian power, stands among Sparta's most distinguished military generals. Though of modest birth and often regarded as a "mothax", he rose through distinction in war and proved himself to be a highly inventive and skilled tactician. Known for his ability to inspire irregular forces and adapt swiftly to changing conditions, he often favours unconventional methods over rigid adherence to traditional Spartan methods.



He seeks an expanded command through which he may employ bold and irregular strategies against Athens, even as his growing ambition and perceived arrogance invite suspicion among Sparta's more conservative elite.

Thorax of Lacedaemon

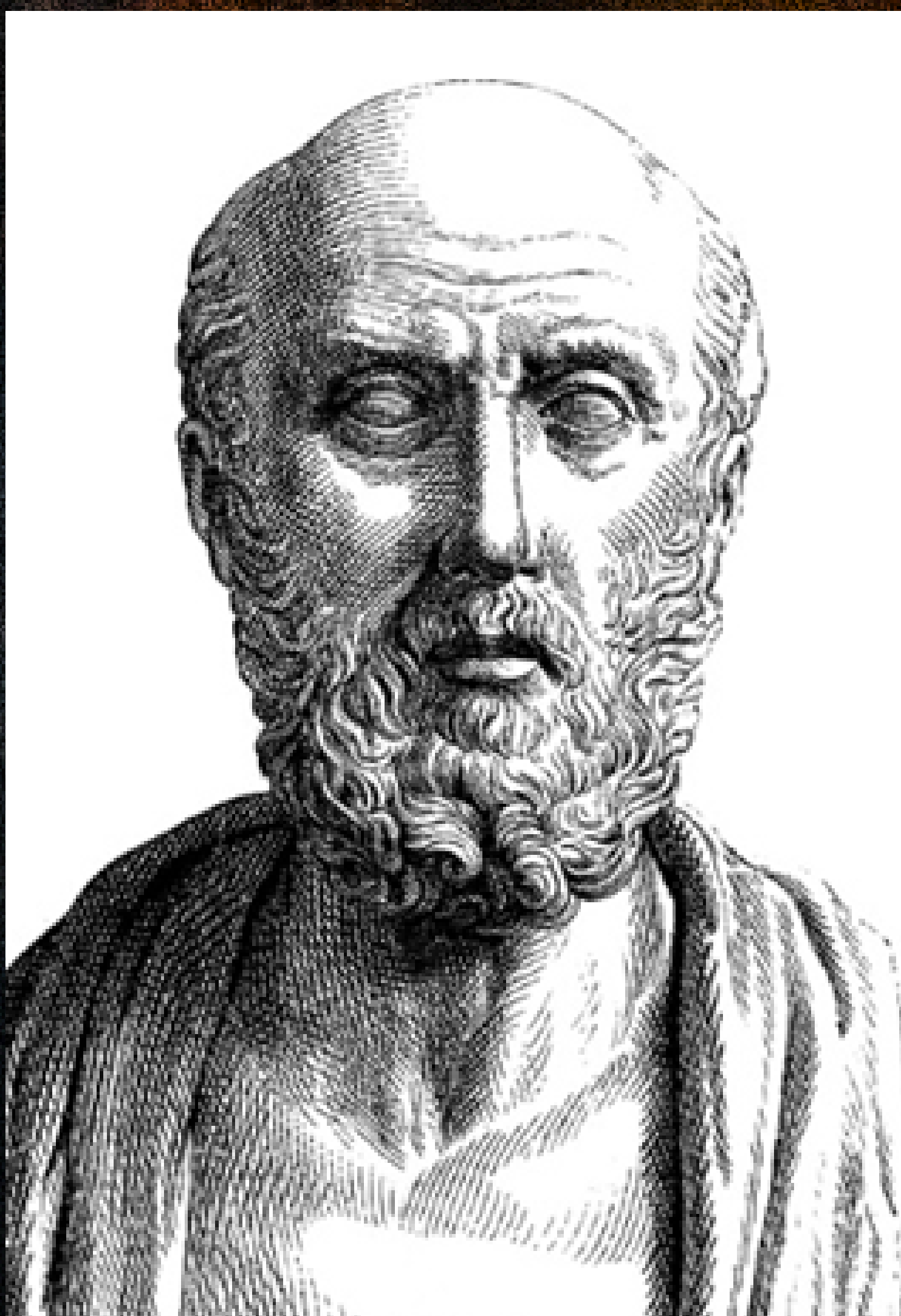
The thorax of Lacedaemon serves as a capable yet stern Spartan officer whose influence is closely tied to his allegiance to Lysander. Distinguished by ruthless efficiency and unwavering loyalty that often supersedes attachment to broader Spartan convention, he operates as a dependable instrument of Lysander's military and political designs. His conduct reflects a willingness to employ force, intrigue and calculated pressure in pursuit of strategic advantage.



He works to weaken the influence of Sparta's traditionalist commanders and to strengthen Lysander's claim to naval authority, while seeking the personal advancement and material awards that accompany such success.

Hippocrates

Hippocrates, serving as a surviving senior commander of the Spartan fleet after the disastrous defeat at the battle of Cyzicus, bears direct witness to the severe collapse of Spartan naval fortunes. Marked by blunt realism and deeply affected by the scale of catastrophe, he speaks with urgency born of immediate crisis rather than political calculation. The losses of ships, men and command have left the fleet scattered and dangerously vulnerable.



He therefore presses relentlessly for emergency funds and reinforcements from whatever source may be secured, seeking above all to preserve the remaining Spartan naval forces from complete ruin.

Eteonicus

Eteonicus serves as the Spartan stationed at Thasos, where he oversees one of Sparta's most strategically sensitive northern holdings. Stern, highly disciplined and deeply suspicious of disloyalty, he governs with rigid efficiency and military order. Constantly alert to signs of internal dissent, he responds swiftly and harshly to any indication of democratic sympathy or pro-Athenian conspiracy.



His foremost objective is to suppress rebellion within his jurisdiction and secure the northern Aegean for Spartan interests, ensuring the local unrest does not undermine Sparta's border campaign against Athens.

Anaxibius

Anaxibius serves as the Spartan commander entrusted with operations in the strategically vital post, Hellespont, through which much of Athens' grain supply passes. A seasoned officer marked by pride and an unyielding commitment to Spartan prestige, he approaches his command with stern determination and little patience for compromise.

Deeply distrustful of Persian interference in Greek affairs, he favours decisive military action over diplomatic accommodation.



His principal objective is to secure complete Spartan control over the maritime passage, thereby severing Athens from its essential food supplies and hastening its submission through strategic deprivation.

Megarian Polemarch

As the military commander from Megara, Athens' immediate neighbour, this polemarch represents a city-state devastated by the war's original commercial ban. Bitter, deeply impoverished and desperate, he is driven by a fierce thirst for vengeance against the Athenians who choked his city's economy. His primary intent is to secure constant Spartan land protection for Megara's highly vulnerable borders. He aggressively pushes the board to launch unrelenting land campaigns aimed at the absolute devastation of Athenian agriculture, ensuring Athens suffers the same starvation and ruin his people had endured for decades.

Sicyonian General

As the proud commander of the heavily armed Sicyonian contingent, this general represents a wealthy city renowned for its industrial strength and artistic tradition. Steady, deeply religious and firmly committed to traditional land warfare, he views the current conflict through a conservative, Peloponnesian lens. His primary intent is to limit military operations strictly to the Greek mainland. He strongly objects to squandering Sicyonian tax revenues on risky, naval expeditions across Asia Minor, arguing instead that Sparta should consolidate its continental dominance rather than chasing maritime empires across the Aegean.

Elis representative

Representing the sacred region that hosts the Pan-Hellenic Olympic Games, the Elian diplomat manages a highly volatile relationship with the Spartan state. Proud, independent-minded and easily offended, he fiercely guards Elis' traditional religious privileges against external encroachment. His primary intent is to secure unconditional respect for Elian border autonomy from the Spartan high command. Weaponising his region's unique spiritual leverage, he is entirely prepared to withhold sacred athletic blessings and bar Spartan athletes from the games if Lacedaemonean hegemony becomes too overbearing or infringes upon their sovereign regional rights.

Ambraciot Captain

As a naval ally from north-western Greece, the Ambraciot captain is deeply scarred by catastrophic military disasters previously inflicted by Athenian forces. Vengeful, aggressive and physically tough, he nonetheless harbours a profound anxiety regarding Athens' recent maritime resurgence. His primary intent is to pressure the board into expanding a permanent Western fleet within the Ionian Sea. By establishing this defensive perimeter, he aims to safeguard north-western Greece from devastating Athenian coastal raids, ensuring that his vulnerable homeland is never again subjected to the ruinous defeats that decimated his city's previous generation of warriors.

Milesian Oligarch

As the leader of the aristocratic faction of Miletus, this cunning oligarch represents a massive, exceptionally wealthy Ionian city that recently threw off the Athenian yoke. Highly political yet fundamentally fragile, he lives in absolute terror of democratic counter-revolution within his own city. His primary intent is to demand that Sparta place a permanent military garrison inside Miletus. For him, Lacedaemonian shields are required not only to repel vengeful Athenian fleets but to suppress the city's lower-class citizens, ensuring the oligarchy survives the volatile regional shifts during the war.

Rhodian Navarch

As the naval commander from the newly unified island of Rhodes, this cultured navarch represents a wealthy maritime power backed by exceptionally skilled oarsmen. Having recently shaken off Athenian imperial control, he remains deeply sceptical of Spartan naval leadership and tactical competence at sea. His primary intent is to secure Rhodes' position as an unhindered hub for regional maritime trade. Fiercely independent, he closely guards his home's sovereign interests, cooperating with the Peloponnesian fleets only to ensure that a victorious Sparta does not simply replace Athens as a tyrannical, tribute-collecting master of the Aegean.

Mytelinean Exile

The Mytelinean exile of Lesbos is a dispossessed nobleman whose standing is formed by a failed anti-Athenian revolt and the harsh suppression that followed under Athenian authority. Driven by bitterness and an uncompromising desire for retribution, he remains wholly committed to overturning democratic rule on the island and restoring oligarchic control. Years of exile have only sharpened his hostility towards Athenians and intensified his political desperation. He persistently urges Spartan intervention, advocating an immediate expedition to reclaim Lesbos, re-establish oligarchic order and exact severe punishment on those who align themselves with Athenian powers.

Euboean Envoy

Representing the massive island positioned right next to Attica, the Euboean Envoy speaks for a territory whose recent revolt dealt a crushing blow to Athens by cutting off its primary grazing and supply lines. Nervous, pragmatic and highly vulnerable, he recognises his island's proximity to the enemy makes it a prime target for swift retribution. His primary intent is to plead with the Spartan king stationed at the permanent fort of Decelea to launch immediate land reinforcements across the narrow Euripus Strait. Without these troops, he fears the vengeful Athenian navy will easily blockade and savage the island before the main Peloponnesian fleet can intervene.

Thasian Oligarch

The Thasian oligarch or the oligarch of Thasos is a prominent noble whose influence rests upon the control of the island's considerable mineral wealth and political standing within its oligarchic faction. Pressured by renewed Athenian naval activity in the northern Aegean, he governs with growing suspicion and acute concern for the protection of Thasos' gold reserves. Though outwardly aligned with Spartan interests, he remains wary of the authority exercised by Spartan governors over local affairs. His chief aim is to secure Spartan military protection for the island and its mines, while discreetly preserving channels of communication with Persian interests as a safeguard against shifting fortunes during a war.