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**Wealthy Seleukids?**

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There is seemingly a consensus among scholars that the Seleukids were wealthy. There are good reasons for that. Their kingdom was by far the largest of all the Hellenistic states. With the exception of Egypt, it included the richest provinces of Alexander’s empire. Antioch on the Orontes and Seleucia on the Tigris, the capitals of the kingdom, were two of the largest cities of the ancient world. For these reasons, questioning the wealth of the Seleukids seems to be pointless. However, this paper will show that facts are more complex than it might seems at first glance. Patterns of Seleucid coin minting show that if the kingdom minted large quantities of coins, by far the quantities at stake do not match with what might be expected for the largest Hellenistic kingdom. Besides, various episodes in the history of the kingdom show that the kings did not have very large reserves of cash and struggled to disburse the money for all the payments they needed to make. The paper will end with examining the question of the structure of the kingdom and with a broad comparison with the financial situation of other large kingdoms and empires of the ancient world.