καὶ ἀγορανομήσας, that the *agoranomia* was not an *arche* and, therefore, a *leitourgia*, seems a step too far. Though she recognizes that *arxas* refers to the archonship, at the same time she connects it with the *general* term *arche* (magistracy; pp. 90 and 99). This is unacceptable: 'having been at the same time archon and agoranomos' means that the honorand held two magistracies rather than one *arche* and one *leitourgia*.

Brief remarks on the relations between Elis and Rome, largely focusing on honorary inscriptions erected by Eleans for Roman politicians, and on romanization conclude the analytical part of the book. 'Romanization' essentially boils down to a discussion of Eleans receiving *civitas romana* and worshipping the emperor as high priest, urban or provincial, and of the exceedingly low number of Latin words transliterated in Greek letters (e.g. δεκέμουιρ) or adopted in a slightly changed form (πάτρων: the only example Z. finds). In other words: romanization hardly took place. Worthy of note is the detailed discussion of a Trajanic Latin milestone found in Epitalion not far from the mouth of the Alpheios, and its implication for the emperor's policy lurking beneath this intervention (pp. 172–7).

Summing up: an excellent story of Roman Elis, based on an admirable control of the relevant literary, archaeological, and, above all, epigraphical evidence; the orange, pressed by Z., may not have produced much high-quality juice; but this is not Z.'s fault but that of the orange: Elis was never the exciting 'place to be'; and the sources reflect this except for the quadrennial Olympics and the accompanying *mercatus maximus*.

Oegstgeest H. W. PLEKET

THE GREEK EAST

O. Salomies (ed.): *The Greek East in the Roman Context. Proceedings of a Colloquium Organized by the Finnish Institute at Athens, May 21 and 22, 1999*. Pp. 217, pls, maps. Helsinki: Finnish Institute at Athens, 2001. Paper. ISBN: 951-98806-0-7.

Several of the papers in this well edited collection show a significant measure of thematic unity. They raise questions that relate to issues of Greek identity and ideological responses to Roman power, although they do not engage with the current debate about the part played by Greek authors in defining the cultural position of the Greek world under Roman rule. C. P. Jones shows how local communities preserved the memory of their contacts with individual Roman commanders of the first century B.C. from whom they had benefited. He distinguishes between the way in which an individual or a particular community commemorated important Roman contacts and the issue of the relationship between Greece and Rome at a generalized cultural level. J.-L. Ferrary discusses in detail the use of the term *Hellenes* especially in inscriptions of the first century B.C., and traces the story up to the foundation of the Panhellenion by Hadrian. The expression was adopted in Greece, as well as in Asia and Bithynia, not as something self-evident, but as a result of negotiation between Greek élites and Roman authorities. A. Rizakis analyses the diversified origins and composition of the municipal aristocracy of the Achaean colonies. As these tended to exclude families of local origin, they too have an important contribution to make to our understanding of Greek identity under Rome in the formative years of the late republican and Julio-Claudian period. M. Kantirea traces the early history of the imperial cult in Achaea. Early cults for individual members of the imperial house,

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usually associated with members of the Olympic pantheon, were replaced under Tiberius by a focus on the *gens Iulia* and even the anomalously named *gens Augusta*, and cults for the *domus Augusta* (and later the *domus divina*) were introduced under Claudius and Nero. K. Buraselis is concerned with the parallel history of a non-imperial family cult, that of Theophanes of Mytilene, which appears to have been maintained as a token of the community's 'freedom' up till the end of Tiberius's reign, when several members of his family took their lives or were condemned to exile on charges of treason. M. Kajava argues in an excellent and very detailed paper that the Roman cult of Vesta was exported to Athens and accommodated in the monopteros opposite the east end of the Parthenon perhaps when Augustus became *pontifex maximus* in 12 B.C. The Acharnian temple of Ares was re-erected in the Athenian agora about this time and the cult was redefined to correspond to the Roman god Mars. It may be significant that these religious developments occurred after earlier conflict between Augustus and Athens. As they involved major reconfiguration of the most important public spaces in ancient Athens, they must surely have produced a significant level of local tension.

Two contributors address detailed issues of local history in Roman Greece. S. Follet and D. Peppas Delmousou revise the texts of the Flavian choregic monuments at Athens, and draw attention to the ambitious and sophisticated verse texts composed in honour of the choregoi of this period. P. Themelis summarizes the history of the gymnasium at Messese. The remaining papers address substantial general issues. B. Thomasson reviews the evidence for how and when Rome acquired her eastern provinces, and for the rank and status of their governors. M. Sartre traces the evidence for the impact of Romans and Italians in Syria and the nature of the initial Roman political engagement with this extremely diverse region, which resulted in a complex pattern of client states and directly ruled cities. O. Salomies has written a valuable comprehensive survey of honorific inscriptions set up for senators in eastern cities. H. Solin discusses the differential take-up of Latin cognomina in the communities of the Greek East compared to their frequency in Latin epigraphy.

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SYRIA FROM POMPEY TO SEVERUS

A. GEBHARDT: *Imperiale Politik und provinziale Entwicklung. Untersuchungen zum Verhältnis von Kaiser, Heer und Städten im Syrien der vorseverischen Zeit*. (*Klio* Beihefte, Neue Folge, 4.) Pp. 413. Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 2002. Cased, €69.80. ISBN: 3-05-003680-X.

This book, a slightly revised doctoral thesis from the Christian-Albrechts-Universität at Kiel (1998–9), aims to investigate the relationship between Rome's *Sicherheitspolitik* on the eastern frontiers of its empire and the development of the cities in *provincia* Syria from its establishment under Pompey until the civil war which followed the death of Commodus and eventually brought about the Severan dynasty. Like other recent studies of the Roman Levant, most notably that by M. Sartre, *D'Alexandre à Zénobie* (Paris, 2001), it casts light on the process by which Syria evolved from a 'konturlosen Truppenaufmarschgebiet' (p. 315) into an integral part of the imperial provincial system.

The introduction, in which Gebhardt emphasizes the relative paucity of sources for

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