

5. **Assassination of Philip, 336.** His son and successor, Alexander.

6. **Character and Ability of Philip :**

A politician, statesman, general ; a drunkard, gambler, libertine. A compound of craft, corruption, treachery, cruelty, unscrupulous perjury, with courtesy, tact, eloquence, energy and genius. " Restless ambition, indefatigable personal activity and endurance, adventurous courage, proficiency in the Grecian accomplishments of rhetoric and letters... Rare talent, political and military... The destroyer of freedom and independence in the Hellenic world."

III. Causes of the Downfall of Greece :—

1. Inefficiency, degeneracy ; decay of military prowess, energy, ambition and public spirit.
2. Lack of any great leaders, Demosthenes excepted.
3. Introduction of mercenary troops, inferior substitutes for Greek warriors.
4. Petty interstate jealousies and wars.
5. Lack of unity among the Greeks.
6. The fickle, treacherous, short-sighted character of the Greeks.
7. The ability and ambitious character of Philip.

IV. Alexander the Great, King of the Macedonian Empire, 336-323 :—

1. **Accession of Alexander :**

- (a) Election of Alexander as successor to Philip.
- (b) Rise of Thebes against Alexander. Destruction of Thebes. Reduction of Thrace and Illyricum.

2. **Asiatic Expedition, "a crusade of Hellenism against Barbarism" :**

- (a) Forces : 30,000 foot, 4,500 horse. Leaders : Alexander, Parmenio, Philotas.
- (b) Battle of the **Granicus** (near Propontis), 334 : Conquest of Asia Minor.