

Epicurus' Birthday 2023 - (The Most Comprehensive Picture Yet!)

Post by “Don” of November 27, 2022 at 2:22 PM

[Quote from Nate](#)

Can we confirm that Apollodorus was Diogenes' only source for original Epicurus' birthdate?

That's the only reference he gives:

Quote from Diogenes Laertius Book 10.14

He was born, according to Apollodorus in his Chronology, in the third year of the 109th Olympiad, in the archonship of Sosigenes,²⁶ on the seventh day of the month Gamelion,²⁷ in the seventh year after the death of Plato.

[Quote from Nate](#)

(a) we have no record of the actual date of Epicurus' birth and that we only have attestation to the ceremonial celebration with friends? Or (b) was he, coincidentally, born on Eikas?

It seems to me that the evidence points to Epicurus actually being born on Gamelion 20 and that was the reason the 20th was chosen as the monthly assembly date, too. I don't think it is coincidental. I think that's the reason it was picked.

Now, whether Metrodorus was also born, or died, or was born *in* Gamelion or some other reason being why the two were both commemorated on the *monthly* 20th, there's no way to tell for now. But, from all evidence I see, Gamelion 20 was an annual celebration with remembrance offerings for the *actual* birthday of Epicurus. And that was what Piso was being invited to by Philodemus.