

Distinguishing Metrodorus of Chios from Metrodorus of Lampsacus

Post by “Cassius” of October 11, 2024 at 7:15 AM

In our discussions of the "Aetius / Placata" volume we see numbers of references to "Metrodorus" - some of which may be Metrodorus of Chios (a Democritean and predecessor to Epicurus) and some of which are Metrodorus of Lampsacus (one of Epicurus' primary followers). There are huge differences between the two, including Metrodorus of Chios following Democritus' lead toward skepticism and "nothing is real except atoms and void" which Epicurus (and therefore presumably Metrodorus of Lampsacus) vigorously rejected.

It's going to be easy to confuse these two together, so this thread is intended to provide a place where we can post about how they differ and/or resemble each other.

Thanks to Bryan for pointing this out:

When Aetius mentions Metrodorus, it seems he is typically referring to Metrodorus of Chios:

[Metrodorus of Chios - Wikipedia](#)

And to Don for additional resources to follow below

Post by “Don” of October 11, 2024 at 7:20 AM

Metrodorus was not an uncommon name.

On Metrodorus of Chios:

Diogenes Laertius, *Lives of Eminent Philosophers*

Less

(English) ([Greek, ed. R.D. Hicks](#))

[book 2, chapter 3](#): ... this thesis was defended at greater length by his friend Metrodorus of Lampsacus, who was the first to busy himself

[book 2, chapter 11](#): ... Megarian philosopher: "for from Theophrastus he drew away the theorist Metrodorus and Timagoras of Gela, from Aristotle the Cyrenaic philosopher,

[book 5, chapter 2](#): ... Honey, one book. Compendium on the Doctrines of Metrodorus, one book. Two books of Meteorology. ... Demotimus, Demaratus, Callisthenes, Melantes, Pancreon, Nicippus. Aristotle, the son of Metrodorus and Pythias, shall also have the right to study

[book 5, chapter 5](#): ... ; he was also the means of bringing his countryman Metrodorus into prominence; (12) a grammarian of Erythrae enrolled as

[book 7, chapter 7](#): ... The Philosopher's Inquiries. Dialectical Definitions addressed to Metrodorus, six books. On the Terms used in Dialectic... Fourth series : Of Predicates, addressed to Metrodorus, ten books. Of Nominatives and Oblique Cases... Tenth series : Attack upon Common Sense, addressed to Metrodorus, six books. Defence of Common Sense, addressed to... . Definitions of the Good or Virtuous, addressed to Metrodorus, two books. Definitions of the Bad or Vicious, addressed to Metrodorus, two books. Definitions of the Morally Intermediate, addressed to Metrodorus, two books. Definitions of the Generic Notions [in Ethics], addressed to Metrodorus, seven books. Definitions concerned with other Branches of

[book 9, chapter 9](#): ... It is also strange that there is no Life of Metrodorus of Chios or of Nausiphanes. Diogenes

[book 9, chapter 10](#): ... fide , 9, p. 591. and the latter under Metrodorus of Chios, who used to declare that he knew ... not even the fact that he knew nothing ; while Metrodorus was a pupil of Nessas of Chios, though some

Post by “Don” of October 11, 2024 at 7:21 AM

Chios is the same place as referenced in Philodemus' invitation to Piso for the Twentieth with "Chian wine", wine produced in Chios Βρομίου χιογενή.

[Chian wine - Wikipedia](#)

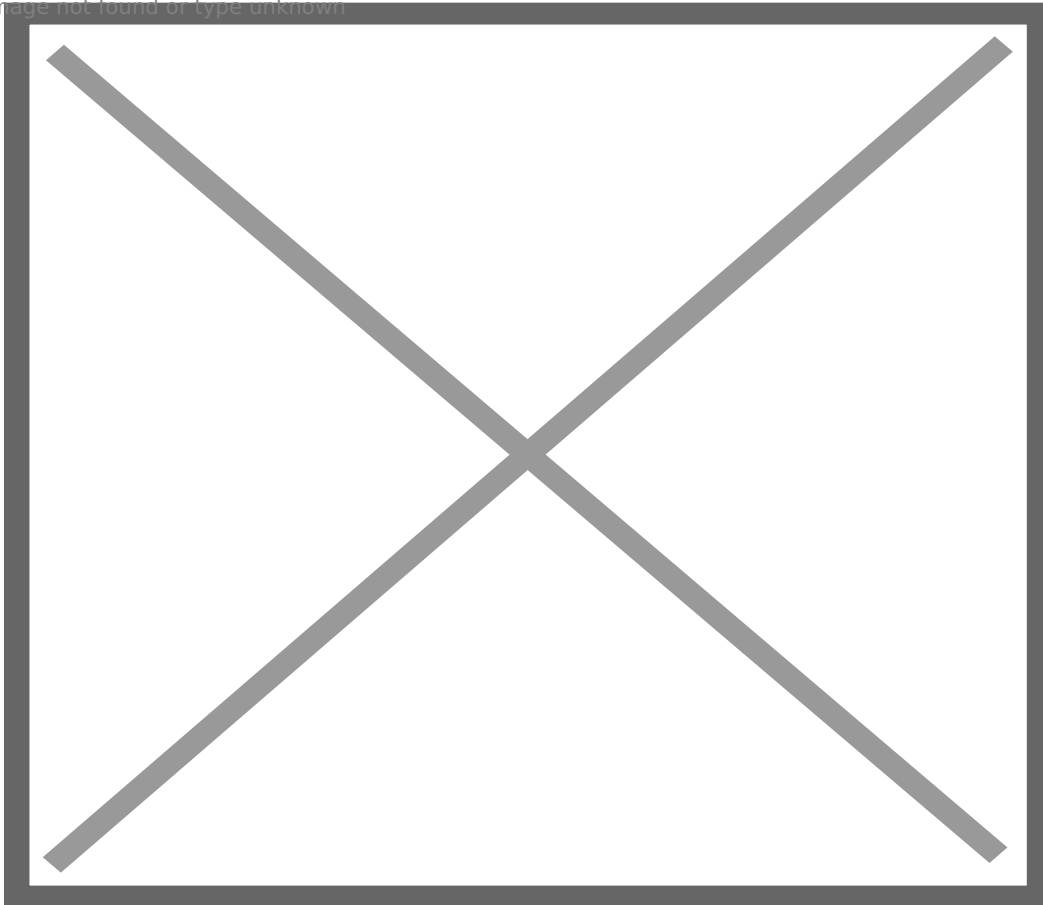
Post by “Cassius” of October 11, 2024 at 7:30 AM

In referring to Chios and Lampsacus (and also Samos as to Epicurus) this is the place to refer to my handy "Map of Places of Significance to Epicurean Philosophy!"

Unfortunately, if we have one it's buried somewhere....

I would normally look for a link to something like that here:

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- Epicureanfriends.com

www.epicureanfriends.com

And there we do have this great map by Eikadistes:

Thread

[Epicurean Communities of the Ancient World](#)

epicureanfriends.com/wcf/attachment/2790/

School at **LAMPSACUS** (*modern Northwestern Turkey*) Founded by **Epicurus**

The GARDEN (Ο ΚΗΠΟΣ) of ATHENS (*Central Greece*) Founded by **Epicurus**

Community in **CORINTH** (*Peloponnese peninsula, Greece*)

Community in **CHALCIS** (*Euboea island, Greece*)

Community in **THEBES** (*Boeotia, Central Greece*)

Community in **THESSALONIKI** (*Macedonia region, Greece*)

Community in **KOS** (*Southeastern island of Greece*)

School at **RHODES** (*Southeastern island of Greece*)

School at **AMASTRIS** (*Northern...*)

Eikadistes

June 6, 2022 at 4:34 PM

But unfortunately it really isn't designed to serve as an "orientation to major places"

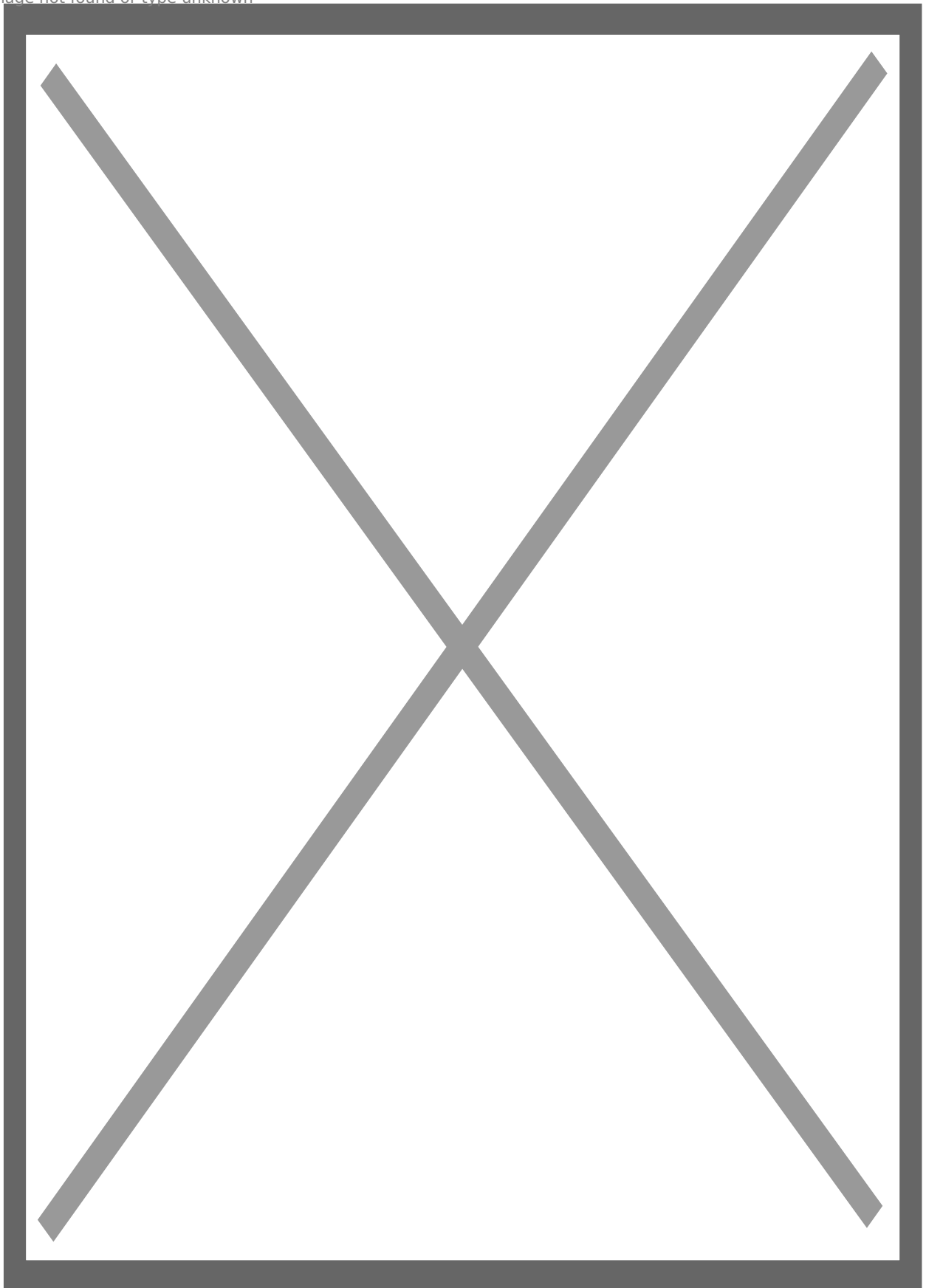
So I guess over time we go looking for something additional we can produce or duplicate here on the website as a standard reference.

Post by “Don” of October 11, 2024 at 8:02 AM

For a start:



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[Ionia - Wikipedia](#)
en.wikipedia.org