



Summary :

Amorges was the illegitimate son of Pissuthnes. He revolted against the Persians in 414 BC aided by the Athenians but was arrested by Lyssander.

Date and Place of Birth

5th c. BC.

Date and Place of Death

413 BC (?)

Main Role

Revolter

1. Biography – Action

Amorges was the illegitimate son of [Pissuthnes](#), a Persian [satrap](#) of [Sardis](#) (c. 440-413?) of royal origin. Almost nothing is known about his activities prior his father's revolt was suppressed (c. 423 BC). The Athenian orator Andocides calls him the king's slave and an exile, although these contemptuous labels have to do with the fact that he was a revolter. He revolted around 414-413 BC with the help of the Athenians, who had also supported his father.¹

Darius II ordered Tissaphernes, satrap of [Lydia](#) who replaced Pissuthnes, to arrest by all means Amorges and bring him before him either dead or alive.² The revolt started from [Iassos](#), [Caria](#), which was finally captured by the Ionians who had opposed the Athenians, their allies Lacedaemonians and Tissaphernes.³ The city was plundered, the citizens were sold as slaves, Amorges' mercenaries, mainly Peloponnesians, were incorporated in the Spartan army, while Amorges, who was arrested by Lysander, surrendered to Tissaphernes and no one ever talked about him ever since.⁴

1. Andoc. 3.29, Thuc. 8.54.3. The Athenian support to Amorges violated the treaty with Persia and caused the Ionian War (412-404 BC). The event must have happened before the Sicilian Expedition. See Badian, E., *From Plataea to Potidaia. Studies in the History and Historiography of the Pentecontaetia* (Baltimore – London 1993), p. 54.

2. Thuc. 8.5.5.

3. Amorges is mentioned on Xanthos' Stele, which has not been fully translated yet from the Lycian language. The tyrant of Xanthos must have helped Tissaphernes against the revolter. See Melchert, H.C., "A new interpretation of lines C 3-9 of the Xanthos Stele", in Dobesch, G. (ed.), *Akten des II. Intern. Lykien-Symposiums* (Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaft, Denschriften 231 Bd, Wien 1993), pp. 31-34.

4. Thuc. 8.28.2-5, 29.1.

Bibliography :



Lewis D., *Sparta and Persia*, Leiden 1977



	Badian E. , <i>From Platea to Potidaea. Studies in the History and Historiography of the Pentecontaetia</i> , Baltimore – London 1993
	Briant P. , <i>Histoire de l' Empire Perse. De Cyrus à Alexandre</i> , Paris 1996
	Dandameyev M.A. , <i>A Political History of the Achaemenid Empire</i> , Leiden 1989
	Melchert H.C. , "A new interpretation of lines C 3-9 of the Xanthos Stele", Dobesch, G. , <i>Akten des II. Intern. Lykien-Symposions</i> , Wien 1993, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaft, Denschriften 231 , 31-34

Webliography :

	Amorges
http://www.livius.org/am-ao/amorges/amorges.html	
	Thucydides, History of the Peloponnesian War
http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/t/thucydides/crawley/chapter24.html	

Glossary :

	satrap, the
<p>The title designated a representative of the Persian king, and was widely used in the Persian language. In ancient writers the term usually designates an official of the Persian empire who assumes highest political and military power within the limits of his <i>satrapia</i>, the division under his command. Alexander the Great introduced the institution to the administrative organisation of his empire in the East.</p> <p>In the Roman empire, the office of the satrap was hereditary for Armenian nobles who administered an Armenian klima (=canton, a historic-geographical unit); in the case of the Armenian territories inside the Roman Empire, the satrap yielded limited power under the suzerainty of the Roman emperor.</p>	

Sources

Andocides, 3.29

Thucydides, *Historiae*, 8.28.2-5, 8.29.1, 8.54.3, 8.5.5