The fourth chapter is a case study about the ethnic populations of Argolis. As an expert on Argolic history and even archaeology, Hall is able to give an intelligent treatment of the very complex situation of this area which was characterized, according to the literary sources, as being multi-ethnic. The author offers a detailed analysis of the different genealogies of the Argolid interpreting the "genealogical grammar", as he calls the complex patterns of genealogies. The fifth chapter on the relationship of ethnicity and archaeology is, perhaps, hard reading for some archaeologists. However, Hall offers the necessary tools for one wishing to say something about ethnicity on the basis of material culture.

The sixth chapter deals with ethnicity and linguistics. To a linguist, this chapter is problematic since Hall seems to show a genuine interest in this difficult subject. It is, however, very elementary, and, at best, brings forward extremely complex questions. Considerable work has been done during the last decade on areal and contact linguistics. It is evident that the author cannot but scratch the surface. The inclusion of tables of differences between Greek epichoric alphabets is a great help for the reader. The book is furnished with a good index and an ample bibliography.

Martti Leiwo


I imagine that most classical scholars already know that this Heidelberg bibliography is an indispensable tool for a vast range of ancient studies. The enterprise was started in the late 1980s on the initiative of Géza Alföldy, and the first part, by J.-U. Krause, appeared in 1992 with the title "Die Familie und weitere anthropologische Grundlagen". The project is now concluded with an immensely large collection of studies on social structures, conflicts, and mobility in Roman society. The material is arranged under four main sections (1. General treatments of various aspects of Roman social history; 2. Chronological part; 3. Systematic part; 4. Regional studies). The third section in particular is extremely extensive with material on administration, army, arts, commerce, criminality, education, emperor(s), entertainment, finances, handicraft, intellectual life, law and jurisdiction, mobility (regional and social), municipal life, patrons and clients, religions, Romanization, slaves and freedmen, societies, standard of living (clothes, diseases, living, necessities), taxes, etc.

The number of entries amounts to around 16,000 which have been critically selected from some 28,000. The reasonable stress on more modern material means that ca. 23% of the titles have been published in the 1990s, and only a little more than 10% date earlier than the 1960s. What is remarkable is that the editors affirm to have seen personally every title printed in the volume which can be taken to guarantee that the material is correctly divided between individual sections. In sum, a most welcome publication which will constitute a permanent supplement to the issues of l'Année philologique (as is known, the use of the latter is rather complicated and time-consuming for those who are seeking for references in the vast section focusing on "Civilisation").

Mika Kajava