

Procopius (magister militum)

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Procopius (*fl.* 420s) was a general and politician in the Eastern Roman Empire; he was the father of the Western Roman Emperor Anthemius.

Biography

Procopius was the son of Procopius, born c. 365, and the paternal grandson of the namesake who was a maternal first cousin of Julian the Apostate and usurper (365-366) against Emperor Valens, and wife Faustina.^[*citation needed*] The older Procopius married Lucina (born c. 400) sister of Anthemius Isidorus, and daughter of the powerful praetorian prefect of the East, Flavius Anthemius (405-414). With Lucina he had a son, the later emperor Anthemius.

Procopius began the military career very young, and in 422 he held the position of *dux* or *comes rei militaris* in the East. In that same year, he succeeded in saving part of a Roman army ambushed by the Sassanid Persians. He also took part in the peace negotiations of the same year.

He was then raised to the rank of *patricius* and named *magister militum per Orientem*, a post he held at least until December 3, 424 (the date of a law preserved in the *Codex Theodosianus* addressed to him, vii.4.36).

References

Bibliography

- Jones, Arnold Hugh Martin, John Robert Martindale, John Morris, "Procopius 2", *Prosopography of the Later Roman Empire*, volume 2, Cambridge University Press, p. 920.

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