

ANCIENT GREECE

Chronology

I. Aegean Civilization—Roots

A. **Minoan** Civilization Golden Age = 1750 - 1500 BC (BCE) Crete Knossos
Downfall? **Minos/Minotaur

B. **Mycenaean** Civilization High point = 1400 - 1200 BC
Aegean Sea trade Fortress city states
Trojan War--Mycenae v. Troy 1250 BC Paris/Helen??? Heinrich Schliemann

II. **Dark Age** 1100 - 800 BC Dorian Invasions Dorians = ancestors of the Spartans
Trojan War epics 750 BC---Homer *Iliad/Odyssey* Achilles--*Achilles' Heel* Trojan Horse
Odysseus

III. **Hellenic Age--Age of the City-States** 750 - 338 BC

A. **City-states develop** Hellenes polis/acropolis monarchy aristocracy oligarchy
tyranny democracy

B. Sparta

Citizenship/helots Military dictatorship Ephors tough strictly disciplined
Women? ("Come back with your shield, or on it!")

C. Athens

**Draco--*draconian* Solon archon Psistratus Cleisthenes **ostracism
Democracy--who are the citizens? Well-rounded education Women = highly protected

D. **Persian Wars** 490, 480 BC

General Cause? Immediate cause = revolt of Miletus (Greek colony in Asia Minor) against
Persian rule 499 BC Persians attack Greek mainland --- Target = Athens
490 BC - Battle of Marathon 480 BC - Battle of Thermopylae
Results???

E. **Athens' Golden Age** 461 - 429 BC

Age of Pericles Parthenon Direct Democracy--high point.

F. **Peloponnesian War** 431 - 404 BC

General Cause = rivalry Athens v. Sparta Delian League v. Peloponnesian League
Results???

IV. **Hellenistic Age Spread of Greek Culture** 338 - 146 BC (Some date it from 323 - 146 BC)

A. **Philip of Macedon** conquers city-states in 338 BC.

B. **Alexander the Great** 336-323 BC

Educated in Greek ideals by Aristotle Largest ancient empire up to that time
Geographically stretches from Aegean/Mediterranean east to the Indus River (northwest
border of India). Never defeated in battle Legacy?????

C. Greek influence continues even as Empire disintegrates. Alexandria

Greek Culture

"Man Is The Measure Of All Things."

I. Religion

Polytheistic Anthropomorphic Mythology no creed Mt. Olympus
gods/goddesses/heroes Oracles—Oracle at Delphi Hubris Festivals--Olympics

II. Philosophy

A. Sophists rhetoric

B. **Socrates** "Know Thyself" Socratic method of teaching condemned for corrupting youth

C. **Plato** Academy *The Republic* **Reality – ideals, ideas

D. **Aristotle** Lyceum ***Politics* ***Poetics* **Reality -- matter and form

E. Hellenistic philosophy **Stoics** (Zeno) v. ****Epicureans** (Epicurus).

III. Visual Arts "Search for Beauty and Order"

A. **Architecture** -- Parthenon Columns = Doric, Ionic, Corinthian

B. **Sculpture** -- "ideal" human subjects depicted in the prime of life nudity---perfect human forms
Much of sculpture devoted to mythological figures and/or stories.

C. **Pottery** -- black/red-orange red-orange/black black/red-orange/white
Human themes – mythology or daily life.

IV. Poetry and Drama

A. **Epics** -- Homer

B. **Poetry** -- Sappho Pindar

C. **Plays** = tragedies and comedies Dionysus Thespis

Playwrights = Aeschylus Sophocles Euripides Aristophanes

D. ****Fables** -- Aesop

V. History

A. **Herodotus** "Father of History" *History of the Persian War* Accuracy???

B. **Thucydides** *History of the Peloponnesian War* Accuracy??

VI. Mathematics and the Sciences

A. Math often used by Greeks as basis of philosophy

B. **Notable contributions by:** Pythagoras Euclid ("Father of Geometry") Aristarchus
Eratosthenes Archimedes Hippocrates ("Father of Medicine")