

Chapter 5 Height of Greek Civilization

Section 1 Quest for Meaning & Beauty

- Mid 400's B.C. Greece cultural peak ""Golden Age"
- Excel in architecture / sculpture / painting
- Artistic style called "Classical"
- Copied by Romans and used today
- Enduring achievements in lit. drama & philo.

- Building for the Gods
- Acropolis for the Polis built as architectural treasure
- Acropolis in Athens best example
- Greeks worship at home w/ alter OR outside/ some type of alter
- No sanctuaries needed
- Built temples where deities lived

- Greek Art
- Painting & sculpture emphasized human form & the individual
- Vases & Paintings
- No Greek murals survive but have Roman copies & descriptions
- Art examples from vases
- Krater - small 2 hand vase w/ wide mouth for mixing wine
- Leythos - narrow neck for oil to pour out slowly
- Most have a red background w/ black pictures OR reversed
- Many subjects used but depended on size of vase
- Lg. vase - bulk material (amphora) - Scenes from mythology & ships
- Sm. vase - artisans working / children at school / farmers working
- Sculpting human body
- Reached height under Pericles
- Myron - one of greatest sculptures
- Portrayed statues as how people should look
- Phidias - did sculptures in Parthenon - towering statue of Athena
- Aprox. 50 ft. tall - wood frame - gold & ivory plates (special treating)
- Praxiteles - 100 yrs after golden age
- Statues life-size & more graceful & carved ordinary people (not just Gods)
- During Peloponnesian war - not as confident now about philo. & Gods

- Drama & Theater
- 1st people to perform & write plays
- Famous writers
- Aeschylus - famous for tragedies (much suffering & bad ending)
- Wrote about 90 plays / 7 survive today
- Sophocles - served as general for Athens during most Peloponnesian war
- Accepted human suffering as way of life
- Stressed human courage & compassion
- Most famous play - Oedipus Rex
- Doomed by deities to kill father & marry mother
- Despite best efforts not to, he does
- Blinds himself & goes into exile

- Euripides - rarely dealt with gods & goddesses
- Qualities human have to bring disaster on themselves w/o help from gods
- Hated war & most plays dealt w/ pain & suffering of war
- Aristophanes - wrote comedies
- Worked w/ social satire & made fun of leaders

- Olympic Games
- Stressed athletics & to be more like the gods
- Who could afford it, spent time at gymnasiums
- Every 4 years best-known games at Olympia
- Base of Mt. where gods live
- In honor of Zeus
- Trading & fighting stopped
- Greek calendar began w/ first Olympics 776 B.C.
- Women not allowed attend or participate (why?)
- Games for honoring Hera for women
- Different types of foot racing
- Individual not team events
- Winner's national heroes
- Exempted from taxes
- Given parades

Section 2 The Greek Mind

- Greeks believe human mind understand everything
- Produced most remarkable ideas - philosophers -
- Sophists
- 400 B.C.'s higher ed. by professional teachers (sophists)
- Traveled from polis to polis / most gathered in Athens b/c freedom
- Many rejected beliefs that gods & goddesses changed human behavior
- Did not believe in absolute moral & legal standards (WHY?)
- Some took \$ for teaching / taught how to win political arguments / get ahead in life
- Behavior looked down upon & criticized by purists (WHY?)

- Socrates-
- Born to poor family / sculptor by trade / most of time teaching
- Believed in absolute truth not relative truth
- Main interest in process of learning & thinking / not rhetoric
- Developed Socratic method
- Ask pointed questions w/o giving answers
- Then oppose answers w/ logical arguments
- Forced students defend & clarify answers
- Some viewed teachings as "corrupting the young"
- Put on trial
- Found guilty & sentenced to death
- Could have saved self by renouncing ways

- Plato-
- Student of Socrates / born to Athenian aristocrat
- Wanted to be in politics but at 40 became teacher after Socrates death
- Opened an academy & lasted until 529 A.D.

- From memory, wrote conversations & dialogue b/t Socrates & others
- Wrote book The Republic / plan for ideal gov. & society
- Disliked Athenian gov. / liked Spartan
- More importance to state than person
- People place gov. service above themselves
- Believed too much freedom causes social disorder
- Distrusted lower classes
- Wanted only most intelligent & best-educated citizens in gov.
- Political views to find the "truth"
- Rejected the 5 senses as finding truth
- Things perceived w/ senses only appear at surface
- To truly understand something is from thinking & reasoning

- Aristotle
- Wrote more than 200 books from astronomy to poli. sci.
- Ran school in Athens called Lyceum
- Taught "golden mean" – to live moderately & avoid extremes
- Influenced later philosophers
- Conflicted with Plato & felt senses can be used
- Developed method of inquiry & used by European scientists
- Earth center of universe
- Thoughts on gov.
- Focused on poli. sci.
- Examined various city-states, looked at advantages & disadvantages
- Wrote findings in book – Politics
- Believed best gov. mix of: monarchy / aristocracy / democracy together
- Power lies with middle class because they knew how to command & obey

- Writers of History
- Prior 400's B.C. took literary legends as historical fact
- With philosophy – began to re-look at past

- Herodotus 1st to separate fact & history from legend
- Traveled throughout Persian emp. asking questions
- Some information inaccurate & gave supernatural explanations
- Wrote about individuals / social customs / religious beliefs

- Thucydides
- Wrote about Peloponnesian war
- 1st scientific historian / rejected deities play part inhuman behavior
- Attempted impartial recording
- Visited battle sites / examined documents
- Accepted only eyewitness accounts
- Offered explanations for why things took place
- What motivated political leaders

- Science & Medicine
- World ruled by natural laws
- Most discoveries by observations & insight (thought)
- Then developed theories

- Math & Science
- Greeks were 1st distinguish math as a pure science
- Constructed systematic methods of reasoning to prove math statements

- Thales, 1st prominent scientist 600's B.C.
- Astronomy studied at Babylon / math in Egypt
- Theory that water is basic substance of everything

- Pythagoras 500's B.C.
- Explain everything in math terms
- Taught world was round & revolved around fixed point

- Medicine
- Hippocrates "father of medicine"
- Diseases were natural and not super-natural
- Body can heal self
- 1st to separate medicine from religion
- Traveled Greece diagnosing illnesses
- Encouraged other "doctors" to keep records & to exchange them (Why?)
- Advocated hygiene and rest
- Drafted code of ethical behavior
- Doctors today pledge Hippocratic oath

Section 3 Alexander's Empire

- Rise of Macedonia
- Descended from Dorians & lived N. of Greece
- Greeks considered Macedonians backwards mountain men
- 359 B.C. Philip II new king of Mac. - In youth - Greek hostage for 3 years / learned about Greek society
- Wanted 3 things: Strong standing army / unify Greece / conquer Persia
- Modeled military after Greek phalanxes
- Over 23 yrs. conquered polis after polis OR bribed for surrender OR through marriage (7 wives total)
- Accelerated takeover after Pelop. war
- By 338 B.C. conquered all Greece BUT Sparta
- In 336 B.C. decided to go take Persia
- Murdered before Persian conquest
- Maybe by Persian spy
- Maybe by 1st wife Olympians
- Oldest son Alexander became king (mother was Olympians)

- Conquests of Alexander
- 20 when became ruler of Greece & Mac.
- Commander in Mac. army since 16
- Much respect by troops
- Well educated / father had tutored by Aristotle himself

-Persia Conflict

- 334 B.C. 30,000 troops & 5,000 Cavalry into Asia
- Alex. won 1st major battle & sent 300 Persian suits of armor to Athens as offering to Athena
- Freed Ionian city-states from Persia
- 2nd major battle in Syria, 333 B.C. / forced Darius III to flee deeper into Asia

- Alex. not follow / went S. along coast & captured ports
- Persian fleet cut off & surrendered
- Alex. turned W. into Persian held Egypt
- Welcomed by Egyptians
- Was declared Pharaoh
- Alex. established new capital – Alexandria -
- 331 B.C. went E. & took Mesopotamia
- Babylon – Persepolis – Susa
- Darius killed by own general
- Alex. declared himself ruler of Persian Emp.
- 327 B.C. moved towards India / in 3 yrs. reached Indus River
- Wanted go farther BUT generals urged him to go back
- Alex. went back & made Babylon new capital of his empire
- 323 B.C. fell ill & died (malaria maybe) at age 33

- Alexander's Goals
- 1st was to punish Persia for invasion earlier
- As his emp. grew – goal changed / wanted combine best of Greek & Persian cultures
- Emulated Persian gov. & courts
- Married daughter of Darius III
- Encouraged soldiers to marry Persian women
- Took 30,000 Persians into his army
- Founded over 70 cities in Persia to spread Greek ideas & language

- After His Death
- 3 main generals divided empire
- Ptolemy – his descendants ruled Egypt / Libya / & parts of Syria
- Cleopatra most famous descendant
- Seleucus – Syria / Mesopotamia / Iran / Afghanistan
- Jews revolted & won freedom until Roman occupation
- Antigonus – Macedonia / Greece
- Greece declared independence & then went back to fighting each other

- Hellenistic Culture
- After Alex. death, emp. crumbled but culture expanded
- Largest & wealthiest in empire – Alexandria
- Famous library
- Lighthouse – light seen for 35 miles/ one of 7 wonders of ancient world
- Cultural center – zoos / botanical gardens / schools
- 3 new systems of thought for intellectuals:
- Cynicism / Epicureanism / Stoicism
- Best Cynic – Diogenes
- Live happy if give up luxuries & lived in accord with nature
- Epicurus started Epicureanism
- People should avoid both joy & pain by accepting world as it was
- Ignore politics & live simply & quietly with a few close friends
- Zeno founded Stoicism
- Gain happiness by ignoring emotions & follow reason & logic
- Able to accept difficult circumstances of life & duty
- Influenced Romans & Christian thinkers

- Art & Lit
 - Showed people having emotions
 - Many sculptures & busts exist / many done b/c people wanted their likeness (paid \$ for work)
 - Wrote more comedies
 - Menander most famous playwright
 - Comedies about everyday life
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- Sci. / Med. / Math
 - Aristarchus
 - Sun larger than earth & revolves around Sun, also stars very far away
 - Erathosthenes
 - Calculated earth circumference within 99% accuracy
 - Archimedes
 - Compound pulley / water pump (Archimedes screw) / principle of the lever

STONEKING'S NOTES - DO NOT USE TO MAKE YOUR OWN