

CHRONOLOGICAL OUTLINE OF ANCIENT GREEK HISTORY

6000	NEOLITHIC PERIOD: agricultural villages
3200	-----
	EARLY BRONZE AGE
2000	MIDDLE BRONZE AGE Arrival of Greek speakers in Balkan Peninsula (2000?) Minoan palace civilization: Knossos Eruption of Thera (ca. 1628)
1500	LATE BRONZE AGE Mycenaean palace civilization; Linear B Trojan War (ca. 1225) Breakdown of Mycenaean civilization (1200-1100)
1100	-----
	DARK AGE "Dorian Invasion"; Ionian Migration; iron metallurgy

800

	ARCHAIC ERA Greek poleis: Athens, Sparta, Corinth, Thebes, etc. Near Eastern influence; alphabet First Olympiad (776) Colonial expansion: Black Sea, S. Italy, Sicily, etc. Homer (ca. 725) and Hesiod (ca. 700) Oligarchy vs. democracy; tyranny
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500

	CLASSICAL PERIOD Persian Wars (499-479) Athenian Empire; radical democracy Peloponnesian War (431-404) Rise of Macedon King Philip II Alexander the Great (r. 336-323)
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323

	HELLENISTIC PERIOD Macedon; Seleucid Empire Ptolemaic Egypt: Alexandria Rise of Rome: destruction of Corinth (146) Suicide of Cleopatra (30)
30	

POLIS AND POLITEIA

Executive:	King / Magistrates (archons, ephors, etc.)
Advisory:	Council (Areopagus, boule, gerousia, etc.)
Ratificatory:	Assembly (ekklesia, apellai, etc.)

- by 700** Athenian unification (synoecism by Theseus)
|
- 683** Archon system at Athens
| Social classes: hippeis / zeugitae / thetes
|
- c. 675** Hoplite military innovation: Pheidon
|
- 632** Cylon's attempted tyranny
|
- 621** Draco and the Law
|
- 594** Solon and reform: "seisachtheia"
| --debt reduction (n.b. hektemoroi)
| --abolition of debt slavery
| --revision of law code
| --establishment of people's courts (Heliaea)
| --extension of citizenship
| --four-part social classification (by wealth)
| --increased eligibility for Council and Assembly
| --economic reforms
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- 560** Tyranny at Athens
| Peisistratus (560-546-527)
| Hipparchus (527-514) & Hippias (527-510)
| --financial reforms
| --unification, increased sense of nationhood
| --vigorous foreign policy
| --public amenities, patronage of religion and the arts
|
- 510** Alcmaeonids (with Spartan help) vs. Hippias
|
- 508** Preeminence of Cleisthenes
| --tribal reorganization (10 tribes; 139 demes)
| --Council of 500 (probouleutic function)
| --board of generals ("strategoi")
| --ostracism
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THE PERSIAN WARS

Expansion of the Persian Empire

Cyrus (559-530) vs. Croesus of Lydia, ca. 544
Cambyses (530-522) in Egypt
Darius I, "the Great" (522-486): imperial ambitions
in Europe; operations in Thrace and beyond the
Danube. Phoenician sea-power plus Persian land
power; mercantile competition in the west.
Collusion with Hippias.

499 War, Phase I: Ionian Revolt and aftermath

| Aristagoras of Miletus; Greeks of Ionia expel
| Persian-controlled tyrants

498 Sardis burned

495 Persians defeat Greeks at Lade

494 Fall of Miletus

492 Mardonius's abortive invasion of Greece

490 Persian expedition (ca. 20,000 with cavalry) against
| Eretria and Athens; Battle of Marathon: 10,000
| Athenians (and Plataeans) under Miltiades.

Intermezzo

486 Xerxes succeeds Darius I

483 Laurium silver strike / Themistocles

481 Formation of Hellenic League

480 Persians complete Athos canal and Hellespont ship-bridges

War, Phase II: Expedition of Xerxes

| Persian forces: 100-150,000 men, 500-1,000 ships

| Hellenic League forces: 30-40,000 infantry, ca. 330 ships

| Greek commanders: Leonidas, Themistocles, Pausanias

480 Battles of Thermopylae (land), Artemisium (sea), and
| Salamis (sea)

479 Battles of Plataea (land) and Mycale (land)

PENTEKONTAETIA

- 478 Formation of the Delian League: "The Athenians and Their Allies"; Aristides
Themistocles ostracized ca. 471
Cimon predominant strategos
Actions at Eion, Scyros, Carystus, Naxos, the Eurymedon River, and Thasos
- 464 Earthquake at Sparta
- 462 Cimon rebuffed at Sparta; rebels evacuated from Mt. Ithome
Ephialtes and Pericles vs. the Areopagus
- 461 Cimon ostracized; Ephialtes assassinated
"First Peloponnesian War" (461-446)
Pericles and radical democracy:
--payment for public service
--wider eligibility for office
--increased use of the lot (sortition)
- 457 The Long Walls
- 454 Athenian setback in Egypt; League treasury relocated
Athenian Tribute Lists begin
- 449 Peace of Callias
Pericles summons pan-Hellenic conference
- 447 Parthenon construction begins; Coinage Decree
Disaffection of "allies"; cleruchies in Euboea, Naxos, Andros, the Chersonese
- 446 The Thirty Years' Peace
- 443 Thucydides, son of Melesias, ostracized
- 440 Revolt of Samos
- 433 Athens and Corcyra
- 432 Athens and Potidaea
Athens and Megara
- 431 Outbreak of the Peloponnesian War

PELOPONNESIAN WAR

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| 1) "Short Fuses": Corcyra, Potidaea, Megara
2) "Long Fuse": Thucydides' "real cause" |
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- 432 Peloponnesian League members meet at Sparta
- | Corinthians and Athenians present their arguments
- 431 Sparta's ultimatum to Athens; war begins
- | Pericles' war policy
- 430 Epitaphios (Funeral Speech) by Pericles
- | Plague at Athens
- |
- 429 Death of Pericles
- |
- 427 Revolt of Mytilene: Cleon vs. Diodotus in the ekklesia
- |
- 425 Pylos/Sphacteria
- |
- 424 Thucydides (the historian) exiled
- |
- 422 Brasidas vs. Cleon at Amphipolis
- |
- 421 Peace of Nicias
- |
- |
- 416 Besiegement and fall of Melos
- |
- 415 Sicilian expedition: Alcibiades, Nicias, Lamachus
- | Gylippus at Syracuse
- 413 Athenians defeated in Sicily
- |
- 411 Oligarchic coup at Athens
- 410 Cyzicus falls to Athenians (Alcibiades)
- |
- 406 Battle of Arginusae
- |
- 405 Battle of Aegospotami; Lysander
- |
- 404 Surrender of Athens:
 - loss of fleet
 - destruction of Long Walls and Piraeus walls
 - loss of imperial holdings

FOURTH-CENTURY GREECE, THROUGH THE CAREER OF PHILIP II

- 404 End of the Peloponnesian War
|
| **Era of Shifting Alliances and Leagues of More Equal Type**
|
- 401 Persia: Cyrus vs. Artaxerxes II (Battle of Cunaxa)
399-96 Sparta vs. Persian satraps
|
- 394 Battle of Coronea: Quadruple Alliance vs. Sparta
| Battle of Cnidus: Persians & Conon vs. Spartans
387 The "King's Peace"
|
- 378 Second Athenian Sea League formed
374 Athens signs Peace with Sparta
371 Battle of Leuctra;
| Epaminondas liberates Messenia
368-65 Philip II hostage at Thebes
362 Battle of Mantinea
|
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| **Philip II and the Rise of Macedon**
|
- 359 Accession of Philip to power
358-56 Victories against hill tribes, Illyrians, and at
| Amphipolis, the Krenides (Philippi), Pydna, and
| Potidaea; marriage to Olympias and birth of Alexander
|
- 352 Involvement in Thessaly; beginning of navy
348 Philip takes Olynthus; Demosthenes (vs. Isocrates)
346 Peace with Athens; Isocrates' *Philippus*
345-42 Philip reorganizes Macedon, Thessaly; in Illyria; in
| E. Thrace
341-40 Philip vs. Athens in the straits; Alexandropolis
338 Chaeronea (4 Aug); League of Corinth
337 Philip marries Cleopatra
336 Parmenio & Attalus with advance force in Asia Minor;
| Philip assassinated
|
- 336 Accession of Alexander the Great

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

- 356 Birth in Pella
|
- 343 Aristotle becomes Alexander's tutor
|
- 338 Commands left wing at Chaeronea; embassy to Athens
|
- 336 Accession to power; claims position of hegemon of
| the League of Corinth
|
- 335 Expeditions to Thrace, Illyria, etc.; revolt of Thebes
|
- 334 Crossing to Asia; beginning of Persian expedition;
| Battle of the Granicus
|
- 333 March through Asia Minor; Battle of Issus; "call me
| 'King of all Asia'"
|
- 332 Byblos; Sidon; Tyre (siege from Jan to July); Gaza
|
- 331 Egypt; founding of Alexandria (7 April); consults
| Zeus-Ammon at Siwah; Battle of Gaugamela (1 Oct);
| Babylon; Susa
|
- 330 Persepolis; Ecbatana (Parmenio & Harpalus left);
| death of Darius
|
- 329 Crosses the Hindu Kush; Bactria; death of Bessus
|
- 328 Campaign against Spitamenes; murder of Cleitus the Black
|
- 327 Sogdiana; marriage to Roxane; invasion of India
|
- 326 Battle of the Hydaspes (vs. Porus); death of Bucephalas;
| mutiny at the Hyphasis; fleet & army move down the Indus
|
- 325 Campaign against Brahmin cities; march through Gedrosian
| Desert; rejoins Nearchus at Harmozia
|
- 324 Persepolis; Susa; Ecbatana; death of Hephaestion
|
- 323 Babylon: falls ill and dies (10 June)