

Democracy and Greece's Golden Age

Chapter 5, Section 3

Democratic principles and classical culture flourish during Greece's golden age.

Pericles' Plan for Athens

- Pericles as Leader
 - Skillful politician, inspiring speaker, respected general
 - Dominates life in Athens from 461 to 429 B.C.



Pericles' Plan for Athens

- Stronger Democracy
 - Pericles hires more paid public officials; creates direct democracy
 - Direct democracy—citizens rule directly, not through representatives

Pericles' Plan for Athens

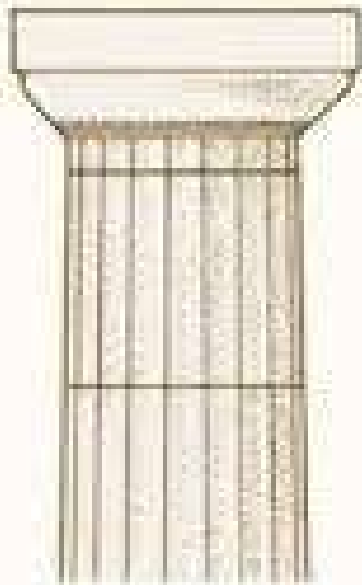
- Athenian Empire

- Takes over the Delian League; uses money to strengthen Athenian fleet.
- Sparta and other cities resent Athenian power.

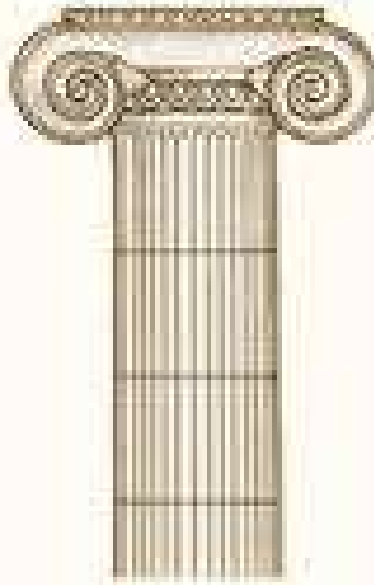
- Glorifying Athens

- Pericles buys gold, ivory, marble; hires artisans to beautify Athens all with money from the Delian League without the whole league's consent.

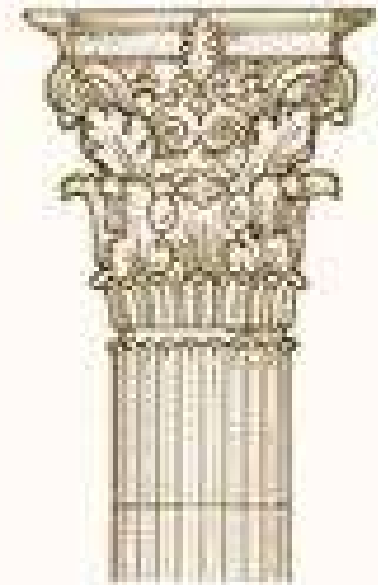
Doric



Ionic



Corinthian



Glorious Art and Architecture

- Architecture and Sculpture
 - Pericles builds the Parthenon—a large temple to honor the goddess Athena.
 - Within temple, sculptor Phidias crafts 30 foot statue of Athena
 - Sculptors create graceful, strong, perfectly formed figures.
 - Classical art—values harmony, order, balance, proportion, beauty

The
Parthenon
from the
south.





Metopes an Frieze



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Athena

Built by the artist Phidias



Golden Age Art

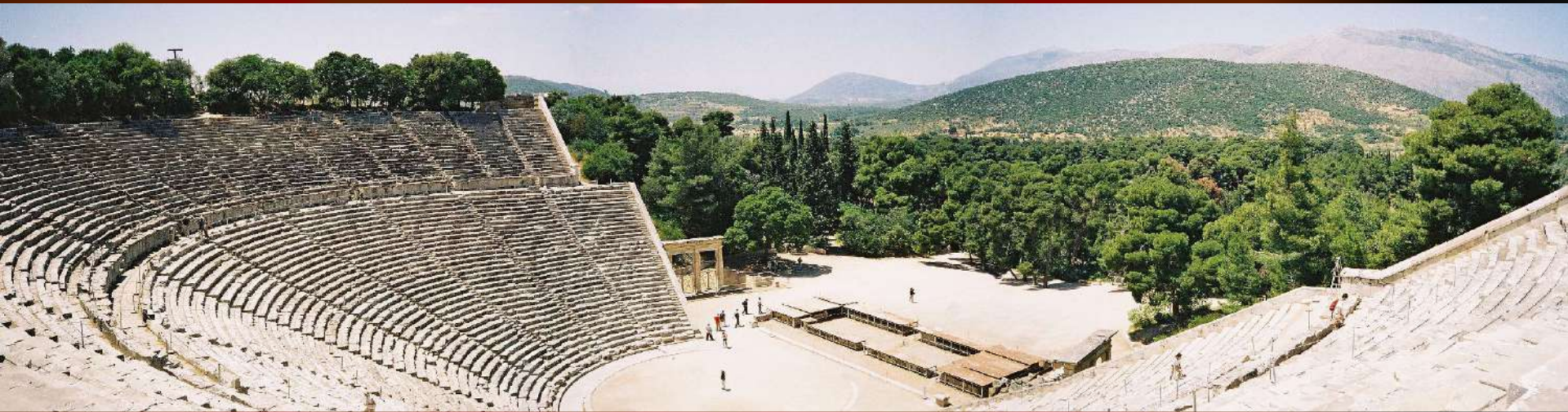
*Pericles hired artists to
complete various projects
throughout Athens*



Drama and History

- Tragedy and Comedy
 - Greeks invent drama as an art form; includes chorus, dance, poetry
 - Two forms of drama: tragedy and comedy
 - Tragedy—tells story of heroes' downfall; themes of love, hate, and war
 - Comedy—makes fun of politics and respected people; slapstick humor
 - Greek dramatists include Aeschylus, Euripides, Aristophanes, Sophocles
- Historians Herodotus and Thucydides record and study past events

A Greek theater



Delian League

- Athens exaggerates risk of future Persian attack
- City-states pay money to Athens for protection
- From end of Persian Wars (479 BCE) to beginning of Peloponnesian War (431), Athens grows by leaps and bounds

Peloponnesian League

- Sparta becomes paranoid about expanding Athenian hegemony
- Sparta convinces numerous city-states on Peloponnesus to join the Peloponnesian League
- The Pelo League was a mutual defense arrangement just like the Delian League, and like NATO...

The Spark...

- Thebes (Peloponnesian League) attacks Plataea (Delian League).
- Athens comes to aid of Plataea
- Sparta comes to aid of Thebes
- Corinth joins Sparta
 - One of richest & most powerful city-states
 - Believes Athens is a threat to Greek liberty

Athenians and Spartans Go to War

- War Begins

- 431 B.C. Sparta declares war on Athens—the beginning of the Peloponnesian War.

- Peloponnesian War

- Sparta has a better army.
- Athens has a better navy.
- Plague strikes Athens in 430 B.C., kills many—including Pericles.
- Sparta and Athens sign a truce in 421 B.C.

Plague in Athens Described

- “People in good health were all of a sudden attacked by violent heats in the head, and redness and inflammation in the eyes, the inward parts, such as the throat or tongue, becoming bloody and emitting an unnatural and fetid breath. These symptoms were followed by sneezing and hoarseness, after which the pain soon reached the chest, and produced a hard cough.....”

Plague in Athens Described

- “.....Externally the body was....reddish, livid, and breaking out into small pustules and ulcers....They succumbed, as in most cases, on the seventh or eighth day, to the internal inflammation...But if they passed this stage, and the disease descended further into the bowels, inducing a violent ulceration there accompanied by severe diarrhea, this brought on weakness which was generally fatal....This disordersettled in the privy parts, the fingers and the toes, and many escaped with the loss of these, some too with that of their eyes.”

A Good Idea in Theory



4th Century B.C. Hoplite



Phalanx Fighting Formation



Sparta “Wins”

- Sparta Gains Victory
 - 415 B.C. Athens renews war, attacks Syracuse on the island of Sicily.
 - Athens is defeated in 413 B.C.
 - Athens and its allies surrender to Sparta in 404 B.C.

Philosophers Search for Truth

- Rise of Great Philosophers
 - After the war, thinkers emerge who are called “lovers of wisdom.” This is from the Greek words:
 - phileo—to love
 - sophia—wisdom
 - Philosophers believe the universe is subject to absolute and unchanging laws.
 - People could understand these laws through logic and reason.

Philosophers Search for Truth

● The Sophists

- The word means “the wisest,” so they were proud of their supposed philosophical knowledge.
- They claimed they could find the answers to all questions.
- They used rhetoric to win arguments.
- They often charged fees for teaching their skills and for arguing for others. They might be considered a type of lawyer of the time.
- Sophist philosopher Protagoras questions the existence of Greek gods.

Philosophers Search for Truth

● Socrates

- He believes in questioning and teaches through the method of questioning.
- He is believed to have said "The unexamined life is not worth living."
- He is convicted of "corrupting the youth of Athens and sentenced to death in 399 B.C.
- He dies by drinking hemlock, a slow acting poison.

Philosophers Search for Truth

- Plato
 - He is a student of Socrates.
 - He writes *The Republic*, about an ideal society ruled by Philosopher-Kings
 - His writings dominate European philosophy for 1,500 years.

Philosophers Search for Truth

- Aristotle

- He was a student of Plato.
- He uses rules of logic for argument.
- His work provides the basis for scientific method, still used today.
- He tutors 13-year-old prince who becomes Alexander the Great