

# Effects of Greek Geography



# Culture / Religion

- **Mountains & Seas** → isolation → **myths** / strange stories of creatures and gods
- Near sea → **Poseidon** important (sailors)
- **City-States** have different favorite or patron gods



# Economy

- Seas → trading, fishing, piracy
- Dry, infertile land → need for colonies around Mediterranean for grain → spread of culture / religion to Romans
- Mountainous, rocky → fruit trees and vines (olives, grapes) wine & oil – main export
- Terrace Farming – cutting flat portions into the mountain to provide farmable land



# Government

- Isolation between communities (island & mountains) → 100's of separate governments
- Seas → development of Naval Power (ships)

- City-State = Polis



- Metropolis, police, politics, polls

- The Acropolis – refers to the acropolis of Athens



# Athens

- Direct Democracy – govt. in which citizens have the power to rule & make laws
  - Council of 500 – proposed and carried out laws (lottery)
  - Assembly – voted on laws laws (all citizens)
- Jury trials– speak in your own defense – 101-1001 people from assembly
- Ostracism (exile of incompetant officials (impeachment))
- Only adult male property owners born in Athens were citizens (15%) of population – later all men

# Compare

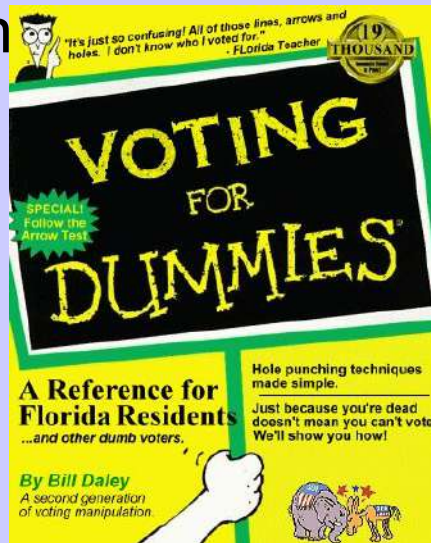
- How does the concept of “direct democracy” compare with our government?
- How did the Athenian Jury system differ from ours?
- What are some of the Rights and Responsibilities of a citizen in our country?



# Citizen – one who participates in government

## Have Rights&Responsibilities

Voting / owning property      defending the polis / serving in govt.  
payin



- Rights & responsibilities vary by city-state
- Women in Athens were not citizens, no political or legal rights



# Tyrants

- Tyranny -govt. in which one person has all the power



# “Benevolent Tyrant”

- Athens believed in the concept of a benevolent or “good” tyrant
- elected by Assembly in a time of crisis
- supposed to step down at end of crisis
- Pericles → was elected to rule and rebuild Athens after the Persian Wars



# Sparta



# Sparta

- 5 Ephors – put law into effect / judges
- 2 kings – (generals)
- 28 elders – proposed laws
- Assembly of Spartan men – vote on major laws,

Ephors can overrule them

Who in Sparta is most powerful?

# Oligarchy

- Oligarchy – govt ruled by small group of wealthy people
- Sparta was an oligarchy while Athens was a democracy
- Think of how this relates to the treatment of education and the inspection of babies as seen in 300.

# Others

- Perioci – free craftspeople / traders  
– NOT Spartan (conquered)
  - Helots – slaves/farmers – provide food for the Spartans
- 20 helots & perioci : 1 Spartan
- All Spartan males are professional soldiers

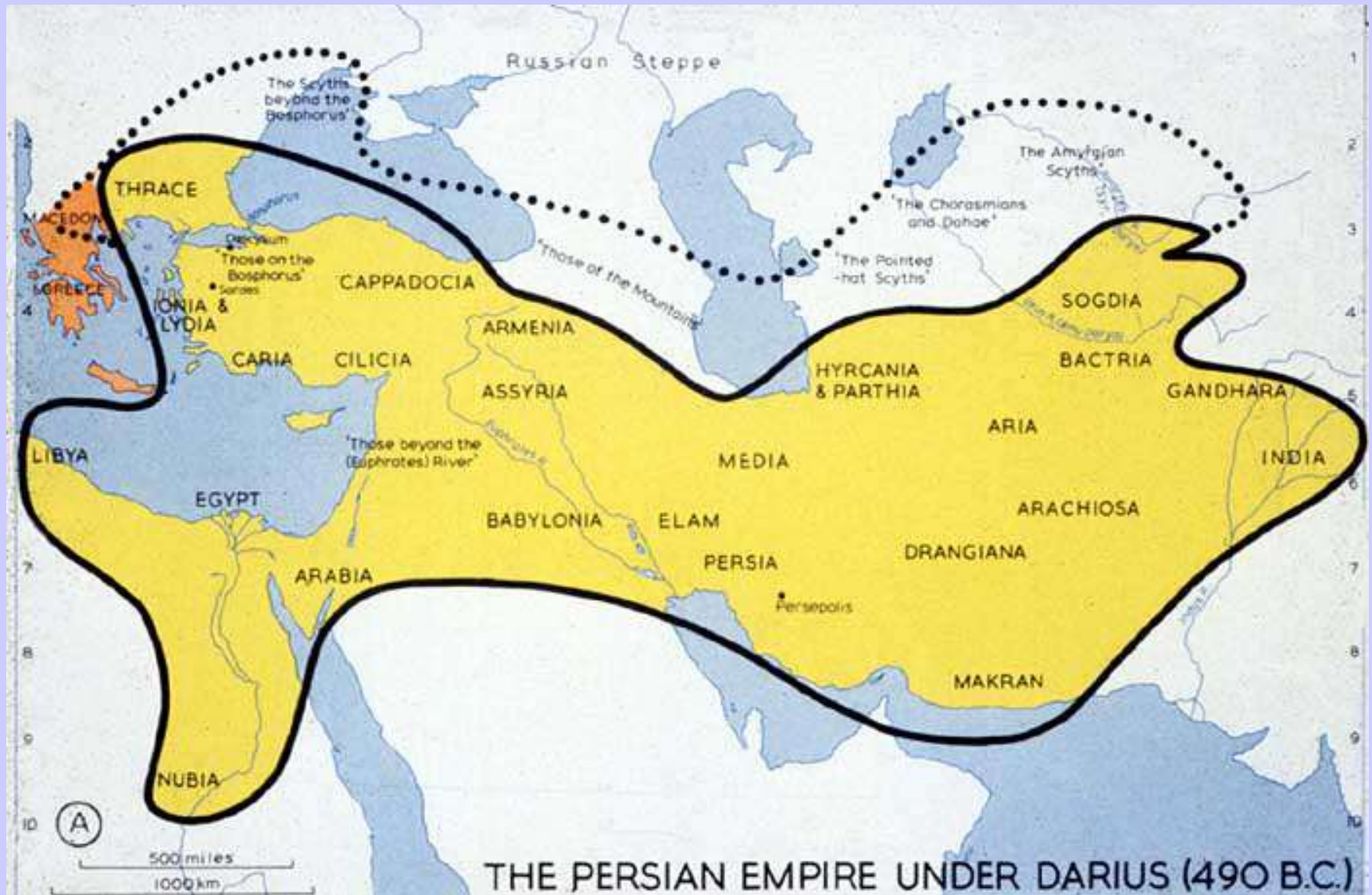
**\*\*SPARTAN WOMEN** – were more free and had more rights than in any other city-state

They ran the towns while men were at war or in training.





# The Persian Wars





# Causes

- Persia wanted to conquer the Greek city-states
- The Greeks must join forces to beat back the Persians
- Athens and Sparta play the lead roles in defense
- Athens had the strongest Navy
- Sparta had the strongest Army

# Consequences of the Wars

- Persians are driven from the Balkan Peninsula
- Athens forms the Delian League, an alliance of city-states that contribute to the defense of Greece.
- Athens uses league funds to finance reconstruction of its city
- Athens forces some states to join leading an Athenian Empire

# Sparta's response

- Sparta creates the Anti-Athens league to stop the growth of Athenian power
- These two sides will eventually fight one another