

Ancient Greek Civilization

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Ancient Greece History

The earliest Greek civilizations existed nearly 4,000 years ago. The Ancient Greeks used to live in Greece and the countries that we now call Turkey and Bulgaria.

Ancient Greek civilization was unique as compared to other civilization due to its City States. The people shared some common language, religion and culture but they were not under rule of one common ruler or king. The common culture in these city states is known as Hellenic, Greece called itself 'Hellas' meaning the Greek culture.

Few of the famous city states were Athens, Sparta and Macedonia. There were frequent wars among these city states.



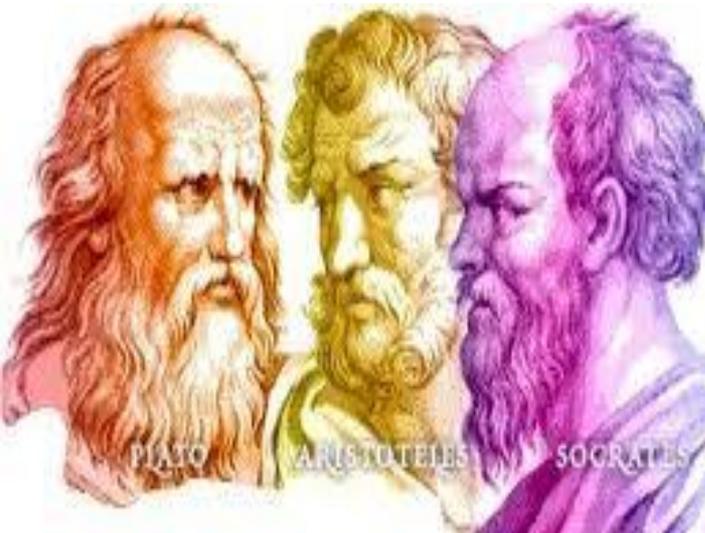
Ancient Greece Culture



Greek society was divided into two classes. The first class consisted of high society people, the riches, priests and authorities and the 2nd class constituted peasants and slaves.

Greece is remembered for its contributions in various fields of culture –arts, literature, drama and sports etc.

The famous philosophers who wrote & debated about various aspects of human life & society belonged to Geek civilization.



You might have heard few of the names like Plato, Socrates, Aristotle and Pythagoras. Plato is called the ‘Father of Politics’, Aristotle is known as the ‘Father of Debate’ and Pythagoras is famous for his geometrical formula known a ‘Pythagoras theorem’.

Ancient Greece Culture



Mount Olympus in Greece is the highest mountain in the country. In ancient times, it was considered to be the home of the gods, because it was often so cloudy and no-one could see its summit.

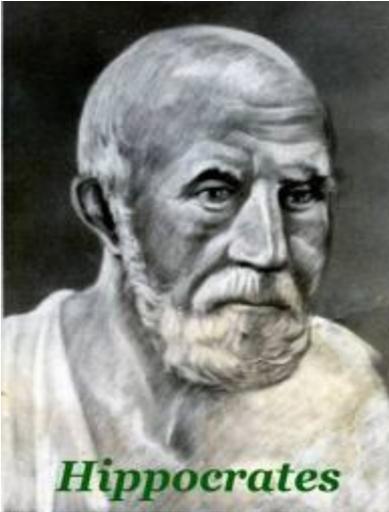


The Greeks believed that 12 most important gods and goddesses lived at the top of Mount Olympus. They considered that they were a family and, just like a human family.

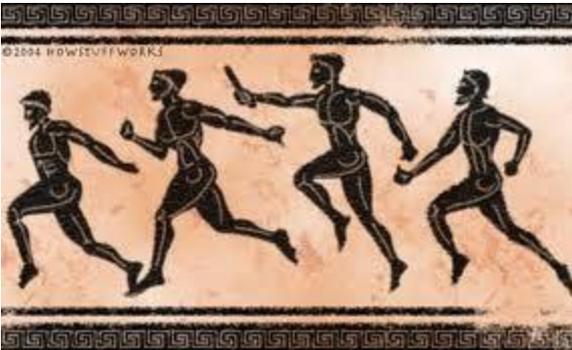


Greek coins used to have the face of a god or goddess. Alexander, the Great, was the first ruler to put his own face on Greek coins.

Ancient Greece Contributions



Ancient Greeks also contributed a lot to medicine field. Hippocrates, who is known as 'father of medicine' belonged to old Greek civilization.



The present Olympic Games are also a legacy of the Greeks. The 1st Olympic Games were held in 776 BC at the Greek city of Olympia. The Olympics were actually a religious festival dedicated to the great god ZEUS.

Ancient Greece Contributions



The Ancient Greeks also played an important role in the development of the alphabet. The word 'alphabet' itself comes from the first two letters of the Greek alphabet - alpha and beta.



Ancient Greeks are considered to be starters of 'Theatre' culture. The word 'theatre' itself is Greek. Most modern theatres follow the Greek plan. Almost every Greek city had a theatre because plays were part of many religious festivals.

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