



Greek

Mythology

Historical Background







Greece





1600 B.C.—all of Greece is conquered

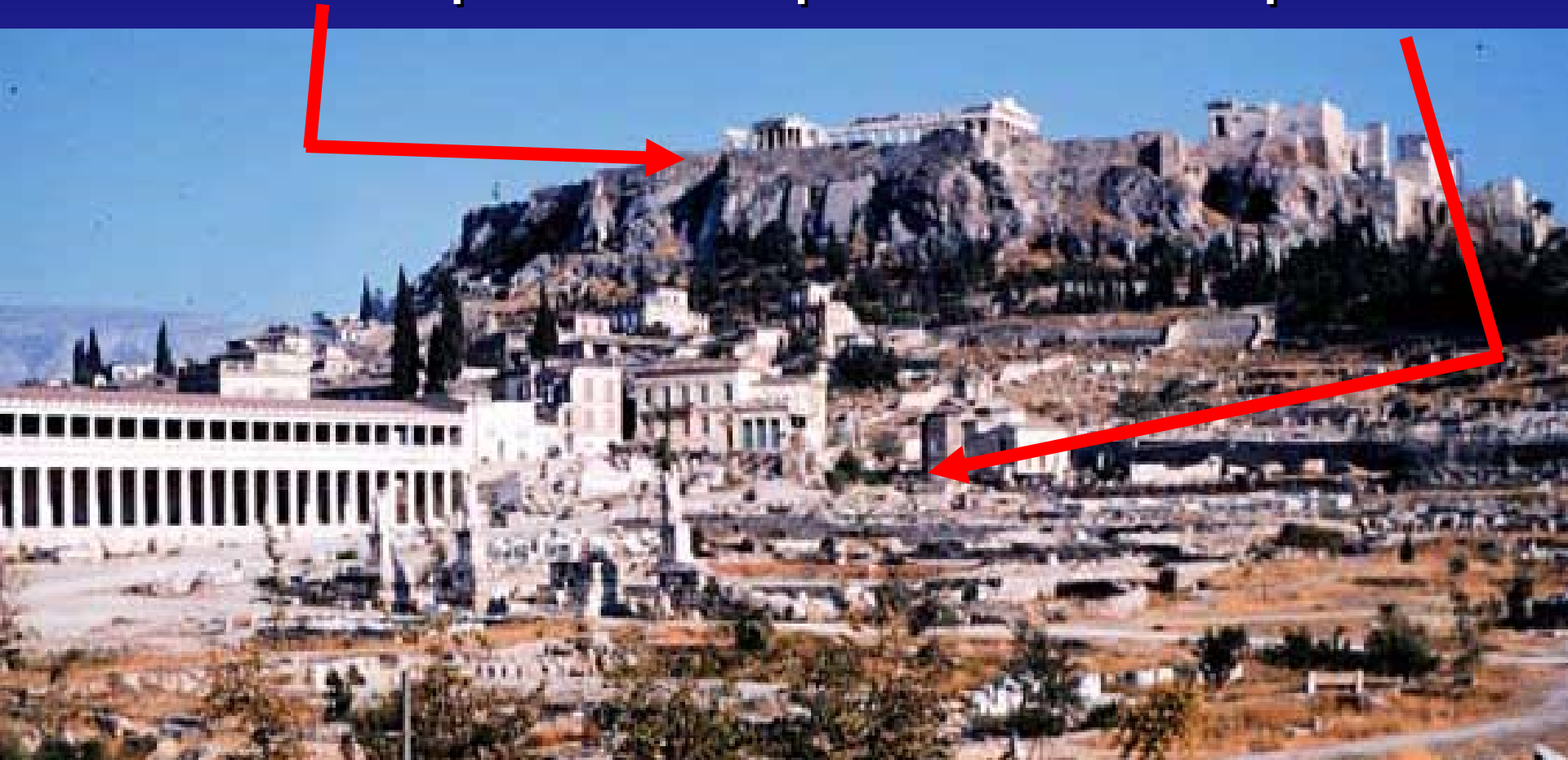
City State (polis)

- 750 B.C.—the polis, or city-state, took shape
- each governed its own
- a few thousand in most city-states
- Athens (pop. 250,000) was one of the largest

Athens

Center of Athens
"The Acropolis"

The Agora
public marketplace



Athens Life

- private homes modest
- slavery—considered natural
- government—democratic
“DEMOS” = people “KRATOS” = power





Sparta

- warlike city-state
- its main purpose:
to create the finest
soldier possible
- army feared across
Greece



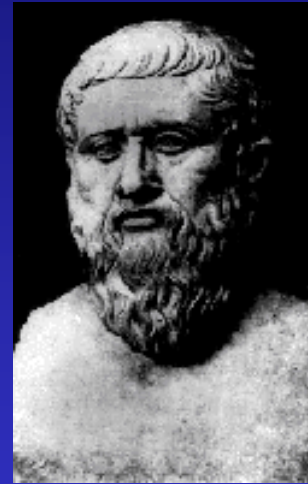


The Golden Age of Greece

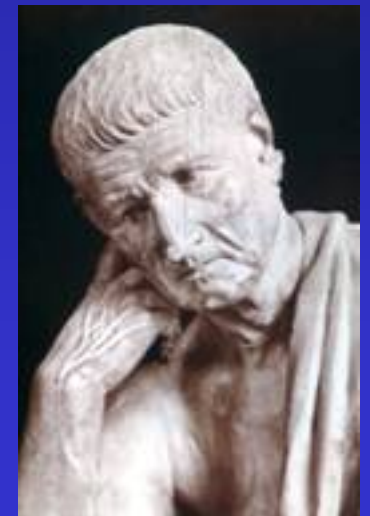
- circa. 500 B.C. to 323 B.C.
- a time of tremendous achievement

Philosophy

Socrates

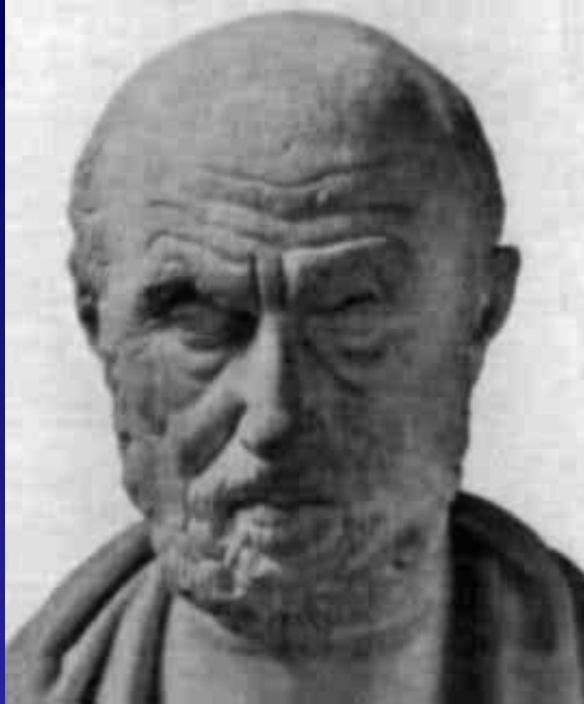


Plato

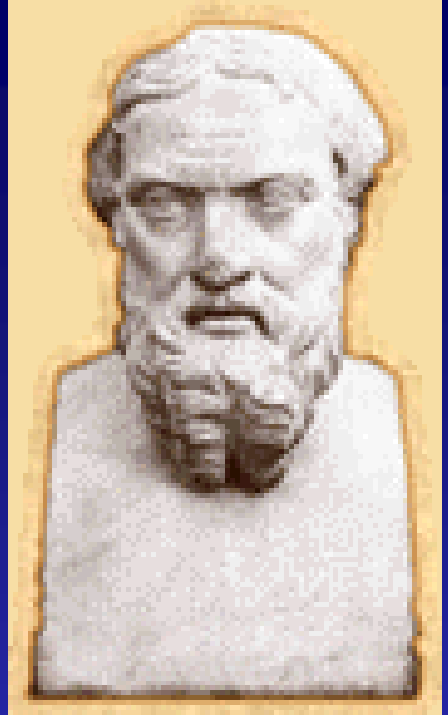


Aristotle

Sciences



Hippocrates
"Father of
Medicine"



Herodotus
"Father of
History"

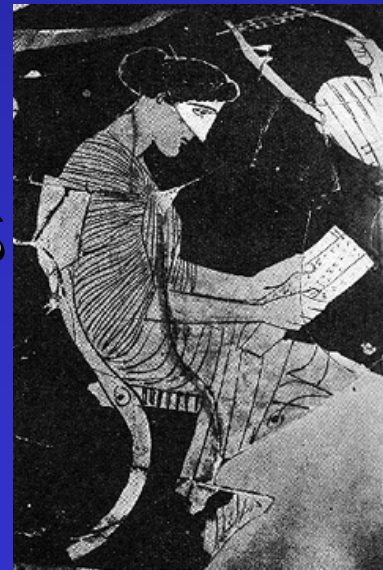
Euclid
"Father of
Geometry"



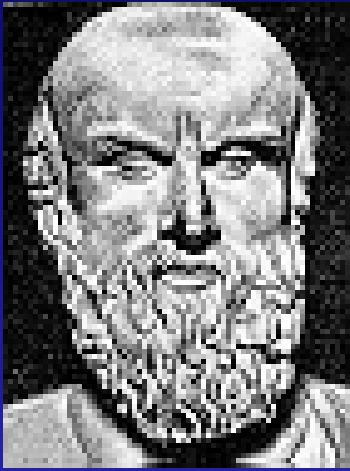


Poetry

- Homer—circa. 750 B.C. *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* earliest known works of Western literature
- Pindar—greatest lyric poet of ancient Greece
- Sappho—famous female poet of ancient Greece



Playwrights



Aeschylus—
earliest
Greek
tragedian

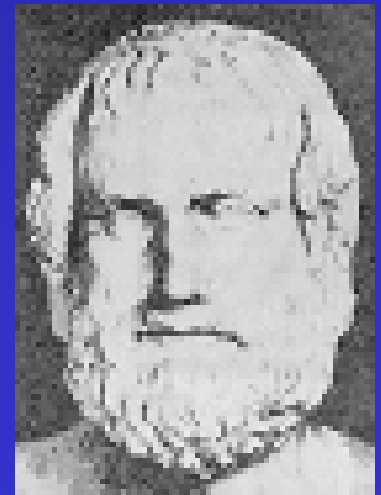


Sophocles—
Greek
tragedian
(best liked)

Aristophanes—
Greek
comic
dramatist



Euripides—
tragedian
(unpopular
while he
lived)



Some of the Greeks' Contributions to American Culture

- Democracy
- Trial by jury
- The Olympics
- Philosophy, History, Geometry,
Medicine, Architecture