



FAMOUS MEN OF THE CLASSICAL AGE OF GREECE



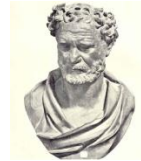
Pericles

- A great orator who brought Athenian democracy to fullest when he was elected the leader of Athens
- It was during his leadership that Greece had its "Golden Age" - otherwise known as "The Age of Pericles"
- Responsible for reconstruction of the Parthenon on the Acropolis and the Zeus statue at Olympia
- Used money from the Delian League for his building projects
- Elected Strategos - the foremost general of the strategoi -the council of 10 generals- (the archons lost their influence during this age)
- First to allow unwealthy common citizens to hold public office
- First to allow for salaries for jurors & others in public service so that public service was not financially devastating



Phidias - sculptor who created

- Athena in the Parthenon and
- Zeus in the Sanctuary of Olympia (one of the 7 Wonders)

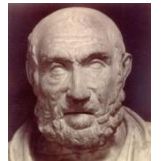
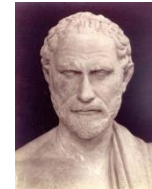
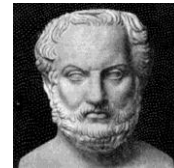
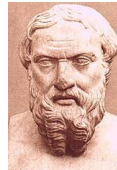


Democritus - first proposed existence of the atom

Homer - wrote the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* about the age of the Trojan War

Aesop - wrote fables that are still familiar to us today and whose themes are often used as the basis of modern stories

Herodotus - known as the *Father of History*

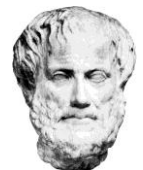
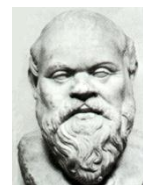


Thucydides - wrote history of the Peloponnesian Wars

Demosthenes - famous orator

Hippocrates - known as the Father of Medicine, he was a physician who established a sacred oath taken by doctors up until the 1970's when it was abandoned due to political incorrectness

Pythagoras - philosopher & mathematician who is known for the Pythagorean Theorem - in any right triangle, the sum of the squares of the sides equals the square of the hypotenuse. $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$



PHILOSOPHERS

Socrates

- Searched for absolute truths & developed the Socratic method, whereby questions are used to help students gain understanding, stimulate rational thinking, and illuminate ideas.
- He was forced to drink hemlock when leaders of Athens turned against him.

Plato

- Student of Socrates who continued the search for absolute truths
- Wrote over 30 works of philosophy most notably *The Republic* focusing on order in society and within men's souls
- Started a school in Athens called **The Academy** & his students included Aristotle

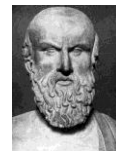
Aristotle

- Student of Plato who came to Athens from Macedonia in order to study under him
- Hired as a tutor to Alexander the Great
- Developed a three-step system of logic



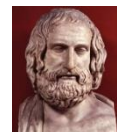
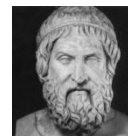
DRAMATIC PLAYWRIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN AGE

Aeschylus - wrote **tragedies** on mythological and religious themes, staying true to Olympianism.



Sophocles - most famous Greek playwright who wrote a **trilogy of tragedies** about the Royal House of Thebes

- Introduced many new techniques such as scenery, a larger chorus of 12, and more than two actors.
- **The Oedipus Trilogy:**
 - (1) Oedipus the King (otherwise known as Oedipus Rex)
 - (2) Oedipus at Colonus
 - (3) Antigone



Euripides - third of the great **tragic** playwrights of Greece, he took on humanist ideals in characters and themes.

Aristophanes - dominated the **comic** theatre with social criticism and social and political caricature



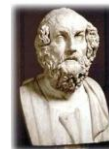
OTHER FAMOUS GREEKS OF LATER TIMES

Euclid - known as the Father of Geometry, he was active in Hellenistic Alexandria during the reign of Ptolemy I (c. 300 BC)

Eratosthenes - 3rd chief librarian at the Library in Alexandria, he determined the circumference of the earth, tilt of the earth's axis, and distance from the sun to earth with remarkable accuracy for his time. (c. 200's BC)

Hipparchus - great astronomer who cataloged the heavenly bodies & formulated basic principles of trigonometry

Strabo - wrote a 17 volume Geography of the known world



Aristarchus - astronomer who proposed that the earth revolves around the sun

Zeno - founder of school of philosophy known as Stoicism (c. 300 BC).

- The word 'stoic' has come to mean 'unemotional' or indifferent to pain, because Stoic ethics taught freedom from 'passion' by following 'reason.'
- The Stoics did not seek to extinguish emotions, rather they sought to transform them by a resolution to develop clear judgment and inner calm through self-discipline

Epicurus - founder of Epicurean school of philosophy (c. 300 BC).

- Epicureans lived in pursuit of a happy, tranquil life characterized by freedom from fear and absence of pain.
- Their philosophy later came to be associated with living a life of pleasure for pleasure's sake.

