

ANCIENT GREECE

Economic Systems of Ancient Greece

- Trade
 - Exports- Wine, olives, pottery outside of country; foods between poleis
 - Imports- Slaves, grain/wheat, salt, wood
- Limited farming land
 - Wealth = amount of land owned

Religion of Greeks

- between Minoan beliefs, Central Asian Gods & West Asian ideas
 - Lasted at least 1,000 years
 - Priest didn't established clergy
- Perform rituals to ensure aid of Gods
- Natural things = Most important Gods
 - Controlled by rituals, sacrifices, and prayers
- Religion had a big impact in daily life
 - Families prayed
 - Olympic Games

Legal Systems

Solon laws were in five categories:

- Public Laws : Public Distribution
- Tort Laws: Harm done to person or property
- Early laws: Law givers and creation of laws
- Family Laws: Behavior of men and women
- Procedural laws: Guidelines for Judges

The Greek Writing and History

First to use alphabet

Used to write stories & important documents

- Literature
 - Began with Homer poems
 - Important contribution plays

Herodotus "Father of history"

- Importance of research

Thucydides

- Importance of not showing bias

Government of Ancient Greece

- Independent government, isolated politically
- City States/Polis
- City States built with two levels
 - Upper Level - acropolis or high city
 - Lower Level - walled main city

Monarchy- about 750 B.C.

- First Form of Government
- One ruler of each state
- Nobles were loyal and protected the state

Oligarchy- about 550 B.C.

- Middle class gained wealth and power, wanted more power
- They challenged nobles
- If you were wealthy you were part of government

Aristocracy

- Nobles gained power, wanted more
- Wealthy land owners became rulers

Democracy (Athens)

- Commoners demanded power
- They had a very limited democracy (only for men)

Urban Culture

Greeks were unified through tradition

- Panhellenic and Olympic games
 - Four separate sport festivals
 - Held every four years in Olympia in honor of Zeus

Temples dominate landscape

Majority of the pop. lived in the city

Greek theatre began in Athens

Agora space: Common public area

City festivals, national sports, and art competitions were frequent

Map of Ancient Greece

