Essential Chronology of Ancient Greek History

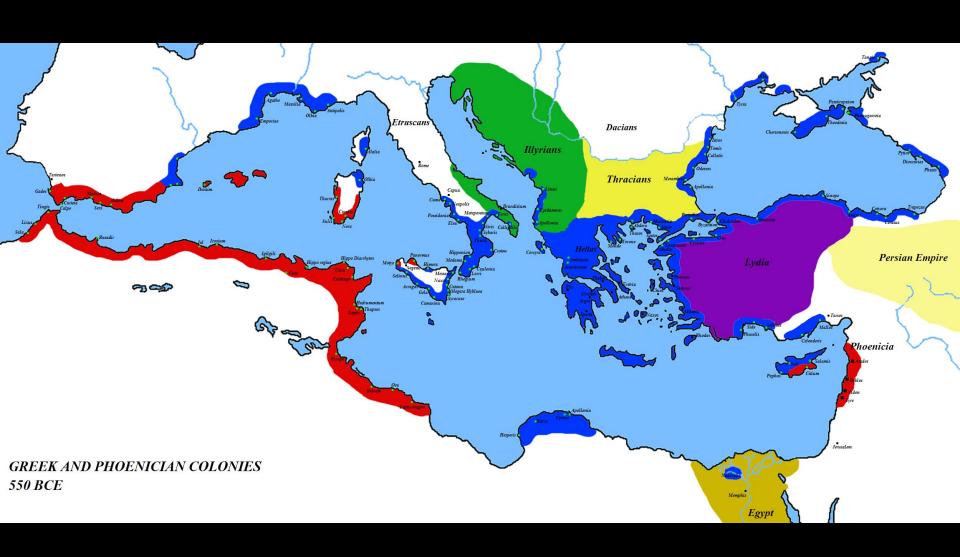


Periods of Ancient Greek History

- 1. Archaic period (c.750 c.500 BCE)
- 2. Classical period (c. 500 323 BCE)
- 3. Hellenistic period (323 146 BC)
- 4. Roman Greece (146 BCE 330 CE)
- 5. Late Antiquity (from later 4th c. CE to 529 CE)

Archaic Period (c. 750 – c. 500 BCE)

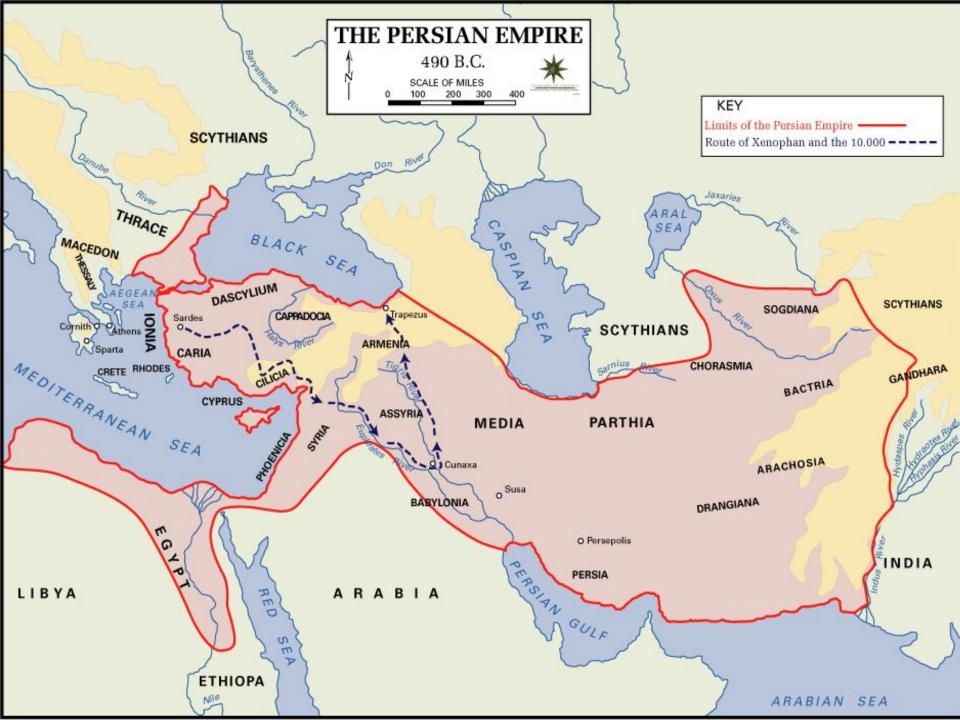
- End of Greek colonization process
- Beginning of Greek literature (Homer, Hesiod).
- Struggle between Athens and Sparta.
- Athens overthrows tyrant and becomes a "democracy".
- Beginning of Athens' "golden age".





Classical Period (c. 500 – 323 BCE) - I

- Traditionally considered "exemplary" period for art and architecture.
- Major powers: Athens during 5th c., Sparta from 4th c., then Thebes, finally the northern state of Macedon.
- Athens and Sparta must join their forces against the Persian Empire.
- Greco-Persian Wars: 490 BCE 449 BCE. Famous battles of Thermopylae, Salamis, Plataea.
- Most of Greek world liberated from Persian influence.



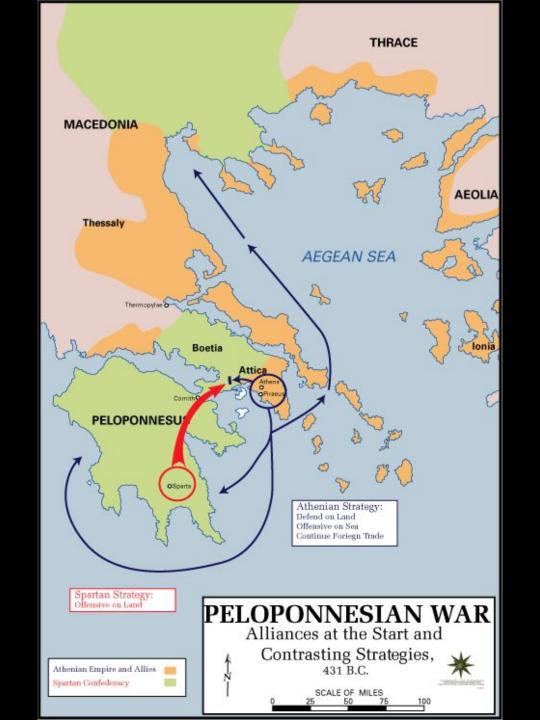


Classical Period (c. 500 – 323 BCE) - II

- After victory Athens and allies become main power.
- Sparta feels threatened: Peloponnesian War (431-404 BCE). Sparta wins.
- Athens and other states form an alliance against Sparta.
 Thebes becomes new main power.
- All of the Greek states very weakened by wars:
- Northern state of Macedon under King Philip II becomes hegemon (= leader) of all of Greece.
- End of independent town-states.
- Philip II unites all of Greece and starts war against Persian Empire. Son Alexander destroys Persian Empire and annexes it to Macedon, becoming "the Great".





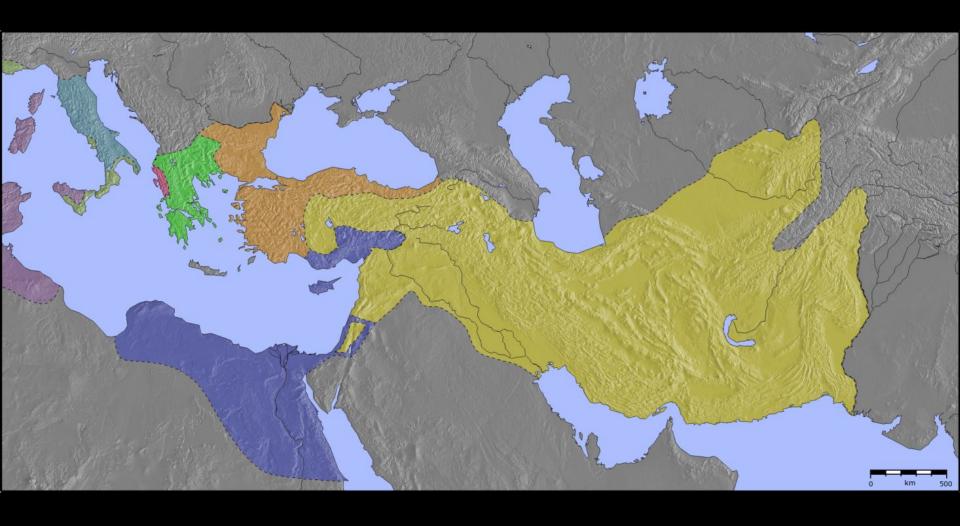


Hellenistic period (323-146 BC)

- Greek culture and power expands into the near and middle east.
- Begins with death of Alexander, ends with Roman conquest.
- Fusion of Greek and middle-eastern and eastern populations and cultures.
- Most important Hellenistic towns become Alexandria in Egypt and Antioch in Syria.
- Hellenistic kingdoms in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

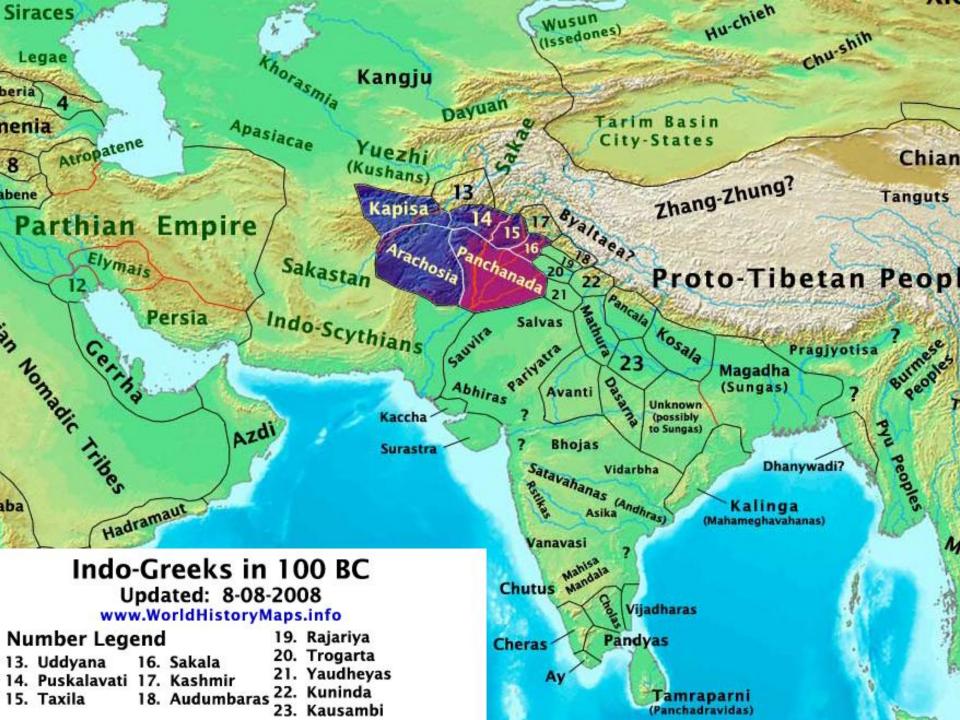


Alexander the Great and Darius III of Persia at the Battle of Issus (333 BCE). Mosaic found in the House of the Faun, Pompeii



Hellenistic Kingdoms





Roman Greece (146 BCE – 330 CE)

 Between Roman victory over the Corinthians at the Battle of Corinth (146 BCE) and establishment of Byzantium by Emp. Constantine as the capital of the Roman Empire in 330 CE.



Late Antiquity

- Period of Christianization during the later 4th to early 6th centuries
- (complete with the closure of the Neoplatonic Academy by Emperor Justinian I in 529 CE).

