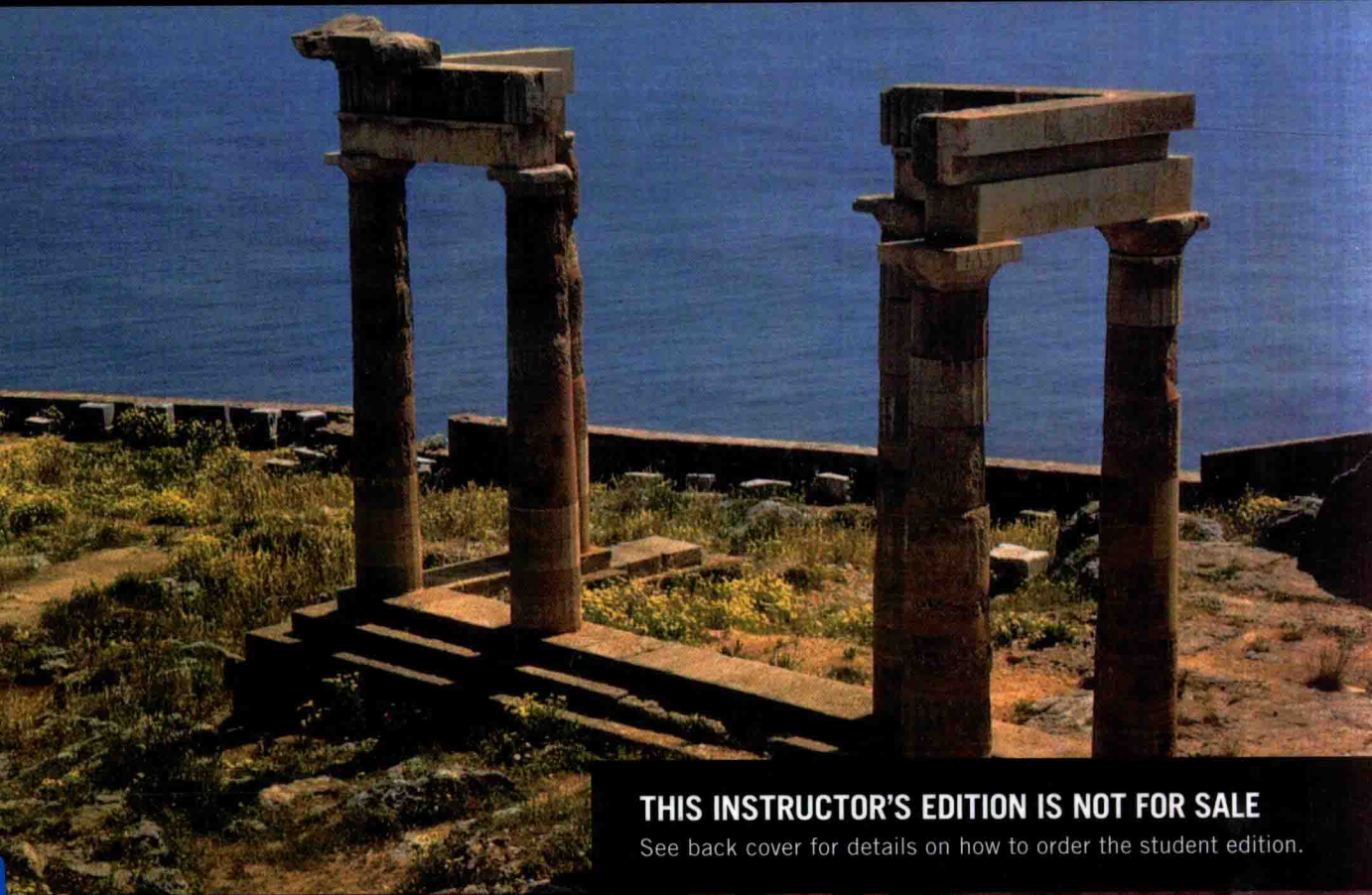


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A BRIEF HISTORY OF ANCIENT GREECE

POLITICS, SOCIETY, AND CULTURE

THIRD EDITION

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

SARAH B. POMEROY
STANLEY M. BURSTEIN • WALTER DONLAN
JENNIFER TOLBERT ROBERTS • DAVID W. TANDY

A Brief History of Ancient Greece

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THIRD EDITION

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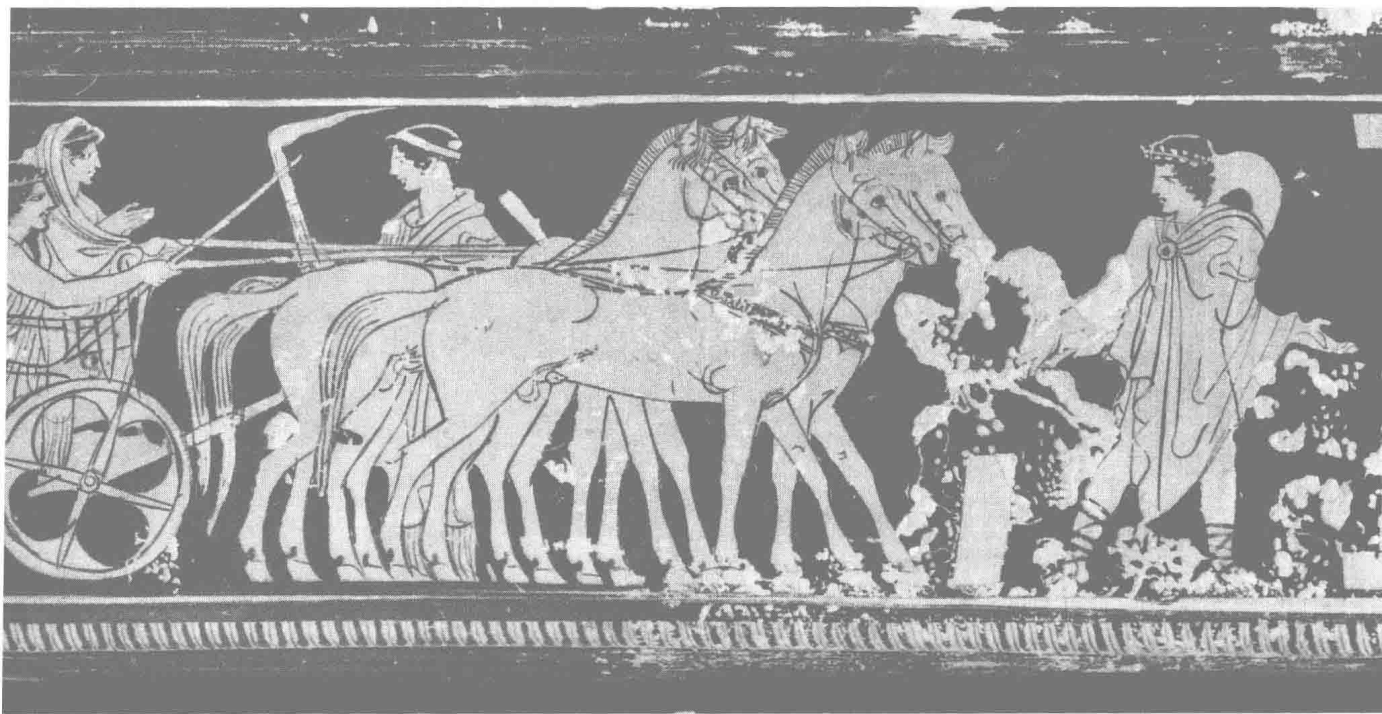
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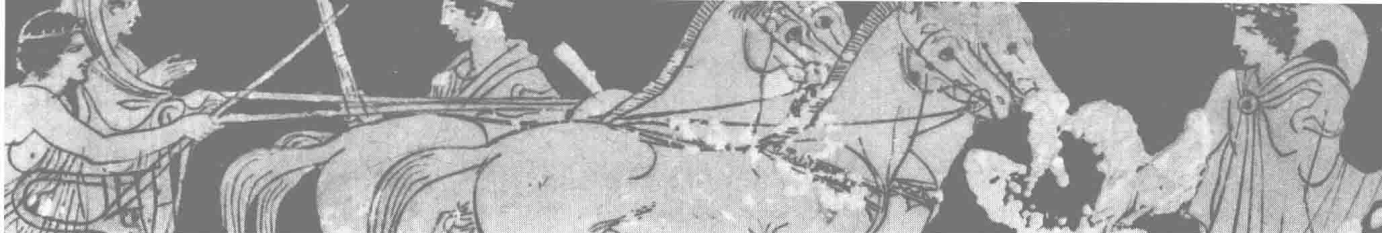
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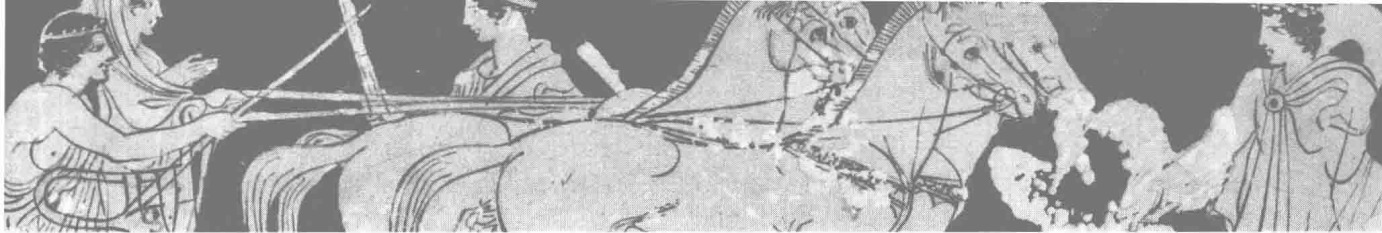
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P R E F A C E

The history of the ancient Greeks is one of the most improbable success stories in world history. A small people inhabiting a country poor in resources and divided into hundreds of squabbling mini-states created one of the world's most remarkable cultures. Located on the periphery of the Bronze Age civilizations of Egypt and Mesopotamia, the Greeks absorbed key technical skills such as writing and metallurgy in the process of developing a culture marked by astonishing creativity, versatility, and resilience. Finally, having spread from Spain to the borders of India, Greek culture was gradually transformed as it became an integral part of other civilizations: Latin, Byzantine, and Islamic. In the process, the Greeks left a rich legacy in every area of the arts and sciences that is still alive in contemporary civilization.

Almost two decades ago the authors of this book set out to write a new history of the country the English poet Byron called "the land of lost gods." The goal of *Ancient Greece. A Political, Social, and Cultural History* (Oxford, 1999) was to flesh out the romantic images of Greece with the new understanding of the realities of history gained from the patient scholarship of a half-century of talented historians. We also hoped to change the teaching of ancient history in North America and elsewhere by giving full recognition to the significance of the Dark Age and of the Hellenistic period in the formation of Greek civilization, incorporating into the story of Greece the experiences of those who did not belong to the elite (such as women and slaves), and using archaeological and artistic evidence as primary sources—not as mere illustrations of what was already known from written texts.

Since the publication of that book, Oxford University Press has afforded us four opportunities to build on our work. In 2004 we published the first edition of *A Brief History of Ancient Greece*, which, although shorter than our first work, placed greater emphasis on social and cultural history. In 2008, we published a second edition of the original book and in 2012 a third; the brief version was released in a second edition in 2009. On each occasion, every paragraph and sentence was carefully reviewed. The readings were updated, and suggestions and corrections sent to us by our readers were incorporated into the text. The maps have been completely redesigned and new translations selected or prepared

wherever necessary. We have doubled the color plates in this edition, enabling readers to see images as the Greeks saw them.

This book has drawn on all the improvements made in our earlier work; the art program, for example, combines photos from the earlier editions of this book with some from the second and third editions of the larger book and includes new images as well. We have expanded our discussions of religion, childhood, marriage, and funeral customs. Scholarship does not stand still, however, and we have continued to incorporate new knowledge in this edition as we did in its predecessors, especially in the first three chapters. Finally, we would particularly call the readers' attention to three features of our book: the timeline at the beginning, which provides a brief but comprehensive overview of Greek history; the extensive glossary at the end, which provides capsule descriptions of many of the terms that occur in the book; and the color plates, which bring our readers closer to the physical reality of the remarkable objects and buildings the Greeks created.

All synthetic works depend on the work of innumerable scholars, whose names do not appear in our text. We would like to thank them and our generous readers and students, from whose comments and suggestions we have greatly benefited. We are indebted to Charles Cavaliere and his always helpful staff at Oxford University Press who have been generous with their support and assistance throughout the gestation of this project. We wish also to thank Barbara McManus and Lee Harris Pomeroy for their help and advice with images. The late Walter Donlan's contributions to the previous editions of this book were great, and his ongoing participation has been missed. Fortunately, another historian of early Greece, David Tandy, has joined our team, and he has thoroughly revised the chapters dealing with prehistoric and Archaic Greece in the light of the best contemporary scholarship.

Finally, we would also like to thank the various publishers who have granted us permission to reprint translations. All unattributed translations in the text are by the authors except for those of Herodotus, which are from the translation of Walter Blanco that appears in Walter Blanco and Jennifer Tolbert Roberts, eds., *Herodotus: The Histories*, 2nd ed. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2013); and Thucydides, which are from the translation of Walter Blanco that appears in Walter Blanco and Jennifer Tolbert Roberts, eds., *Thucydides: The Peloponnesian War* (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1998). Abbreviations for standard works follow those used in *The Oxford Classical Dictionary*, 4th ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012).

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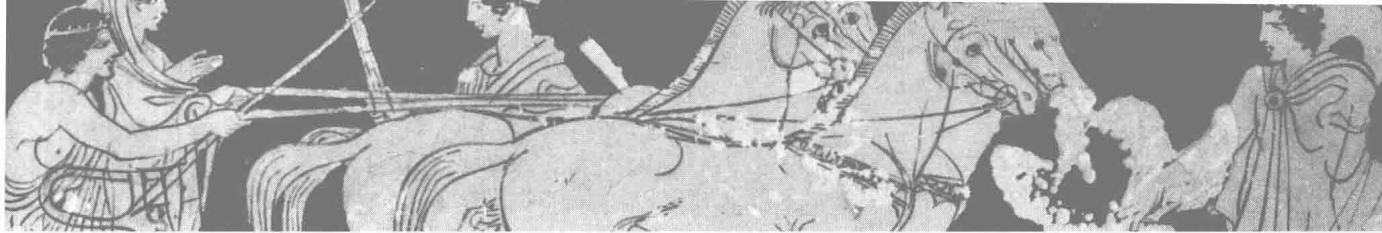
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T I M E L I N E

PERIOD	MILITARY EVENTS	POLITICAL/SOCIAL EVENTS	CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
7000–3000 Neolithic		Permanent farming villages	Domestication of plants and animals; pottery
3000–2100 Early Bronze Age		Social ranking emerges; villages and districts ruled by hereditary chiefs	Widespread use of bronze and other metals in the Aegean
2100–1600 Middle Bronze Age	2100 Lerna and other sites destroyed	2100 (?) Incursions of Indo-European Speakers into Greece	2100 (?) Indo-European gods introduced into Greece 1900 First palaces in Crete 1900 Mainland contacts with Crete and the Near East 1800 Cretans develop Linear A writing
1600–1200 Late Bronze Age	1500–1450 Mycenaean take over Crete 1375 Knossos destroyed 1250–1225 “The Trojan War” (?) 1200 Invaders loot and burn the palace centers	1600 Mycenae and other sites become power centers; small kingdoms emerge 1400–1200 Height of Mycenaean power and prosperity 1200–1050 Palace- system collapses	1600 Shaft graves 1500 Tholos tombs 1450 Linear B writing 1400 New palaces in Greece 1200 Cultural decline

PERIOD	MILITARY EVENTS	POLITICAL/SOCIAL EVENTS	CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
1200–900 Early Dark Age (Submycenaean 1125–1050) (Protogeometric 1050–900)		1050 Small chiefdoms established; migrations of mainland Greeks to Ionia 1000 Dorian Greeks settled in the mainland and the islands	Iron technology 950 Monumental building at Lefkandi
900–c. 750/700 Late Dark Age (Early Geometric 900–850) (Middle Geometric 850–750)		900 Population increases; new settlements established; trade and manufacture expand 800 Rapid population growth	800 Greeks develop an alphabet; earliest temples built 776 Traditional date of first Olympic games
c. 750/700–480 Archaic Period (Late Geometric 750–700)	730–700 First Messenian War; Lelantine War 700–650 Evolution of hoplite armor and tactics 669 Battle of Hysiae 650 Second Messenian War	750–700 City-states emerge 750 Overseas colonization to the West begins 670–500 Tyrants rule in many city-states 650 Colonization of Black Sea area begins; earliest known stone inscription of a law; “Lycurgan” Reforms at Sparta; the “Great Rhetra” (?) 632 Cylon fails in attempt at tyranny in Athens 620 Law code of Draco in Athens 600 Lydians begin to mint coins	750–675 <i>Iliad</i> and <i>Odyssey</i> composed 720 “Orientalizing period” in art begins 700 Hesiod. Period of lyric poetry begins 650 Temples built of stone and marble; Corinthian black-figure technique 600 Beginnings of science and philosophy (the “Presocratics”) 582–573 Pythian, Isthmian, Nemean games inaugurated

continued

PERIOD	MILITARY EVENTS	POLITICAL/SOCIAL EVENTS	CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
		560–514 Pisistratus and his sons tyrants of Athens	Pisistratus expands religious festivals at Athens
		550 Sparta dominant in the Peloponnesus	
		507 Cleisthenes institutes political reforms in Athens	530 Athenian red-figure technique
	499 Ionian Greeks rebel from Persian Empire		5th-century rationalists and scientists; Hippocrates; advances in medicine; increase in literacy
	490 Battle of Marathon	486 Decision to choose Athenian archons by lot	Classical style in sculpture
		482 Ostracism of Aristides	
	480–479 Persian invasion of Greece		
480–323		477 Foundation of Delian League	
Classical Period		Growth of democracy in Athens	470–456 Construction of temple of Zeus at Olympia
	464 Helot rebellion in Sparta	461 Reforms of Ephialtes at Athens	458 Aeschylus' <i>Oresteia</i>
	460–445 "First" Peloponnesian War	454 Athenians move treasury from Delos to Athens	451 Pericles carries law limiting citizenship at Athens
		Flourishing of Greek trade and manufacture	
			Herodotus at work on his <i>Histories</i>
		445 Thirty Years' Peace	447–432 Construction of Parthenon at Athens
	431–404 Peloponnesian War		Sophists active in Athens
		429 Death of Pericles	Thucydides begins his <i>History</i>
			c. 428 Sophocles' <i>Oedipus Tyrannus</i>
		423 Thucydides exiled from Athens	425 Aristophanes' <i>Acharnians</i>
		421 Peace of Nicias	
	415–413 Sicilian campaign		415 Euripides' <i>Trojan Women</i>

continued

PERIOD	MILITARY EVENTS	POLITICAL/SOCIAL EVENTS	CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
		411–410 Oligarchic coup in Athens; establishment of Council of 400; regime of the 5,000	411 Aristophanes' <i>Lysistrata</i>
	403–377 Sparta the most-powerful state in Greece	404–403 Regime of the Thirty Tyrants in Athens	
	395–387 Corinthian War	399 Trial and execution of Socrates	399–347 Dialogues of Plato; foundation of the Academy
		Fourth century: Rise of class of <i>rhetores</i> at Athens; economic inequalities and social <i>stasis</i> throughout Greece	399–360 Writings of Xenophon
	377–371 Athens the most powerful state in Greece	Serious population decline in Sparta; impoverished class of "Inferiors" at Sparta; increasing amount of property in hands of Spartan women	375–330 Works of Praxiteles
	371–362 Thebes the most powerful state in Greece		368–347 Aristotle studies at Academy
	359 Defeat of Perdiccas III	359 Accession of Philip II	
		357 Marriage of Philip II to Olympias	
		356 Birth of Alexander the Great	356 Philip II's Olympic victory
		356–346 Third Sacred War; Peace of Philocrates	355 Demosthenes' first speech
			347 Death of Plato
			346 Isocrates' <i>Philippus</i>
	338 Battle of Chaeronea	338 Assassination of Artaxerxes III; foundation of Corinthian League; marriage of Philip II and Cleopatra	338 Death of Isocrates
	336 Invasion of Asia by Philip II	336 Accession of Darius III; assassination of Philip II; accession of Alexander III	

continued

PERIOD	MILITARY EVENTS	POLITICAL/SOCIAL EVENTS	CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
	335 Revolt of Thebes	335 Destruction of Thebes	335 Aristotle returns to Athens; founding of Lyceum
	334 Battle of Granicus		
	333 Battle of Issus	333 Alexander at Gordium	
	331 Battle of Gaugamela	331 Foundation of Alexandria	331 Visit to Siwah by Alexander
	330–327 War in Bactria and Sogdiana	330 Destruction of Persepolis; death of Philotas	
		329 Assassination of Darius III	
		328 Murder of Cleitus	
	327–325 Alexander's invasion of India	327 Marriage of Alexander and Roxane	
	326 Battle of the Hydaspes		
323–30 Hellenistic Period	323–322 Lamian War	323 Death of Alexander III; accession of Philip III and Alexander IV	
		322 Dissolution of the Corinthian League	322 Deaths of Aristotle and Demosthenes
	321 Invasion of Egypt	321 Death of Perdikkas; Antipater becomes regent	321–292 Career of Menander
	318–316 Revolt against Polyperchon		
	315–311 Four-year war against Antigonos	315 Freedom of Greeks proclaimed by Antigonos the One-Eyed	
	307 Demetrius invades Greece	311 Peace between Antigonos and his rivals	307–283 Foundation of the Museum
	306 Battle of Salamis	306 Antigonos and Demetrius acclaimed kings	306 Epicurus founds Garden
		305 Ptolemy, Seleucus, Lysimachus, and Cassander declare themselves kings	
	301 Battle of Ipsus	301 Death of Antigonos; division of his empire	301 Zeno founds Stoa

continued

PERIOD	MILITARY EVENTS	POLITICAL/SOCIAL EVENTS	CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
			300–246 Construction of the Pharos
	281 Battle of Corupedium	283 Death of Ptolemy I; accession of Ptolemy II	283–222 Works of Theocritus, Callimachus, Apollonius of Rhodes
	279 Invasion of Gauls	281 Deaths of Lysimachus and Seleucus	
		235–222 Reign of Cleomenes III at Sparta	246 Eratosthenes becomes librarian at Alexandria
	222 Battle of Sellasia	222 Exile of Cleomenes III; end of his reforms at Sparta	
	200–197 Second Macedonian War	196 Romans proclaim freedom of the Greeks at Isthmian games	
	171–168 Third Macedonian War	167 End of the Macedonian monarchy	167 Polybius comes to Rome
	31 Battle of Actium	30 Suicide of Cleopatra VII; Rome annexes Egypt	