

Homework:

Assignment: Readings - Morris & Powell, *The Greeks: History*, Chapter 4, pp. 41-71

Berkin & Anderson, *The History Handbook*, Chapter 2, pp.13-18

The Minoans

- Heinrich Schliemann
 - Troy & Mycenae

- Sir Arthur Evans
 - Knossos on Crete

 - Evans dubbed them “Minoans”

 - King Minos

- Appeared ~3000BC
 - Represents “Neolithic” stage

 - Gradually progressed from Neolithic to Bronze Age

 - Crete = crossroads

- “Palaces”
 - Knossos, Phaistos, Mallia, and Zakros
 - Served as administrative, religious, & manufacturing centers
 - Well constructed
 - Food stored in huge jars
 - Frescos
 - Presumably kings presided
 - May not be divine
 - Unclear political relations
 - No walls & connected by roads
- Writing = Linear A

- Palaces functioned as regulators

- Scribes and administrators kept track

- Overseas trade
 - Profited from Egyptian trade

 - Merchant & naval fleets

- Religion
 - *Polytheistic & Matriarchal*

 - Great Mother Goddess

- Remains of elite life
 - Women

 - Ordinary people archaeologically invisible

- Earthquakes are very common

- Death knoll = Santorini

Mycenaean Age

- First phase = Shaft Grave era

- Incredible trove

- "*Mask of Agamemnon*"

- Except graves no evidence of dwellings

- Warlike society

- Early Mycenaean society = typical warrior culture

- *Tholos* tombs

- Second phase = Period of the palaces

- Middlemen in commerce

- Mycenaean wares
- Militaristic chiefdoms became administrative centers
- Mycenae, Tiryns, Athens, Orchomenus, Thebes , and Pylos
- None as large as Minoan

- *Megaron*

- Served as a central meeting place

- Centralized economy

- ex. Pylos

- Classes

- *Wanax*

- *Hegetas*

—*Basileus*

—*Damos*

—*Doeroi*

—Religion

- Polytheistic

- Males deities are represented

—Most famous account = war w/ Troy

—~1200BC, sudden collapse

- Period of economic, social, and technological backwardness

- Greeks knew of calamities

- Widespread disturbances

- Plunged into the Greek “Dark Ages”

