

Persian Wars

- Persians conquered Asia Minor
 - Cyrus
- Herodotus of Halicarnassus
 - “Father of history”
 - *Histories*
- Cyrus conquered Lydia
 - Lydia controlled Ionian Greek states
 - Ionian Greeks
 - Ionians threatened Persian expansion
- Limits to Persian capacities
 - Ionian Greek states rebelled
 - Coincides w/ Hellenic Period
 - Darius I appoints tyrants

- Received assistance from Athens & Eretria

- Darius knows Ionia insecure

- Dispatched an expedition to Greece
 - Mardonius

 - Re-conquered Thrace

 - Macedonia = client kingdom

- Darius sends 2nd expedition
 - Artaphernes and Datis

 - Eretria

 - Athens send 4,000 colonists

 - 3 competing plans:
 - Eretrian strategy = defend walls

 - Two Eretrians open gates

- Marathon: the Campaign of 490BC
 - Battle = most famous in history

- Hippias

- “Earth & water”

- Provoked response from all *polies*

- Athens had duty to defend Greece

- 10 *strategi*

- Miltiades

- Pheidippides

- Athens & Plataea @ Marathon vs. Persians

- Greeks “fought and conquered them”

- “*Nenikēkamen!*”

- Army reached Athens before Persians

- Spartans arrived

- Homeric *aretē*

- Democracy of Athens advanced
 - *Archons*

- Aristides & Themistocles

- Miltiades died

- Themistocles advocated naval power

- Xerxes I

- Aristides = champion of hoplites

- Themistocles focused on Aegina

- Ostracism

- Aristides ostracized

- People aligned behind Themistocles

- 2nd Persian Invasion
 - Congress of states met at Corinth

 - Sparta and Athens

 - Combined Greek forces: Army = ~40,000; fleet = ~300 triremes

 - Spartans draft plan

 - Thebes

- Argos
- Thessaly
- Eurybiades command naval forces
- Themistocles real leader
- Vale of Tempe
 - Spartan *polemarch* – Euenetus commands land forces
 - Warned by Alexander I
 - Xerxes crossed Hellespont
 - Forced Thrace & Macedonian to submit
- Thermopylae & Artemisium
 - Leonidas and Eurybiades
 - Thermopylae
 - Was defensive act
 - Ephialtes
 - Greeks annihilated

- Artemisium
 - Savage fighting
 - Retreated to Salamis
- Direct path to Athens
 - Oracle = “wooden walls”
 - Plataea & Thespieae
 - Athens made HQ
 - Acropolis
 - Sacred olive tree
- Greek Decision
 - Themistocles persuades Eurybiades
 - Themistocles sent a trusted slave
 - Salamis
 - Xerxes withdrew to Asia
 - Left large force

- Mardonius

- Greek effort now on land
 - Pausanias & Aristides

 - Problem same as at Marathon

 - Plataea

 - Annihilated disorganized enemies

 - Greek Enthusiasm = historic significance