

About the history and the monuments of our country and our island.



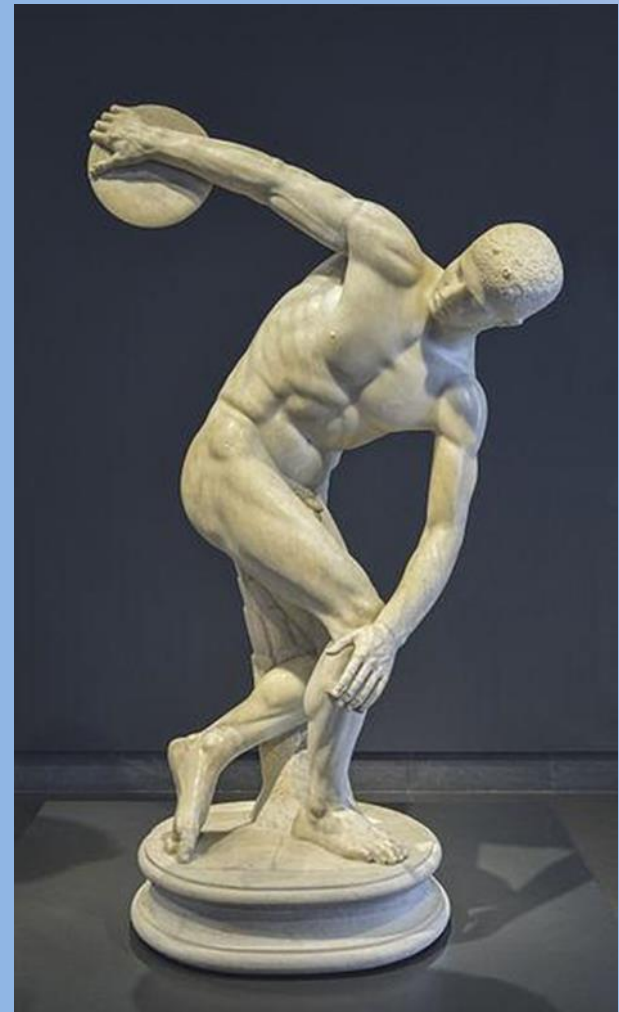
**Meeting in Rhodes
2-8/10/2016**

Greece/Hellas

Important Historical Events

The Olympic Games

- The Olympic Games (Greek: Ολυμπιακοί αγώνες, "Olympiakoí Agones") were held in the region of Olympia.
- They were a series of athletic competitions among representatives of city-states and one of the Panhellenic Games of Ancient Greece.
- They were held in honor of God Zeus.
- The first Olympics is traditionally dated to 776 BC.
- During the celebration of the games, an Olympic Truce was enacted so that athletes could travel from their countries to the games in safety.



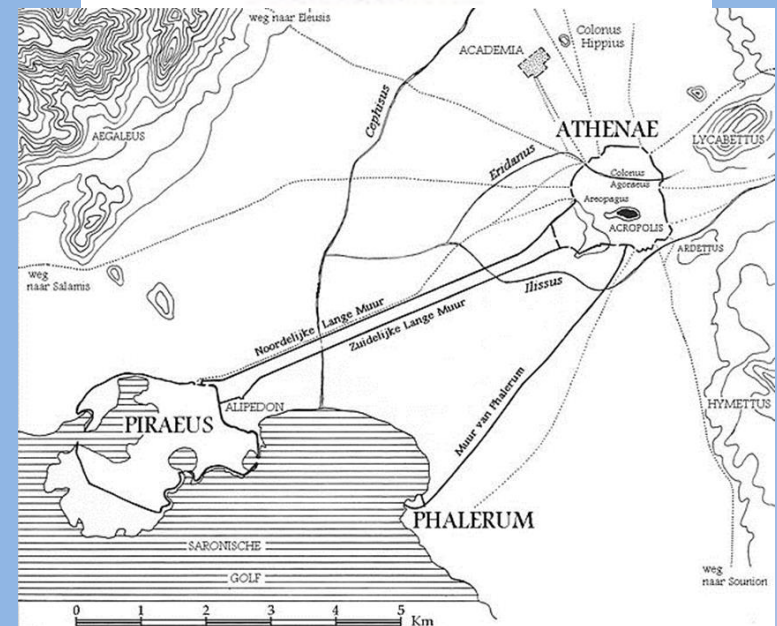
The "Discobolus" is a copy of a Greek statue c. 5th century BC. It represents an ancient Olympic discus thrower.

Ancient Olympia and Olympic Games .



City of Athens, the birth of Democracy (5th c. B.C.)

The political, social and economic rise of Athens during the Classical period reflected the development of an important civilization, the main expression of which was the birth and consolidation of the constitution and democracy.



Protection of Democracy. The system of “Ostracism”

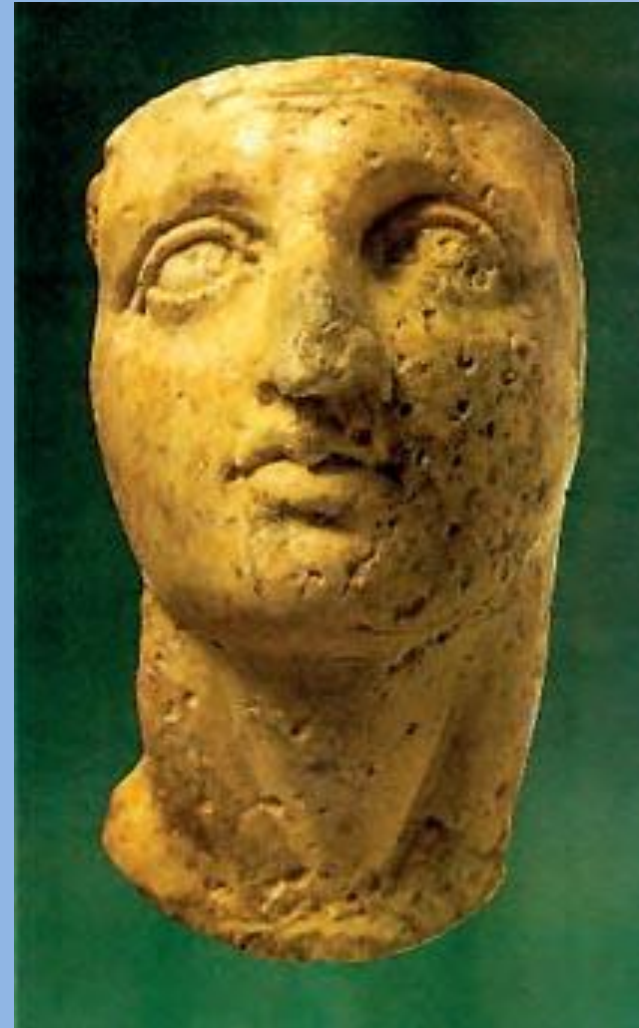
- The Athenians were much concerned with reinforcing and maintaining their democracy.
- In order to deal with aspiring tyrans, the systems of “ostracism” and “graphe paranomon” (the law against unconstitutional proposals) were instituted.
- Councillors swore an oath to denounce anyone who tried to undermine democracy, or who was implicated in any attempt to promote tyranny.



Shards used at ostracisms, 5th century B.C.
Athens, Museum of Kerameikos

Alexander the Great expands Greece and the greek language and civilisation

- Alexander the Great, (356 BC - 323BC), king of Macedonia (336–323 BC).
- After succeeding his father Philip II to the Macedonian throne succeeded in only a few years in conquering the cities of central Greece.
- Gradually, he abolished the Persian state, occupying each country until the African deserts in the south and the Jaxartes and Indus rivers in the east.

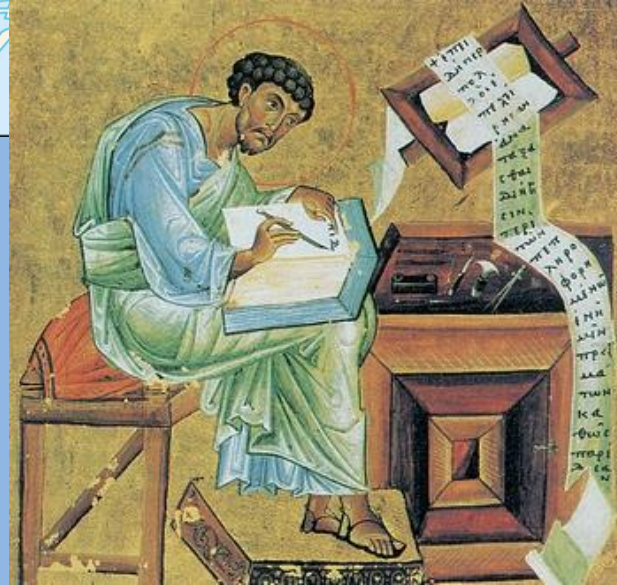


Alexander the Great expands Greece and the greek language and civilisation

- The greek became the official written and spoken language in the areas of eastern Mediterranean, (the Hellenistic or Alexandrian Koine (common), circa 300 B.C. - 300 A.D.).



Greece, as part of the Byzantine Empire (circa 330 A.D. - 1453 A.D.) offered to it an important and predominant feature, the greek language and the greek culture.



The foundation of the modern Greek state (1830)

- After the Greek National Revolution against Ottoman Empire from 1821, Greece was recognized as independent state (1830).
- Ioannis Kapodistrias was the first head of state (Governor) of independent Greece. After Kapodistrias' assassination, the London Conference (1832) established the Kingdom of Greece.
- The greek state initially small, regained gradually its national territories until 1947.



First international Olympic Games held in the modern era, Athens 1896.



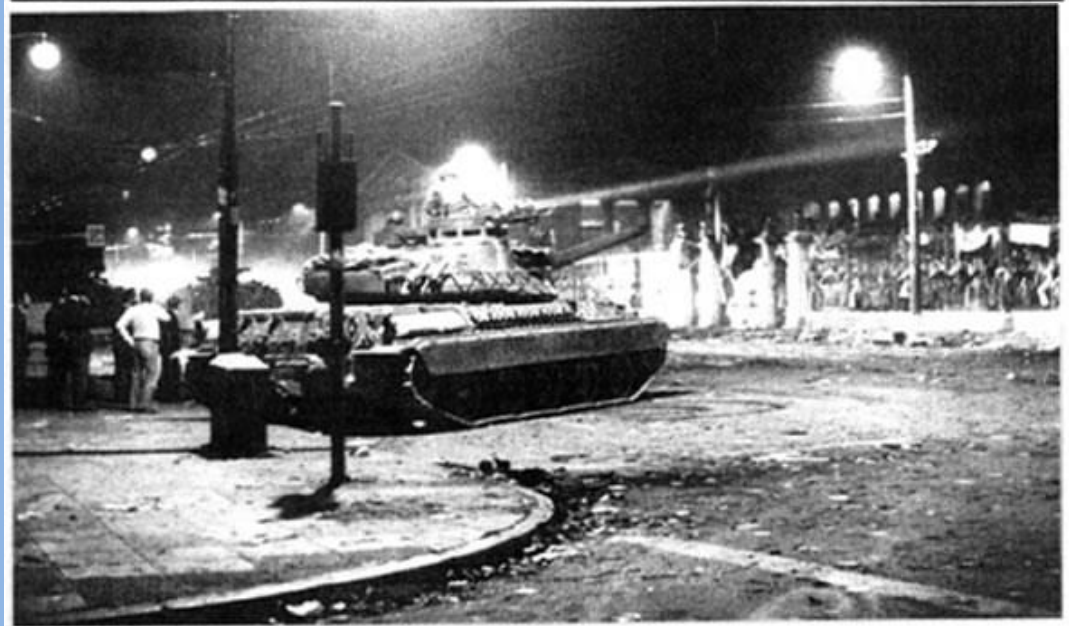
2nd World War (1940-1944)

- Greece was attacked by the Italians in 1940 and then by the Germans 1941. Despite the fact of the resistance of the Greek army, Greece was occupied until 1944.
- During the German Occupation (Κατοχή=Katochi) many acts of resistance took place.



Dictatorship (1967-1974)

- On April 21, 1967 conspirators officers of the Army overthrew the democratic regime imposing dictatorship.
- Peak power of the resistance of the greek people were the **student uprisings** of the Law School in Athens in February 1973, and the Technical University in November of the same year. The Polytechnic uprising was suppressed by military forces on the night of November 17, 1973: many people were killed, while others were arrested and subjected to torture.



1/1/1981 Greece became member of
the European Union.

