# **5.2**

# The Greek City-States



### As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- Understand how geography influenced the Greek city-states.
- Explain how democracy and other forms of government developed in Ancient Greece.
- Describe the influence of Ancient Greek concepts related to the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- Identify the culture and values shared by Ancient Greeks.
- Summarize how the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars affected Greece.

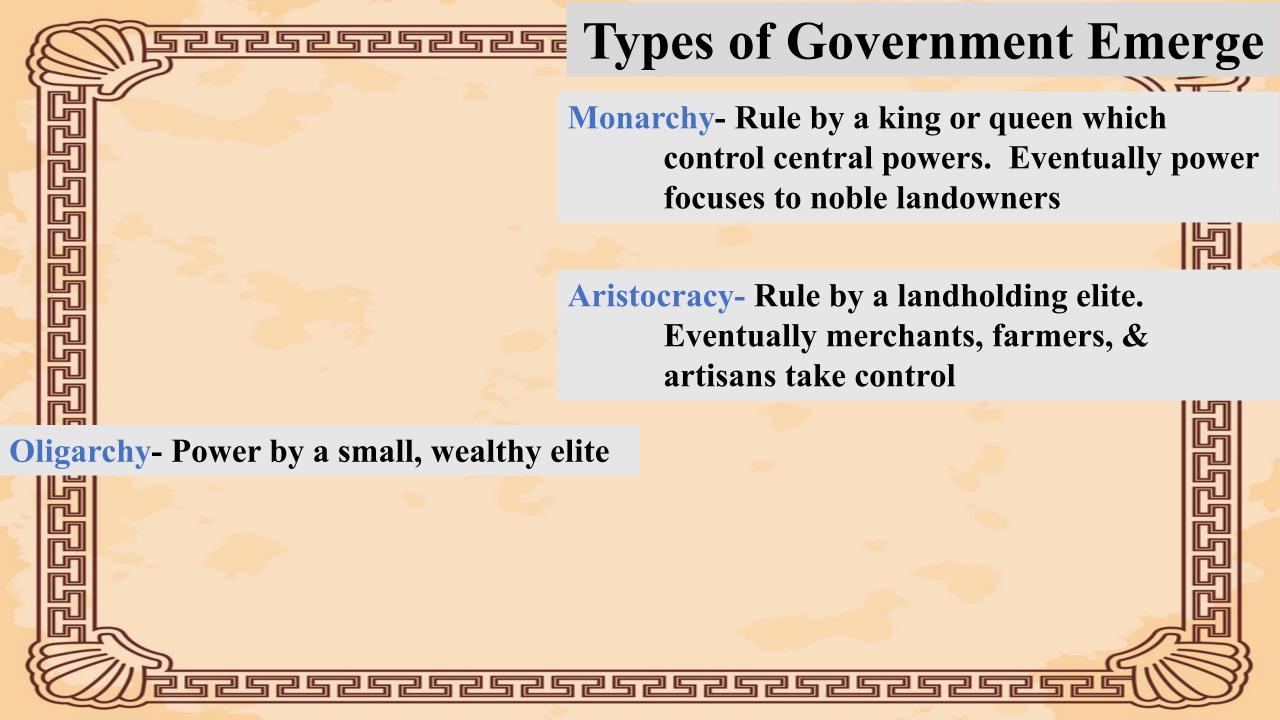
## The Shape of Greece

The Greeks lived in valleys & islands in citystates separated by mountains & water

Greeks became experienced traders of the sea, adapting knowledge gained from other civilizations

They built Polis, city-states built on two levels, & acropolis, high city with marble temples to the gods.

Populations of each city was small for citizens, free residents, to enjoy a sense of responsibility



## New Military Methods

About 650 B.C. iron weapons replace bronze weapons. Ordinary citizens could afford weaponry.

Phalanx- New method of warfare that created a massive tactical formation of armed foot soldiers.

New military training created a strong sense of unity in citizens

This reduced class differences in Greece due to ordinary people on the defenses



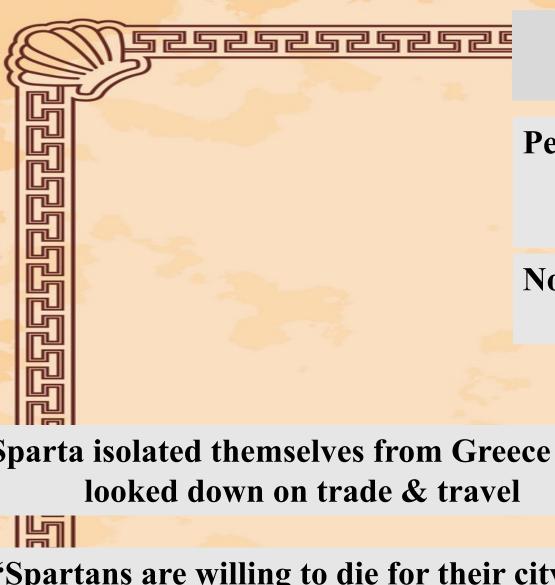
## Sparta Men & Women

Men were sent to train in the barracks at age 7 to become a hardened soldier.

At age 20 men could marry, but still had to train in the barracks & eventually for the assembly.

Women were also required to exercise & strengthen themselves to produce strong children

Women had to obey fathers & husband, but could inherit property & run the estate during war



## Sparta Citizenship

People had to be a descendant of the Dorians to be a Spartan. They owned land but did not work it.

Noncitizens had very few rights & could be expelled by Spartan government

Sparta isolated themselves from Greece &

"Spartans are willing to die for their city because they have no reason to live."

### Democracy in Athens!

Athens- located in Attica & was a major city-state in Greece

Athenians would begin to fight against aristocratic rulers, eventually turning to democracy, or rule by people.

Solon was appointed chief official & reformed Athens. He outlawed debt slavery & gave Athenians more decisions in the assembly.

Citizens remained limited in what they could do leading to the rise of Tyrants, people who gain power by force



#### Power & Wealth in Greece

The tyrant Pisistratus seizes power in 546 B.C. Gives loans to farmers & gives citizens a voice

507 B.C. Cleisthenes sets up a council of citizens who supervise day-to-day work of Government

Thus creates the legislature-law making body, people debate laws before deciding to approve or reject them.

Equal participation becomes important based upon certain qualifications for citizens

## **Democracy with Limits**

Citizenship meant responsibility to serve in government & fight as soldiers when needed

Women had no political life & were seen as "imperfect beings who lacked the ability to reason with men.

> Men spoke for women & children & were used as characters in Greek tragedies such as Antigone & The Clouds

Women ran the home & participated in religious activities while boys became educated & received military training



## Unity in Greece

Greeks were polytheistic & believed in myths & traditions such as the god Zeus. They would hold festivals, sacrifices, plays to honor gods

Playwrights would craft stories about heroes, gods, & goddesses

The Greeks would invent the Olympic games.

The Greeks would call truces to take part in the competitions

Greeks viewed non-greeks as *barbaroi* or Barbarians.

### Persian Wars

While Greek was small & divided, they resented the Persian Empire

The Persians had a HUGE empire from Asia to India. Confliction led to wars that lasted for half a century.

Battle at Marathon-Persian emperor Darius I tries to punish Athens for an uprising in Ionia.

Persian archers no match for Athenian foot soldiers & retreat. Themistocles (Athenian ruler) urges Athens to prepare for future conflict.



### Persian Wars

Xerxes (480 B.C.) sends in Persian empire to conquer Greece. They land in northern Greece only to find...

A small band of Spartans guarding
Thermopylae under the rule of King
Leonidas.

Persia defeats them & burns down Athens, but the people have already fled.

Athens lures Persian fleet to the strait of Salamis, sinking the fleet & defeating Xerxes

### Pericles, Democracy, & War

Athens forms an alliance, formal agreement between two nations to cooperate, with other Greek city-states

Pericles, a Greek states-man, turns the government toward democracy & Greece thrives

He believed that all citizens, regardless of wealth or class, should take part in government

He institutes a stipend, fixed salary, to those who participated in Assembly & creates a direct democracy, system of government where citizens take part in day-to-day government.



### Law & Culture

Athenian culture creates The Jury- Group of people who make legal decisions in legal cases

Athenians could also vote to banish people away in a process called ostracism.

This would lead to resentment from the rest of Greece & led to more conflict.

### The Peloponnesian War

Sparta & other enemies of Athens form the Peloponnesian league & begin a 27 war with Athens

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Athens & Sparta commit savage acts on each other & Sparta allies with Persia & capture Athens

Athens eventually recovers, & Sparta is defeated by Thebes.

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