

5.4

Alexander the Great & the Legacy of Greece



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

- Explain how Alexander the Great built an extensive empire.
- Describe the empire's cultural impact.
- Identify major Hellenic Greek scientists and their discoveries and innovations

The New Era

Philip II- Ruler who sought to conquer the Greek city-states of the south

He conquers Thebes & Athens in 338 B.C. at the Battle of Chaeronea

Before he can conquer Persia, he is **Assassinated-** murder of a public figure usually for political reasons

Phillip's queen Olympias puts her sone Alexander on the throne.

Alexander the Great!

Becomes ruler at 20 years old! Begins to organize troops to conquer Persia!

Wins his first victory against Persia at the Granicus River

He heads east to India, but is forced to turn back to Babylon

He catches a fever & as he lay dying told his commanders to leave control “To the strongest.”

Alexander's Legacy

His generals divide up the empire & for the next 300 years their descendants battle for control

Greek ideas begin to be **assimilated**, absorbed, into different cultures around the region

Ideas are also absorbed into Greek culture & the Hellenistic civilization flourishes

Culture & Women

The city of **Alexandria** stands as the capital & houses the Pharos lighthouse

Rulers of Alexandria build a great Museum with laboratories, lecture halls, & a zoo!

Women begin to learn to read & write as well as gained more influence & power

The Arts & Sciences also began to grow!

Hellenistic Arts & Science

The philosophy of Stoicism emerges which urged people to avoid desires & disappointments by accepting things calmly.

Pythagoras- develops mathematic formulas to calculate the relationships between the sides of a right triangle

Euclid writes The Elements that becomes the basis for modern geometry

The theory of **heliocentric**, sun centered, solar system begins due to Aristarchus

More Art & Science

Archimedes develops principles of physics to make inventions such as the lever & pulley

Hippocrates set the standards for doctors to study the causes of illnesses & look for cures.

Slowly but surely, Rome begins to replace Greece, but the ideas presented by Greece live on today!