

(All dates down to 508/7 are approximate or/and traditional.)

(BCE) = (Before) Common Era

**BCE**

*Bronze Age*

3000 (to 1000) Minoan (Cretan) civilization

1600 (to 1150) Mycenaean period

1400 Destruction of Cnossos

1250 Destruction of Troy

*Early Iron Age*

1100 (to 700) Era of Migrations (Dorian migration, Asia Minor settlement, beginnings of Western colonization)

*Archaic Age*

776 Foundation of Olympic Games

750 Greek alphabet invented, Euboeans settle Ischia and Cumae

735-715 Sparta conquers Messenia

733 Foundation of Syracuse

700 Homer, Hesiod

700 Introduction of hoplite fighting

688/657 Foundation of Byzantium

669 Battle of Hysiae: Argos defeats Sparta

620 Dracon's laws at Athens

600 Foundation of Massalia

Thales of Miletus

Development of trireme, invention of coinage,

594 Solon's laws at Athens

550 Achaemenid Persian empire founded

546 Cyrus (II 'the Great') of Persia defeats Croesus of Lydia

545 (to 510) Tyranny at Athens of Peisistratus and son Hippias

508/7 Cleisthenes introduces Democratic reforms at Athens

505 Sparta's Peloponnesian League formed

### *Classical Age*

499 (to 494) Ionian Revolt: rebellion against Persia of Ionian

Greeks and other, Greek and non-Greek subjects

490 Battle of Marathon: Athens and Plataea defeat Persian

invaders

480 (to 479) Second Persian invasion, under Xerxes, defeated:

Salamis 480, Plataea 479

480 Battle of Himera: Sicilian Greeks under Gelon defeat

Carthaginians

478 (to 404) Athens founds anti-Persian Delian League

474 Hieron I of Syracuse defeats Etruscans at Cumae

466 End of tyranny, beginning of Democracy at Syracuse

- 462 Further Democratic reforms at Athens: Ephialtes and Pericles
- 460 (to 446) 'First' Peloponnesian War: Sparta and allies vs Athens and allies
- 449 Peace of Callias (between Athens and Persia; existence disputed)
- 447 Thebes defeats Athens, establishes Oligarchic federal state  
Parthenon begun (completed 432)
- 446 Thirty Years' Truce between Sparta and Athens (broken 431)
- 431 (to 404, with interruptions) Atheno-Peloponnesian War
- 421 (to 414) Peace of Nicias
- 418 Battle of Mantinea: Spartan victory
- 415 (to 413) Athenian expedition to Sicily: Syracusan victory
- 405 Dionysius I, tyrant at Syracuse
- 404 Sparta, with Persian aid, wins Atheno-Peloponnesian War
- 404 (to 371) Spartan hegemony
- 401 (to 400) Expedition of the '10,000' to Asia
- 395 (to 386) Corinthian War: Sparta defeats Quadruple Alliance (Athens, Boiotia, Argos, Corinth)
- 386 King's Peace: sponsored by Artaxerxes II of Persia and Agesilaus II of Sparta
- 385 Plato founds Academy

378 (to 338) Athens founds anti-Spartan Second Sea-League,

Thebes a founder-member

371 Battle of Leuctra: Thebans defeat Spartans

Theban ascendancy in mainland Greece (to 362)

367 Death of Dionysius I of Syracuse

366 End of Sparta's Peloponnesian League

362 Second Battle of Mantinea: Theban victory, death of

Epaminondas

Common Peace renewed

359 (to 336) Accession of Philip II of Macedon

356 (to 346) Third Sacred War: Phocians vs Philip

346 Peace of Philocrates

338 Battle of Chaeronea, foundation of League of Corinth

336 Murder of Philip II, accession of Alexander ('the Great')

336 (to 323) Reign of Alexander

335 Alexander orders destruction of Thebes

Aristotle founds Lyceum at Athens

Timoleon dies at Syracuse

334 Alexander invades Persian empire

331 Foundation of Alexandria in Egypt, Battle of Gaugamela

330 End of Achaemenid Persian empire

323 (to 322) Failed revolt of Greeks against Macedon

322 Deaths of Demosthenes and Aristotle

## Termination of Athenian democracy

### *Hellenistic Age*

- 301 Battle of Ipsus, death of Antigonus founder of Antigonid dynasty of Greece
- 300 Zeno founds Stoic school
- 283 Death of Ptolemy I, founder of Ptolemaic dynasty of Egypt and of Museum and Library at new capital, Alexandria
- 281 Seleucus I, founder of Seleucid dynasty of Asia, assassinated  
Achaean League refounded
- 263 Eumenes I succeeds Philetaerus as ruler of Pergamum kingdom
- 244 (to 241) Agis IV king at Sparta
- 238 (to 227) War of Attalus I of Pergamum for mastery of Asia  
Minor
- 235 (to 222) Cleomenes III king at Sparta
- 224 (to 222) Antigonus III invades Peloponnese, founds Hellenic League
- 223 (to 187) Antiochus III succeeds Seleucus III
- 222 Battle of Sellasia: Antigonus III defeats Sparta
- 221 (to 179) Philip V succeeds Antigonus III
- 215 Alliance of Philip V and Hannibal of Carthage
- 211 Alliance between Aetolia and Rome: First Macedonian War

(to 205); Rome sacks Syracuse

200 (to 197) Second Macedonian War

196 Rome declares Greece 'Free'

194 Rome evacuates Greece

192 (to 188) Syrian War of Rome against Antiochus III

171 (to 168) Third Macedonian War

168 Battle of Pydna, end of Antigonid dynasty

148 Macedonia becomes Roman province

147 (to 146) Achaean (League) rising against Rome

### *Late Roman Republic*

146 Sack of Corinth, Achaea becomes Roman protectorate

133 Attalus III of Pergamum bequeaths kingdom to Rome

(becomes Roman province of Asia)

86 Roman general Sulla sacks Athens

31 Battle of Actium: Octavian defeats Cleopatra and Antony

### *Early Roman Empire*

27 (to CE 14) Octavian/Augustus reigns as First Roman Emperor

CE

66-7 Roman Emperor Nero tours Greece, 'wins' at Olympics

117-38 Reign of Emperor Hadrian

267 Heruli sack Athens and Sparta

*Early Byzantine Age*

- 324 Foundation (8 November) of Constantinople  
(refoundation of Byzantium) by Emperor Constantine
- 330 Dedication (11 May) of Constantinople
- 395 Emperor Theodosius I orders termination of all  
non-Christian religious worship, such as the Olympic  
Games
- 529 Emperor Justinian (527-65) orders closure of Greek  
philosophical Schools
- 1453 Fall of Constantinople to Mehmet II 'the conqueror',  
Sultan of the Ottoman Turks
- 1952 'Linear B' deciphered as earliest Greek
- 2004 M. H. Hansen and T. H. Nielsen (Copenhagen Polis Project)  
publish *An Inventory of Archaic and Classical Poleis*