

The Rise and Fall of Classical Greece: The Princeton History of the Ancient World

Classical Greece is a period of ancient Greek history stretching from the Archaic period (c. 800–500 BC) through the Hellenistic period (c. 323–146 BC). It is characterized by a flowering of Greek culture, art, and literature, as well as by significant political and military developments.

The rise of Classical Greece began with the Greek Dark Ages (c. 1200–800 BC), a period of social and political upheaval following the collapse of the Mycenaean civilization. During the Dark Ages, the Greeks began to develop new forms of government, art, and religion. They also began to explore the Mediterranean Sea, establishing colonies in Italy, Sicily, and North Africa.



The Rise and Fall of Classical Greece (The Princeton History of the Ancient World Book 1) by Josiah Ober

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
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By the Archaic period, the Greeks had developed a sophisticated culture and had begun to make significant advances in art, literature, and

philosophy. The Archaic period is also notable for the rise of the city-state, or polis. Each polis was a small, independent city-state with its own government, army, and economy.

The Classical period (c. 500–323 BC) is considered the golden age of Greek civilization. During this period, the Greeks made great advances in art, architecture, literature, and philosophy. They also fought a number of wars, including the Persian Wars (499–449 BC) and the Peloponnesian War (431–404 BC).

The Classical period ended with the death of Alexander the Great (323 BC). Alexander's conquests led to the spread of Greek culture throughout the Mediterranean region and beyond. However, the Greek city-states were eventually conquered by the Romans.

Causes of the Rise of Classical Greece

There are a number of factors that contributed to the rise of Classical Greece. These include:

- The development of new forms of government, art, and religion during the Greek Dark Ages.
- The rise of the city-state, or polis.
- The expansion of Greek trade and colonization.
- The influence of the Near East.

Causes of the Fall of Classical Greece

There are a number of factors that contributed to the fall of Classical Greece. These include:

- The Peloponnesian War (431–404 BC), which weakened the Greek city-states.
- The rise of Macedonia.
- The conquests of Alexander the Great.
- The spread of Roman power.

The Legacy of Classical Greece

The legacy of Classical Greece is vast and far-reaching. Greek culture, art, and literature have had a profound influence on Western civilization. Greek philosophy is still studied today, and Greek art and architecture continue to inspire artists and architects.

Classical Greece was a time of great creativity and innovation. The Greeks made significant advances in art, literature, philosophy, and science. Their legacy continues to inspire us today.

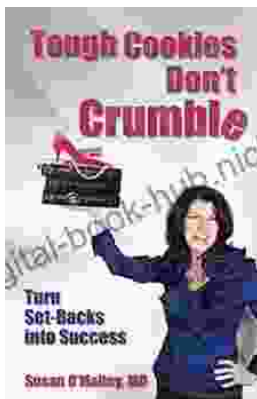
Further Reading

- The Rise and Fall of Classical Greece by Victor Davis Hanson
- Classical Greece: A History by Paul Cartledge
- The Making of Classical Greece by Hermann Bengtson

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