



### Dawn of the Aegean

History of Ancient Greece | Meeting #2

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### Upcoming Dates

- Monday, October 20  
Proposal Due
- Sunday, September 7  
Responses for Week 2 Due

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### Five things today

- The Aegean World
- The Bronze Age Aegean
- The Minoans
- The Coming of the Greeks
- Collapse of the Bronze Age

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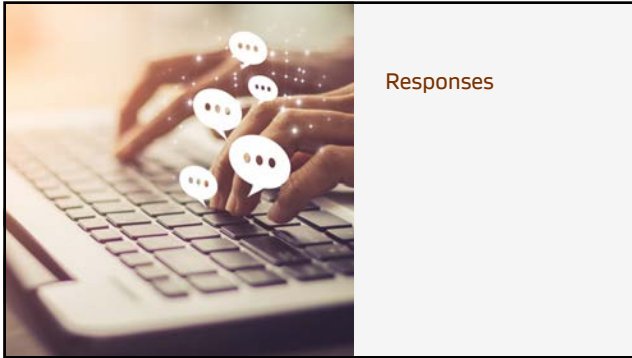
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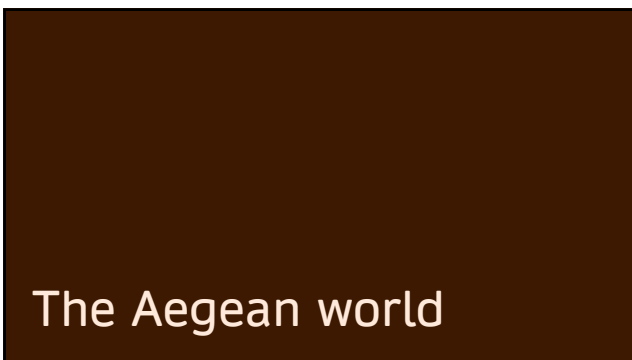
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Climate and soil

- Grain
- Grapes
- Olives

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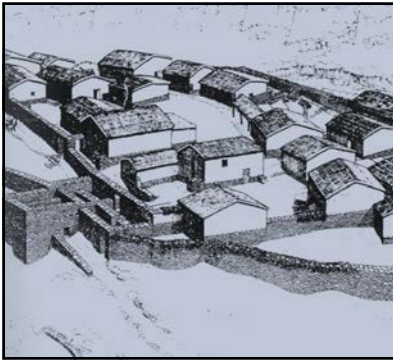
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Neolithic settlements

- Many small farming villages all across Aegean
- Slow development of farming, tools, and irrigation

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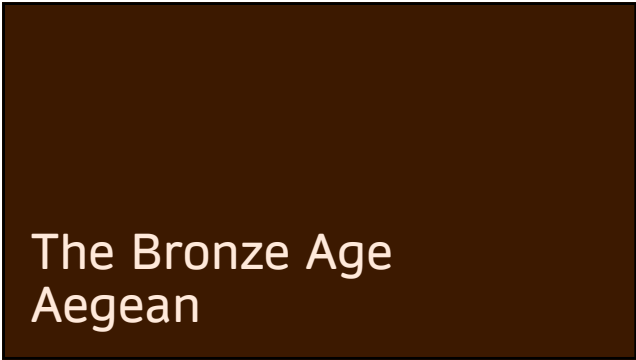
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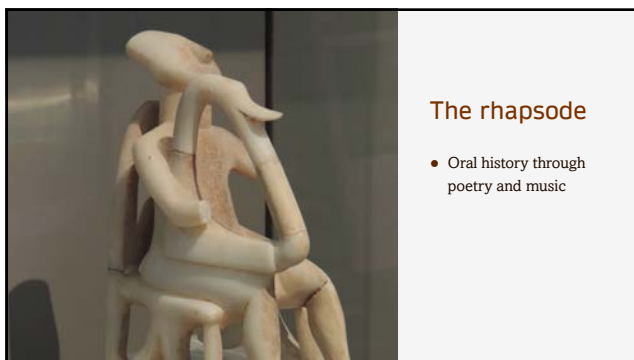
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# The Minoans

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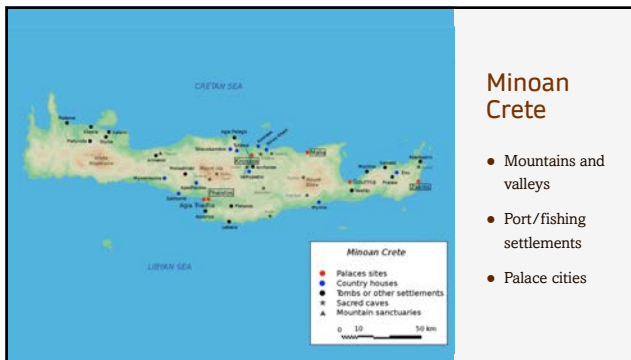
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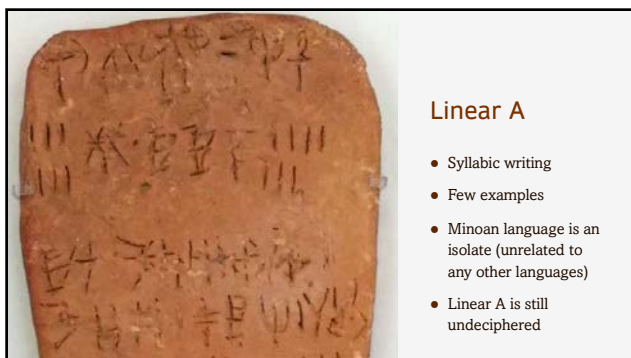
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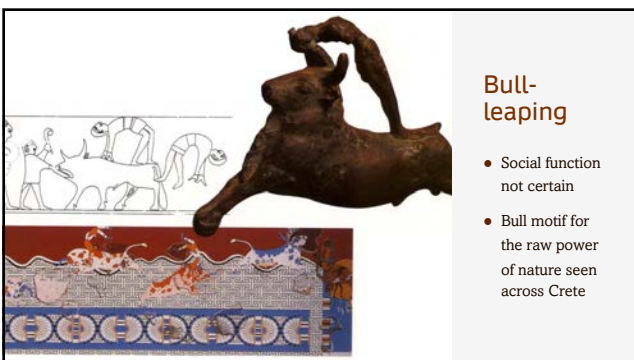
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### Sacred bull horns

- Represented in fresco, on pottery, and in architecture

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### Peak sanctuaries

- Most city-state cultures have a large, central urban temple
- Minoan sacred centers are at the heart of nature
- Sign of pre-Greek origin for cave sanctums (Oracle at Delphi)

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### Minoan gods and goddesses

- Distinctive female figurines
- Association with animals

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### Palace-cities

- Centralized rule and industry
- Highly stratified and vertical society

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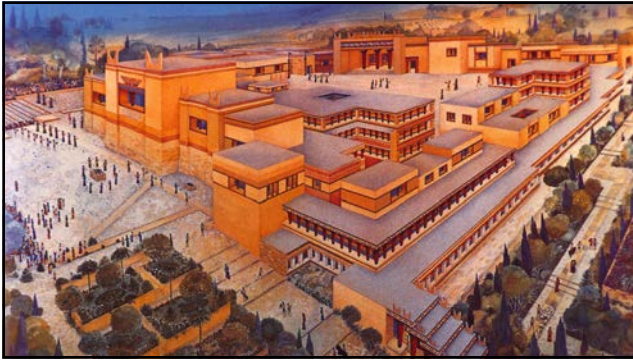
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### Bronze Age economy

- Requires control over sources of both copper and tin
- High cost of production
- Elite markets
- Constant escalation

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### Rival trade empires

- Those who control bronze and those who don't
- Fierce competition for resources and markets

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## The coming of the Greeks

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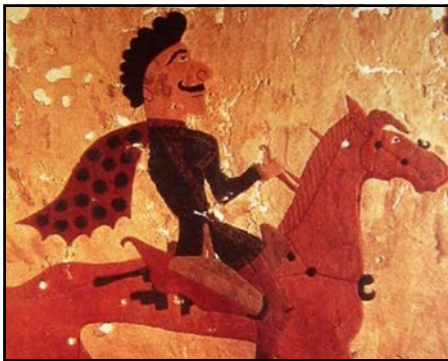
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### Indo-Europeans

- Decentralized
- Nonurban
- Tribal
- Pastoral

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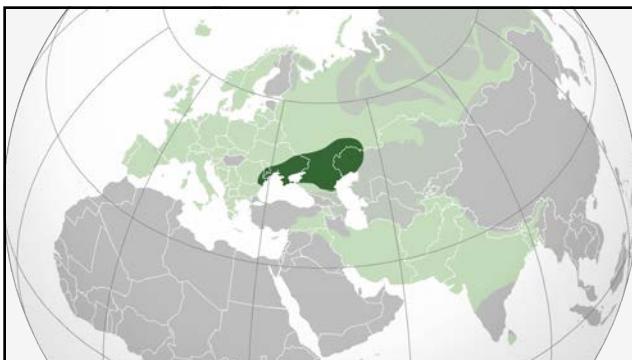
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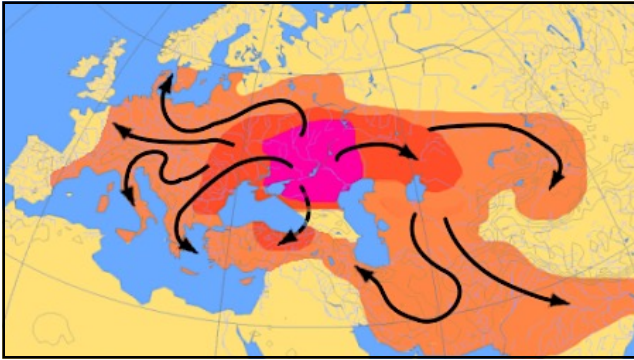
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PIE Root Word	Wagon Part	Daughter Languages
*k <sup>w</sup> ek <sup>o</sup> -los	(wheel)	<i>Old Norse</i> hveli 'wheel'; <i>Old English</i> brecehl 'wheel'; <i>Middle Dutch</i> wiel 'wheel'; <i>Avestan</i> Iranian castra- 'wheel'; <i>Old Indic</i> cakā 'wheel, Sun disc'; <i>Greek</i> kuklōn 'circle' and kukla (plural) 'wheels'; <i>Tocharian A</i> kukal 'wagon'; <i>Tocharian B</i> kukale 'wagon'
*rot <sup>o</sup> -eh <sup>2</sup> -	(wheel)	<i>Old Irish</i> roth 'wheel'; <i>Old Norse</i> roth 'wheel'; <i>Latin</i> rota 'wheel'; <i>Old High German</i> rad 'wheel'; <i>Lithuanian</i> ratas 'wheel'; <i>Latvian</i> rats 'wheel' and rats (plural) 'wheels'; <i>Albanian</i> rreth 'ring, hoop, carriage tire'; <i>Avestan</i> Iranian ratha 'chariot, wagon'; <i>Old Indic</i> ratha 'chariot, wagon'
*ak <sup>o</sup> -v <sup>h</sup> 2-, or	(axle)	<i>Latin</i> axis 'axle, axle'; <i>Old English</i> æx 'axle'; <i>Old High German</i> *ak <sup>o</sup> -v <sup>h</sup> 2- 'axle'; <i>Old Prussian</i> axiis 'axle'; <i>Lithuanian</i> ašis 'axle'; <i>Old Church Slavonic</i> osl 'axle'; <i>Mythological Greek</i> a-ko-so-ne 'axle'; <i>Old Indic</i> iks <sup>o</sup> -a 'axle'
*wēghet <sup>o</sup> -	(ride)	<i>Old Norse</i> smeyn 'drive about'; <i>Latin</i> veho 'bear, convey'; <i>Old Norse</i> vega 'bring, move'; <i>Old High German</i> wegan 'move, weigh'; <i>Lithuanian</i> velti 'drive'; <i>Old Church Slavonic</i> vesti 'drive'; <i>Avestan</i> Iranian vaxaiti 'transport, push'; <i>Old Indic</i> vāhati 'transport, carry, convey'. Derivative nouns have the meaning 'wagon' in <i>Greek</i> , <i>Old Irish</i> , <i>Old Norse</i> , <i>Old High German</i> , and <i>Old</i>

### Indo-European language

- Cognate words across hundreds of languages
- Linguists find a common language origin, proto-Indo-European
- What there are and aren't words for in PIE tell us what the original Indo-Europeans were like

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Words the Indo-European Greek had to borrow	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maritime terms, words for the sea, shipping<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- (e.g. θάλασσα thalassa "sea")</li></ul></li><li>• Words relating to Mediterranean agriculture<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- (e.g. ἐλαια welaia "olive", ἀμπέλκος ampelos "vine")</li></ul></li><li>• Words regarding rulers, given by the populace<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- (e.g. τύραννος tyrannos "tyrant"; βασιλεύς wanax "warrior-king")</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Building technology<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- (e.g. πύργος pyrgos "tower")</li></ul></li><li>• Personal names and theonyms<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- (e.g. Ὀδυσσεύς Odysseus)</li><li>- (e.g. Ἑρμῆς Hermes)</li></ul></li><li>• Place names<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- -nth- (e.g. Κόρινθος Korinthos, Ζάκυνθος Zakynthos)</li><li>- -ss- (e.g. Παρνασσός Parnassos)</li><li>- -tt- (e.g. Λυκαβηττός Lykabettos)</li></ul></li></ul>

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### Mycenaean Greeks

- Massive Indo-European migration ca. 1750 BCE
- Encounter Minoan city-states
- Emulate urban structure and economy

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### Mycenaean warfare

- Indo-European mastery of wheel and axle
- Mycenaean Greek chariots give battlefield mobility
- Primary conquest is economic, not military

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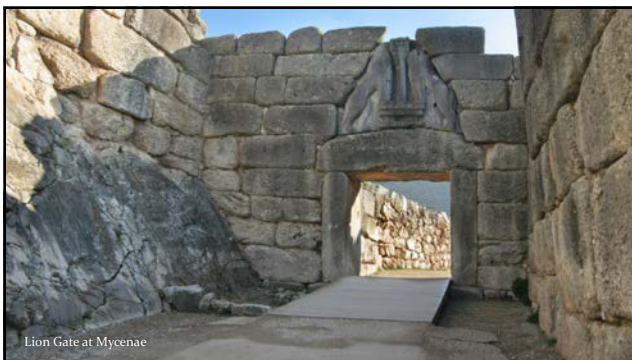
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Lion Gate at Mycenae

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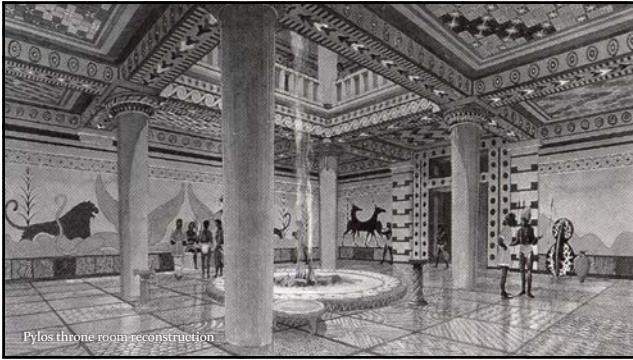
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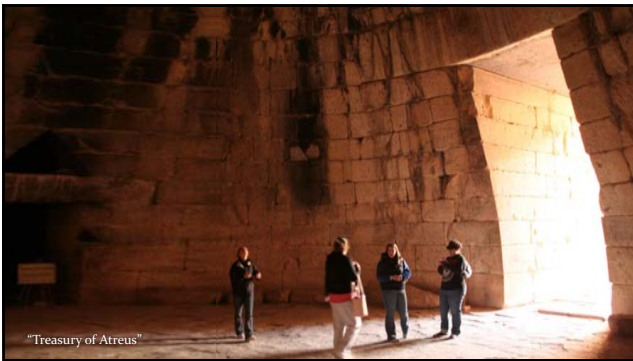
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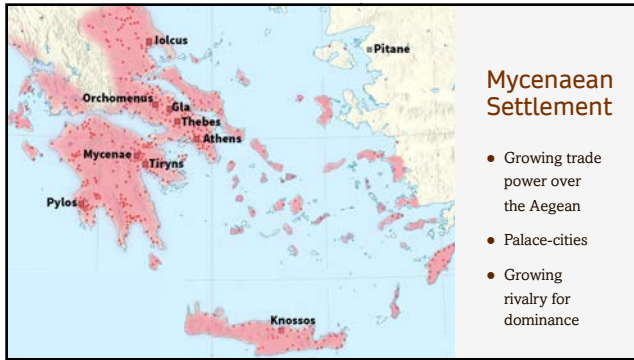
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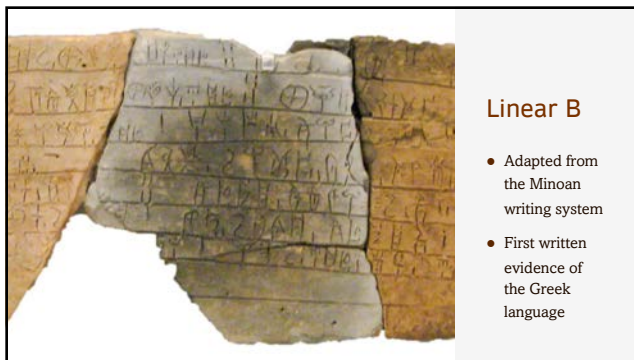
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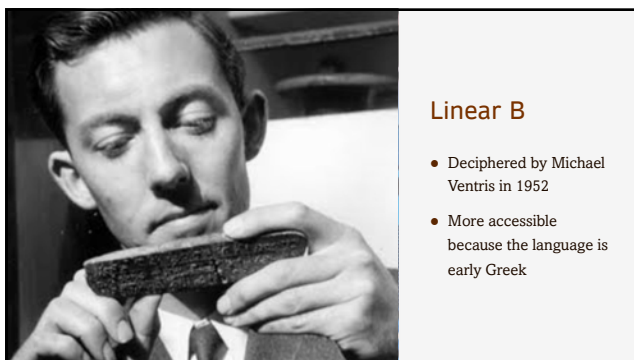
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## The collapse of the Bronze Age

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### Hittite treaties mention Greeks and Trojans

- Ahhiyawa (Achaeans)
- Drdny (Dardanians?)
- Wilusa (Ilios)
- Danaja (Danaans)

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### Troy (Ilios)

- Wealthy city on the eastern Aegean coast
- Founded before Minoans or Mycenaean Greeks (ca. 3500 BCE)
- Increasingly only possible rival for control of Aegean trade

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### The Trojan War

- Fight to the death for Aegean economic power
- Some argue that the war is entirely mythological
- Archaeological evidence of Troy being violently destroyed ca. 1200 BCE

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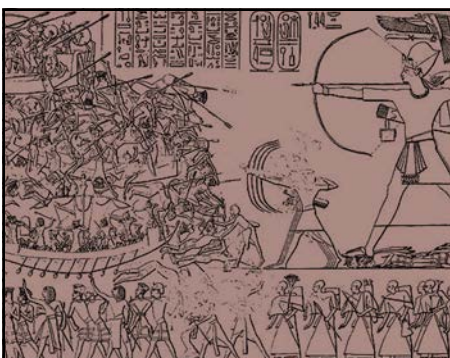
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### "Period of Calamities"

- Aegean refugees ("the Sea Peoples")
- Attack Egypt in force
- All four Bronze Age empires collapse

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