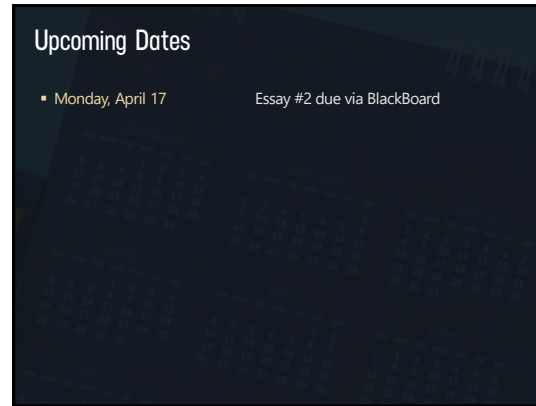




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Greek religion



4

Homer



5

"Homeric society"

- Regional diversity of custom and tradition
- Emergence of 'hellenism'
- Contrasting idea of *barbaroi*
- *Xenia* — guest friendship
- Agonal society
 - *Timē* — honor and respect
 - *Arete* — achievement of excellence

6

Dark Age political structure

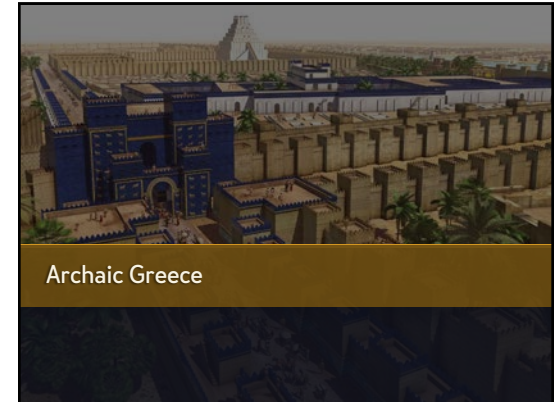
- wanax* φαναξ, ἀναξ
- Mycenaean term for king
 - Now used to mean high-king or overlord
 - Agamemnon (overlord of the Greeks at Troy)
 - Zeus (ruler of the gods)
- basileus* βασιλεύς
- Mycenaean term for mayor, headman
 - Dark age (and later) term for king
- "Big man" system – e.g., Ithaca
- Population gravitates toward local strongmen for stability and protection
 - Authority is transient and personal

7

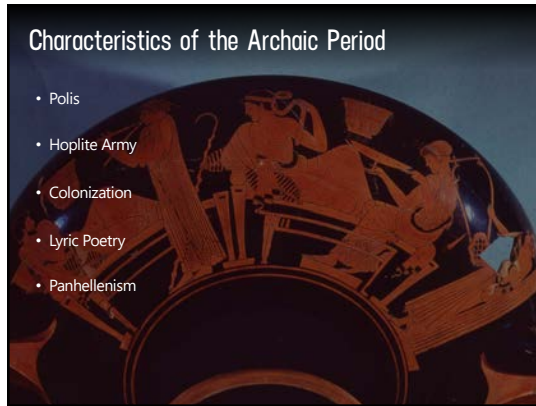
Foundations of Archaic Greece

- Polis
- Hoplite armies
- Knowledge through creative expression
- Epic poetry as the foundation for public religion
- Colonization
- Panhellenism

8



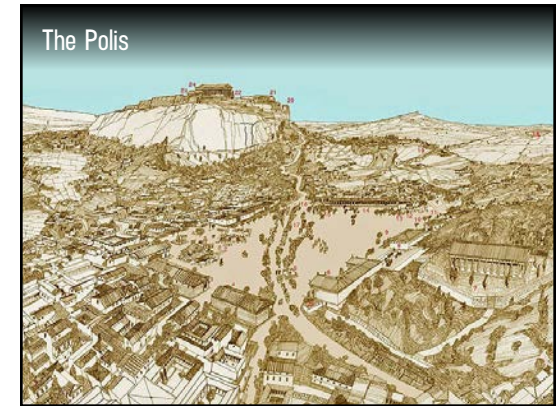
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Characteristics of the polis

- City-state
- Synoecism
- Replacement of basileus with magistrates
- Council of "elders" (aristoi)
- Citizen assembly (demos)

13



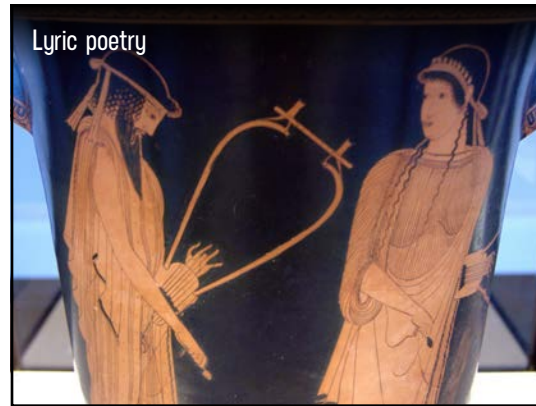
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