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In conjunction with the founding of democracy, Athens ushered in the "Golden Age" of the Ancient Greeks, which saw the invention or mastery of everything from mathematics and engineering to philosophy and art. And among the Athenians, none were as influential as Pericles, the West's first great statesman. Leading Athens for upwards of 40 years between the Second Persian War and the Peloponnesian War, Pericles has become an idealized figure over the last 2,000 years, but he was a polarising figure among his contemporaries. According to some, he was an

honest and upstanding politician, while for others he was the lowest kind of demagogue, a political opportunist whose ability to wriggle free of criticism was best summed up by the typically pithy comment of his rival Thucydides (not to be confused by the famous historian of the same name, one of the main sources for Pericles's life). When asked who the better fighter was, Thucydides replied, "Pericles - even when he loses, he still convinces the Athenians he's won". As Strategos, Pericles was Athens' commander-in-chief, and the chief architect of the city's strategy, for a period of roughly two decades. Even in his military capacity, Pericles did not escape more than his fair share of criticism, both during his lifetime and all the way to the present day. His grand strategy, which put Athens on the defensive for much of the Peloponnesian War, has been accused by many critics as being too supine and too reliant on himself as its main architect, so when his death came during the first years of the war, Athens' ultimate defeat was inevitable. However, it is worth remembering that most of history's great generals planned strategy that was entirely reliant on their own particular species of military genius, so an unexpected, early death is hardly a valid reason to condemn an entire plan of operations. Even his prowess as an orator, on which Pericles built his political career, is questioned. The main source for the wording and content of his speeches is the historian Thucydides, but since he recorded the speeches from memory, it is

unclear how much of the speeches are Pericles's words, and how much was put into his mouth by Thucydides. Christy Constantakopoulou examines the history of the Aegean islands and changing concepts of insularity, with particular emphasis on the fifth century BC. Islands are a prominent feature of the Aegean landscape, and this inevitably created a variety of different (and sometimes contradictory) perceptions of insularity in classical Greek thought. Geographic analysis of insularity emphasizes the interplay between island isolation and island interaction, but the predominance of islands in the Aegean sea made island isolation almost impossible. Rather, island connectivity was an important feature of the history of the Aegean and was expressed on many levels. Constantakopoulou investigates island interaction in two prominent areas, religion and imperial politics, examining both the religious networks located on islands in the ancient Greek world and the impact of imperial politics on the Aegean islands during the fifth century. This is a reproduction of a book published before 1923. This book may have occasional imperfections such as missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. that were either part of the original artifact, or were introduced by the scanning process. We believe this work is culturally important, and despite the imperfections, have elected to bring it back into print as part of our continuing commitment to the preservation of printed works worldwide. We appreciate your

understanding of the imperfections in the preservation process, and hope you enjoy this valuable book. This Elibron Classics title is a reprint of the original edition published by Longmans, Green, and Co. in London, 1877. J. B. Bury's History of Ancient Greece has been one of the most influential authorities on the Ancient Greece for over one century. This book presents the complete political history of Ancient Greece from its earliest beginnings in 3rd millennium B.C. all the way until the death of Alexander the Great. Contents: Greece and the Aegean The Beginnings of Greece and the Heroic Age The Expansion of Greece Growth of Sparta - Fall of the Aristocracies The Union of Attica and the Foundation of the Athenian Democracy Growth of Athens in the Sixth Century The Advance of Persia to the Aegean The Perils of Greece - the Persian and Punic Invasions The Foundation of the Athenian Empire The Athenian Empire Under the Guidance of Pericles The Decline and Downfall of the Athenian Empire The Spartan Supremacy and the Persian War The Revival of Athens and Her Second League The Hegemony of Thebes The Syracusan Empire and the Struggle With Carthage The Rise of Macedonia The Conquest of Persia The Conquest of the Far East J. B. Bury's History of Ancient Greece has been one of the most influential authorities on the Ancient Greece for over one century. This book presents the complete political history of Ancient Greece from its earliest beginnings in 3rd millennium B.C. all the way until the death

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the main source of silver for the central and eastern Mediterranean world from the late sixth century through most of the fourth century BC. #2 The city of Athens began minting silver coins around the middle of the sixth century. The coins were simple in design, having a pictorial type on one side and a crossed, square punch mark on the other. But around the teens of the sixth century, the city began to mint coins with national types on each face: the head of Athena wearing a helmet on the obverse, and her accompanying owl and a sprig of her olive tree on the reverse. #3 The Athenian coinage changed to reflect the new political situation, and they were now minted with an image of Athena on one side and a three-letter legend on the other. They were also struck in large quantities, which allowed the Athenians to fund their fleet in preparation for the Persian invasion. #4 The owls of Athens were struck on a massive and ever-expanding scale that surpassed the archaic coinage that preceded them. The minting estimate was more than 9,000 talents of silver, which was the output of 700 tetradrachm obverse dies. Empires of the Sea brings together studies of maritime empires from the Bronze Age to the Eighteenth Century. The volume develops the category of maritime empire as a specific type of empire in both European and 'non-western' history. Was Athens an imperialistic state, deserving all the reputation for exploitation that adjective can imply, or was the Athenian alliance, even at its most unequal, still

characterized by a convergence of interests? *The Power of Money* explores monetary and metrological policy at Athens as a way of discerning the character of Athenian hegemony in midfifth-century Greece. It begins with the Athenian Coinage Decree, which, after decades of scholarly attention, still presents unresolved questions for Greek historians about content, intent, date, and effect. Was the Decree an act of commercial imperialism or simply the codification of what was already current practice? Figueira interprets the Decree as one in a series concerned with financial matters affecting the Athenian city-state and emerging from the way the collection of tribute functioned in the alliance that we call the Athenian empire. He contends that the Decree served primarily to legislate the status quo ante. This book traces the development of the Theseus myth and its importance for Athens. Mills examines all extant tragedies in which Theseus appear in order to assess the significance of his role as mythological representative of Athenian greatness. She argues that the Theseus of most Athenian tragedy is carefully drawn to exemplify the idealized image of the Athenian "national character" that was prevalent in the age of the empire. After fending off Persia in the fifth century BCE, Athens assumed a leadership position in the Aegean world. Initially it led the Delian League, a military alliance against the Persians, but eventually the league evolved into an empire with Athens in control and exacting

tribute from its former allies. Athenians justified this subjection of their allies by emphasizing their fairness and benevolence towards them, which gave Athens the moral right to lead. But Athenians also believed that the strong rule over the weak and that dominating others allowed them to maintain their own freedom. These conflicting views about Athens' imperial rule found expression in the theater, and this book probes how the three major playwrights dramatized Athenian imperial ideology. Through close readings of Aeschylus' *Eumenides*, Euripides' *Children of Heracles*, and Sophocles' *Oedipus at Colonus*, as well as other suppliant dramas, Angeliki Tzanetou argues that Athenian tragedy performed an important ideological function by representing Athens as a benevolent and moral ruler that treated foreign suppliants compassionately. She shows how memorable and disenfranchised figures of tragedy, such as Orestes and Oedipus, or the homeless and tyrant-pursued children of Heracles were generously incorporated into the public body of Athens, thus reinforcing Athenians' sense of their civic magnanimity. This fresh reading of the Athenian suppliant plays deepens our understanding of how Athenians understood their political hegemony and reveals how core Athenian values such as justice, freedom, piety, and respect for the laws intersected with imperial ideology. J. B. Bury's *History of Ancient Greece* has been one of the most influential authorities on the Ancient Greece for

over one century. This book presents the complete political history of Ancient Greece from its earliest beginnings in 3rd millennium B.C. all the way until the death of Alexander the Great. Contents: - Greece and the Aegean - The Beginnings of Greece and the Heroic Age - The Expansion of Greece - Growth of Sparta - Fall of the Aristocracies - The Union of Attica and the Foundation of the Athenian Democracy - Growth of Athens in the Sixth Century - The Advance of Persia to the Aegean - The Perils of Greece - the Persian and Punic Invasions - The Foundation of the Athenian Empire - The Athenian Empire Under the Guidance of Pericles - The Decline and Downfall of the Athenian Empire - The Spartan Supremacy and the Persian War - The Revival of Athens and Her Second League - The Hegemony of Thebes - The Syracusan Empire and the Struggle With Carthage - The Rise of Macedonia - The Conquest of Persia - The Conquest of the Far East The first book to illustrate and integrate coinage comprehensively as historical evidence for the Athenian empire. Malcolm McGregor draws on a life-time of scholarship to write a comprehensive account of the most celebrated period in classical Greek history -- 'The Golden Age' -- in which military and political advances of the Athenians coincided with their greatest achievements in art, literature, philosophy, and social theory. McGregor explains how democracy was nurtured in Athens and how effective government was achieved by a balance of open public debate and the role of

individual decisive statesmen such as Pericles. This genuinely democratic government brought peace and prosperity to the Athenians and their allies and, as McGregor asserts, contributed to the extraordinary cultural ascendancy of fifth-century Greece. This title explores new approaches to the key phenomenon of 5th-century Greek history, the growth and collapse of the Athenian Empire. Many of the earliest books, particularly those dating back to the 1900s and before, are now extremely scarce and increasingly expensive. We are republishing these classic works in affordable, high quality, modern editions, using the original text and artwork. A comprehensive re-examination of all the literary and epigraphic evidence, old and new, relating to the nature of Athenian imperialism in the fifth century BC. Removes the foundations of classical Greek history, and begins creating new ones In the fifth century BC, the Athenian Empire dominated the politics and culture of the Mediterranean world. This book offers a comprehensive analysis of the history and significance of the Athenian Empire. It starts by exploring possible answers to the crucial questions of the origins and growth of the empire. Subsequent sections deal with the institutions and regulations of empire, and the mechanisms by which it was controlled; the costs and benefits of imperialism (for both rulers and ruled); and the ideological, cultural and artistic aspects of Athenian power. The articles collected here engage with the full

range of evidence available--literary, epigraphic, archaeological and art-historical--and offer a compelling demonstration of the range of approaches, and conclusions, for which that evidence allows. Essay from the year 2014 in the subject History - World History - Early and Ancient History, grade: 1, , course: Thucydides, language: English, abstract: Sophocles' "Oedipus Tyrannos" was produced in Athens during the Peloponnesian War, likely in the mid-420s, and represented the famous Athenian playwright's own take on the then-popular myth of the Theban king Oedipus and his unintentional parricide and incestuous marriage with his own mother, fulfilling the very prophecy he was trying to avoid. The play contains characters, references, and details that to a significant extent reflect contemporary imperial Athens and its customs. The character of king Oedipus himself can largely be read as an analogy to the habits and tendencies of the Athenians as well as to public life in their commonwealth. Apart from the depiction of the plague, the play also contains parallels to the nature of the Athenian empire in general and the Mytilenean debate in particular. Will provide the reader with a clearly drawn and vivid picture of the main events and leading personalities in this decisive period of Greek history. The contributors in this volume present a systematic survey of the struggles of Athens, Sparta and Thebes to dominate Greece in the fourth century - only to be overwhelmed by the newly emerging Macedonian kingdom of Philip

II. Additionally, the situation of Greeks in Sicily, Italy and Asia is portrayed, showing the geographical and political diffusion of the Greeks in a broader historical context. This book will provide the reader with a clearly drawn and vivid picture of the main events and leading personalities in this decisive period of Greek history. "Die wissenschaftliche Welt wie alle an der Geschichte Griechenlands im klassischen Zeitalter Interessierten ueberhaupt, haben B. fuer einen wertvollen und originellen Beitrag zur althistorischen Diskussion, vor allem aber fuer eine nuetzliche und konzise Monographie ueber eine trotz reicher Detailforschung nur selten in zusammenfassender Form dargestellte Epoche der athenischen Geschichte zu danken." Tyche "Although Thrasybulus of Steiria was a major player in some of the most important events of Athenian history, he has been largely neglected by ancient commentators and modern scholars alike. By way of giving Thrasybulus the attention his deeds warrant, Buck provides in his brief study a Thrasybulus-centered history of the period from 411-389. [...] The reader will find a concise, clearly-written, and well-argued discussion of the events of the period." Bryn Mawr Classical Review Content: Sources and Scholarship ♦♦ Thrasybulus: His Early Life and Career ♦♦ Arginusae and the Thirty ♦♦ The Overthrow of the Thirty and the Restoration of Democracy ♦♦ The First Two Years of the Corinthian War: Thrasybulus and Conon ♦♦ The Corinthian War: Thrasybulus and the New Athenian Empire ♦♦

Thrasylbulus and Athens ♦ Chronology . This study centres on the rhetoric of the Athenian empire, Thucydides' account of the Peloponnesian War and the notable discrepancies between his assessment of Athens and that found in tragedy, funeral orations and public art. Mills explores the contradiction between Athenian actions and their self-representation, arguing that Thucydides' highly critical, cynical approach to the Athenian empire does not reflect how the average Athenian saw his city's power. The popular education of the Athenians, as presented to them in funeral speeches, drama and public art told a very different story from that presented by Thucydides' history, and it was far more palatable to ordinary Athenians since it offered them a highly flattering portrayal of their city and, by extension, each individual who made up that city. Drama, Oratory and Thucydides in Fifth-Century Athens: Teaching Imperial Lessons offers a fascinating insight into Athenian self-representation and will be of interest to anyone working on classical Athens, the Greek polis and classical historiography.

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