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# PAUL CARTLEDGE

*The Spartans*  
*An Epic History*

# Spartans An Epic History

**Paul Cartledge**



## **Spartans An Epic History:**

**The Spartans** Paul Cartledge, 2003 Paul Cartledge argues that the Spartans are our ancestors every bit as much as the Athenians But while Athens promoted democracy individualism culture and society their great rivals Sparta embodied militarism totalitarianism segregation and brutal repression

**The Spartans** Paul Cartledge, 2002 Traces the evolution of Spartan society and culture from its legendary origins through its brief dominance over all of Greece to its eventual decline in the Roman era examining the city's tremendous influence on the ancient world

*The History and Culture of Ancient Sparta* Charles River Editors, 2025-06-20 The walls of Sparta were its young men and its borders the points of their spears attributed to King Agesilaos There have been no shortage of great warrior societies in history including the Romans Mongols Macedonians and Vikings the list goes on Yet one humble city in particular nestled in a valley near the Eurotas river in the Greek region of the Peloponnese and once ridiculed as little more than a cluster of villages inhabited by uncouth shepherds produced the most famous warrior elite the world has ever known The most unique city state in Ancient Greece was Sparta which continues to fascinate contemporaneous society It is not entirely clear why Sparta placed such a great emphasis on having a militaristic society but the result was that military fitness was a preoccupation from birth If a Spartan baby did not appear physically fit at birth it was left to die Spartan children underwent military training around the age of 7 years old and every male had to join the army around the age of 18 The Spartans whose carefully constructed approach to warfare and there is no other word for it Spartan way of life earned the grudging admiration of all of Greece and succeeded in establishing themselves in the years following the reforms of the semi legendary ruler Lycurgus as the greatest military force in all of Hellas Athens might have the mightiest fleet and the greatest cadre of philosophers and dramatists Thessaly might have had the most vaunted cavalry and the great city states of Argos Thebes and Corinth all had their own claims to fame but on the battlefield the Spartan phalanx stood without peer So feared were they in Greece that their very appearance on the battlefield could cause entire enemy armies to flee in terror and in one of history's most famous battles 300 Spartan warriors headed a combined Greek force which held off the hundreds of thousands of Persian warriors of Xerxes's invading army for three days at Thermopylae inflicting an estimated 20 000 casualties upon them before dying to the last man rather than retreating Sparta will forever be known for its military prowess but they had lives off the battlefield as well and their way of life was also unique For example Spartan females were formally educated which was a rarity among the city states and the Spartan way of life was entirely dependent on a class of indentured servants known as the helots Yet the Laws of Lycurgus which ordered all Spartans to disregard art with the exception of song which the Spartans prized and some forms of music and poetry to distrust philosophy and to abhor excess in all things were designed to create the perfect warrior society and they did As a result the Spartans became notorious for Laconic phrases

The World's Greatest Civilizations The History and Culture of Ancient Sparta comprehensively covers the history and culture of the famous Greek city state looking at their

religious political and military past and examining all their accomplishments Along with historic artwork depicting important people places and events The History and Culture of Ancient Sparta will bring readers up to speed on Ancient Sparta today

**On Sparta** Plutarch,2005-05-26 Plutarch s vivid and engaging portraits of the Spartans and their customs are a major source of our knowledge about the rise and fall of this remarkable Greek city state between the sixth and third centuries BC Through his Lives of Sparta s leaders and his recording of memorable Spartan Sayings he depicts a people who lived frugally and mastered their emotions in all aspects of life who also disposed of unhealthy babies in a deep chasm introduced a gruelling regime of military training for boys and treated their serfs brutally Rich in anecdote and detail Plutarch s writing brings to life the personalities and achievements of Sparta with unparalleled flair and humanity *OCR Ancient History AS and A Level Component 1* Charlie Cottam,David L. S. Hodgkinson,Steve Matthews,Lucy R. Nicholas,James Renshaw,2017-08-24 This textbook is endorsed by OCR and supports the specification for AS and A Level Ancient History first teaching September 2017 It covers the whole of Component 1 both the compulsory Period Study and the three optional Depth Studies Period Study Relations between Greek states and between Greek and non Greek states 492 404 BC by Steve Matthews and James Renshaw Depth Study The Politics and Society of Sparta 478 404 BC by Charlie Cottam Depth Study The Politics and Culture of Athens c 460 399 BC by David L S Hodgkinson and James Renshaw Depth Study The Rise of Macedon 359 323 BC by Lucy Nicholas How and why did a small group of city states defy the might of the Persian Empire Why did the same city states subsequently descend into 60 years of conflict among themselves Were Sparta and Athens very different How did Alexander later redefine the Greek world These are the sort of questions that you are required to consider for A Level Ancient History This book investigates how the birth of democracy and the defeat of Persia allowed a flourish of political and philosophical thought that subsequently defined western civilisation It further explores the contrasts between Spartan and Athenian culture The ideal preparation for the final examinations all content is presented by experts and experienced teachers in a clear and accessible narrative Ancient literary and visual sources are described and analysed with supporting images Helpful student features include study questions further reading and boxes focusing in on key people events and terms Practice questions and exam guidance prepare students for assessment A Companion Website is available at [www.bloomsbury.com/anc/hist/as/a/level](http://www.bloomsbury.com/anc/hist/as/a/level)

**Spartan Reflections** Paul Cartledge,2003-07-17 This is a book that scholars will read with pleasure and a book from which advanced undergraduates and graduates will gain a sense of what Sparta was like as a culture and just as important the nature and state of play of contemporary Spartan studies And it will be accessible for the well informed lay reader as well Josiah Ober author of Political Dissent in Democratic Athens Paul Cartledge s aim in this powerful collection of essays is to shed light in dark places to demythicize Cartledge is shrewd realistic and far from starry eyed Over a quarter century s exhaustive research now updated has gone into these densely documented and tightly argued essays These Spartans in the last resort are exploitative slave drivers obsessed with keeping their serfs down by

annually killing off any resisters among other things Modern idealizers of cold baths black broth mindless discipline and long route marches should read this book and hopefully have second thoughts Peter Green author of *Alexander to Actium* **The illustrated history of the world, for the English people** World,1881 Logos Into Mythos Soteroula Constantinidou,2008 **A History of Greece** Sir William Smith,1897 **A History of Greece** William Smith,1871 *A History of Greece from the Earliest Times to the Macedonian Conquest* Charles Oman,1890 **A History of Greece.From the earliest times to the death of Alexander the Great** C.W.C. Oman,M.A.,F.S.A.,1901 *A History of Greece from the Earliest Times to the Roman Conquest* William Smith,1877 **A History of Greece, from the the Earliest Times to the Roman Conquest with Supplementary Chapters on the History of Literature and Art by William Smith** William Smith,1871 *The Cambridge Ancient History: The Assyrian empire* ,1925 **A Popular History of Greece** D. Rose,1888 **The history of Greece from its commencement to the close ...** Adolf Holm,1902 **The History of Greece from Its Commencement to the Close of the Independence of the Greek Nation** Adolf Holm,1899 **The History of Greece from Its Commencement to the Close of the Independence of the Greek Nation: The 5th century B. C** Adolf Holm,1895 **The history of Greece from its commencement to the close of the independence of the Greek nation. Transl** Johann Gottfried Adolf Holm,1895

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