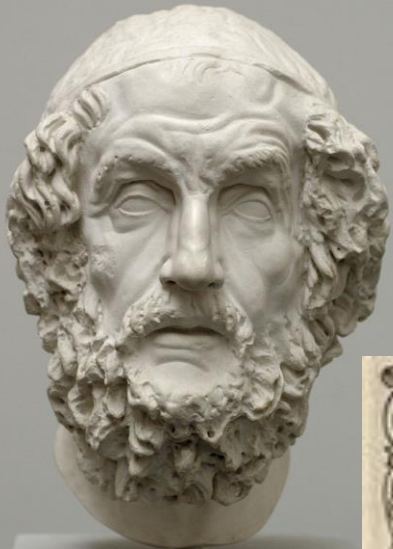


The Ten-Year War Between
the Greeks (Achaeans)
& the Trojans (Anatolians)

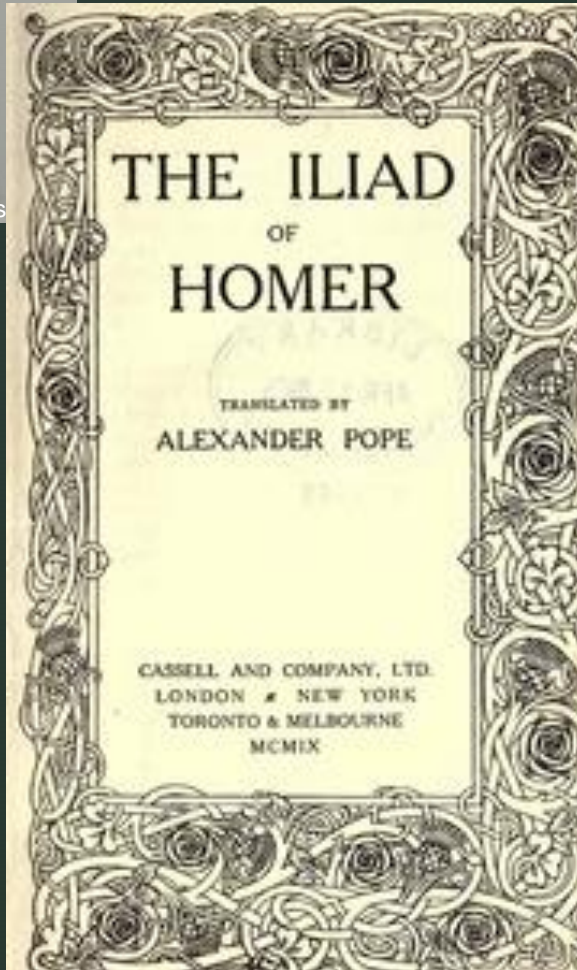
THE TROJAN WAR

HOMER'S *ILIAD*

HOMER'S *THE ILIAD*



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- Ancient Greek Epic Poem in dactylic hexameter that tells one tale in the Epic Cycle of the Trojan War and begins in medias res.
 - Epic Poem: a long, narrative poem on a serious subject written in grand style with a larger-than-life hero
 - Dactylic hexameter: six poetic feet (12 syllables total) of a stressed (/) syllable followed by two unstressed (u) syllables per line of poetry
 - Epic Cycle: eight poems in the oral tradition that collectively tell the story of the Trojan War
 - In medias res: "in the middle of things"
- Scholarly consensus places Homer's written version of the *Iliad* in the 8th or 9th century B.C., about a war that took place in the 12th or 13th century B.C.

THE EPIC CYCLE

- **CYPRIA:** Preamble of the "Fairest" contest between the goddesses Aphrodite, Athena, & Hera; Paris & Helen; and the first nine (9) years of the war
- **ILIAD:** a handful of weeks in the ninth year of the war about Achilles' tiff with Agamemnon and Achilles' rage at the death of Patroclus
- **AETHIOPIS:** the death of Achilles
- **LITTLE ILIAD:** the building of the Trojan Horse
- **ILIOU PERSIS:** the sacking of Troy
- **NOSTOI:** all Greeks (except Odysseus) return home; Agamemnon is killed by his wife & her lover
- **ODYSSEY:** Odysseus' 10-year journey home because he's cursed by Poseidon
- **TELOGONY:** Odysseus is killed by his illegitimate son

THEMES OF *THE ILIAD*

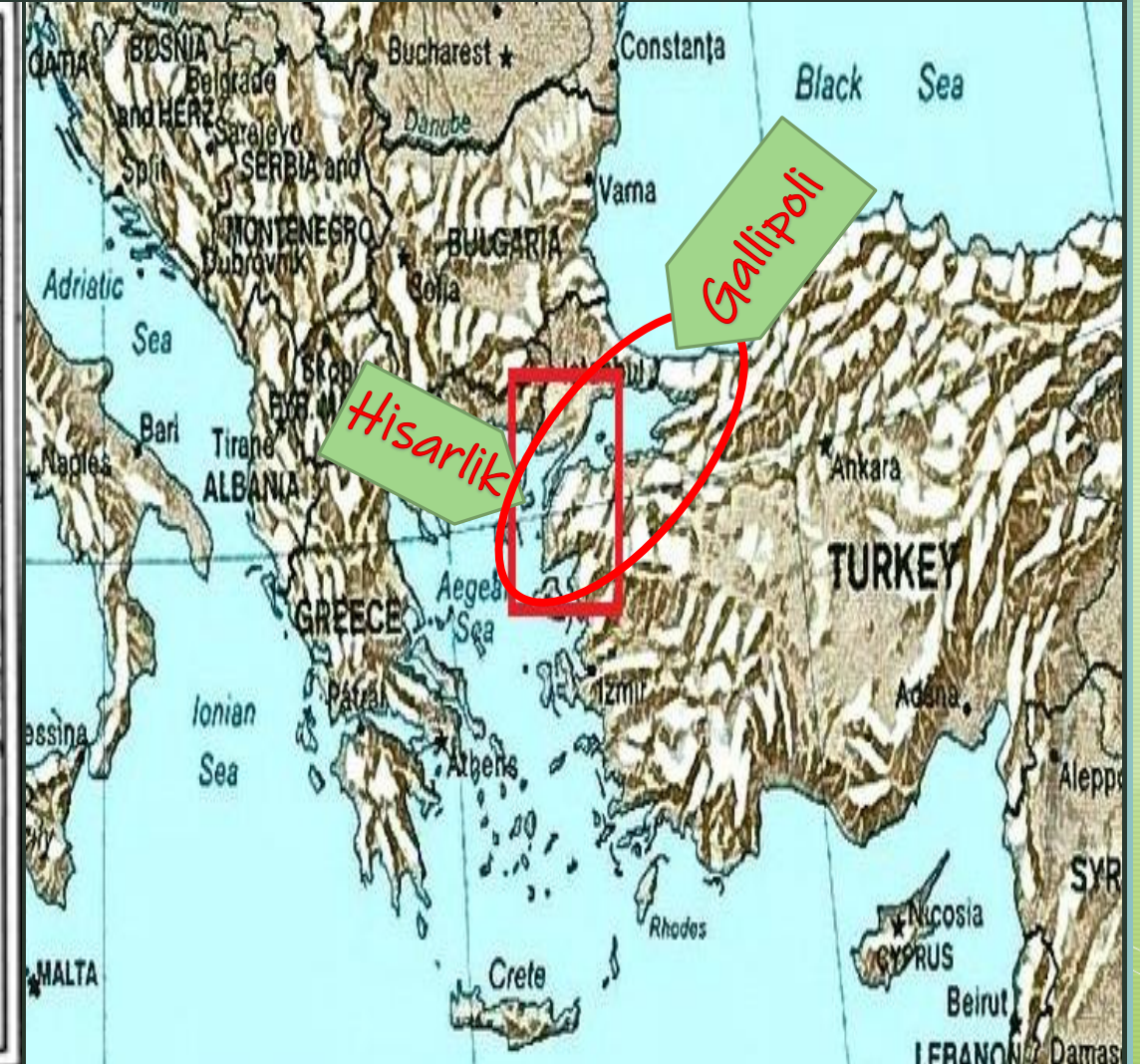
- According to Homer, there was only one theme to *The Iliad*:
 - MENIN / MENIS: "rage, wrath, fury" —the RAGE of ACHILLES
 - Homer began the *Iliad* with an invocation to Calliope, the muse of epic poetry, to guide his tale:

"Sing, O Goddess, the anger of Achilles son of Peleus, that brought countless ills upon the Achæans."
- Scholars have also identified the following themes in *The Iliad*:
 - FATE: "fated death"
 - KLEOS: "glory & fame" earned on the battlefield
 - PRIDE & HUBRIS: (extreme overconfidence or vanity)
 - TIMĒ: "respect & honor" earned through accomplishments—martial, cultural, or political
 - NOSTOS: "homecoming"

ILIUM (Ancient city of TROY)

Now Present-Day

HISARLIK in the GALLIPOLI region of TURKEY



TROJAN WAR INFLUENCES ON MODERN LANGUAGE & EXPRESSIONS

- Many expressions still used today can actually be traced back to the Trojan War. Some of these expressions include:
 - "Judgment of Paris" which means ... a tough choice
 - "Helen of Troy" a symbol of unsurpassed beauty
 - "the face that launched 1,000 ships" another reference to incredible beauty
 - "Trojan Horse" a back-stab in the form of a gift
 - "Achilles' Heel" someone's area of vulnerability, often secret
 - "Arrows of Apollo" illness, sickness, or disease
 - "Beware of Greeks Bearing Gifts" a warning about "fake" friends who only befriend you to cause you harm



AGAMEMNON

- Leader of the Greek armies
- King of Mycenae
- Brother of Menelaus
- Husband of Clytemnestra
- Father of Iphigenia, Electra, & Orestes



CLYTEMNESTRA

- Wife of Agamemnon
- Queen of Mycenae
- Daughter of King Tyndareus & Queen Leda of Sparta
- Mother of Iphigenia, Electra, & Orestes
- Sister of Helen, Pollux, & Castor (*the Gemini Twins who sailed with Jason on the Quest for the Golden Fleece*)

THE GREEKS

THE GREEKS



MENELAUS

- King of Sparta
- Husband of Helen
- Brother of Agamemnon
- Father of Hermione



HELEN OF SPARTA (TROY)

- “the face that launched 1,000 ships”
- Wife of Menelaus, Queen of Sparta, mother of Hermione
- Daughter of Queen Leda of Sparta & Zeus (as a swan), and King Tyndareus
- Sister of Clytemnestra, Castor, & Pollux
- Eloped with Prince Paris of Troy, became Princess of Troy

THE GREEKS



ACHILLES

- Most powerful Greek warrior
- Leader of the Myrmidons
- Son of Thetis (sea nymph) and Peleus (a Greek hero who sailed with Jason on the Quest for the Golden Fleece)
- Father of Pyrrhus (renamed Neoptolemus)



PATROCLUS

- Greek warrior
- Best Friend of Achilles
- Wears Achilles' armor into battle and is killed by the Trojan Prince and leader of the Trojan forces, Hector

THE GREEKS



ODYSSEUS

- Greek warrior known for his cunning & tricky mind (brains over brawn)
- King of Ithaca
- Husband of Penelope
- Father of Telemachus



NESTOR

- King of Pylos
- Oldest and wisest of the Greek kings

THE GREEKS



AJAX

- Second-best Greek warrior
- Cousin of Achilles



DIOMEDES

- Greek warrior of great renown
- Wounded 2 gods in battle

THE GREEKS



PYRRHUS

- Son of Achilles (10 years old)
- Leader of the Myrmidons after Achilles' death
- Killed King Priam of Troy
- Prophesied to help bring an end to the war



PHILOCTETES

- Bearer of the Bow & Arrows of Hercules
- Greek Prince and warrior tricked by Odysseus & abandoned on an island on the voyage to Troy
- Prophesied to help bring an end to the war

THE GREEKS



BRISEIS

- Captured Trojan woman
- Concubine of Achilles who is forced to give her to Agamemnon when Agamemnon is forced to give up his concubine, Chryseis, to stop the illness & punishment of Apollo running through the Greek forces

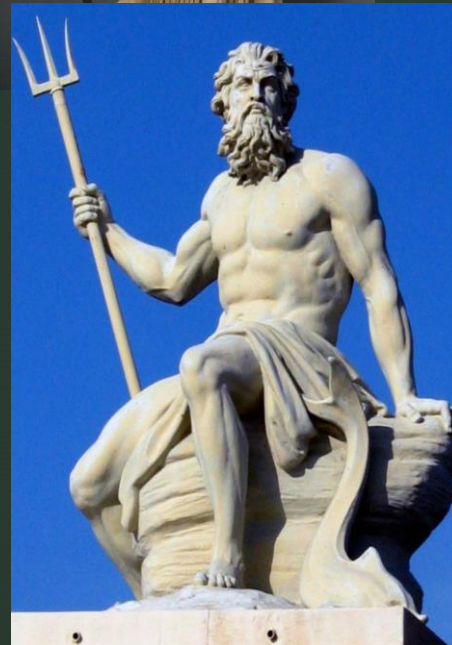


CALCHAS

- Chief prophet of the Greeks

GODS WHO FAVORED THE GREEKS

- **HERA**
- **ATHENA**
- **THETIS** (*sea nymph mother of Achilles*)
- **POSEIDON**
- **HEPHAESTUS**
- **HERMES** (*though neutral at first*)



THE TROJANS



PRIAM

- Aged King of Troy
- Husband of Hecuba
- Father of 50 sons & Cassandra



HECUBA

- Aged Queen of Troy
- Wife of Priam
- Mother of Hector, Cassandra, Paris, & others

THE TROJANS



HECTOR

- "Breaker of horses"
- Oldest Trojan Prince; son of Priam & Hecuba
- Greatest Trojan warrior
- Commander of Trojan forces
- Husband of Andromache; father of Astyanax



ANDROMACHE

- Wife of Hector
- Princess of Troy
- Mother of Astyanax

THE TROJANS



PARIS

- Young Prince of Troy
- Son of Priam and Hecuba
- Raised as a shepherd (Alexander)
- Abducts/Elopes with Helen of Sparta



ÆNEAS

- Son of Aphrodite and Anchises
- Second-best Trojan warrior
- *The Aeneid:*
 - escapes the burning of Troy, carrying his father and leading his son by the hand
 - founds Rome and the Roman civilization

THE TROJANS



CASSANDRA

- Princess of Troy
- Daughter of Priam and Hecuba
- Prophetess cursed by Apollo



CHRYSEIS

- Daughter of a priest of Apollo
- Captured Trojan woman & Concubine of Agamemnon who has to let her go to stop the illness that Apollo has sent into the Greek camps

THE TROJANS



MEMNON

- Ethiopian King
- Ally of Troy



PENTHESILEA

- Amazon warrior Queen
- Ally of Troy
- Killed in battle by Achilles

THE TROJANS



HELENUS

- Son of King Priam
- Prophet to the gods



LAOCOON

- Son of King Priam
- Prophet to the gods
- Snatched off the Trojan beach by a sea serpent sent by Poseidon for trying to convince King Priam and the Trojans to leave the wooden horse outside the city gates

THE TROJANS



ASTYANAX

- Royal Trojan child
- Son of Hector and Andromache
- Thrown to his death off walls of Troy when the Greeks sacked & burned the city



POLYXENA

- Young Princess of Troy
- Possibly led a love-struck Achilles into a trap which resulted in his death

GODS WHO FAVORED THE TROJANS

- APHRODITE
- ARTEMIS
- APOLLO
- ARES & his companions:
 - ERIS
 - PHOBOS
 - DEIMOS
- ZEUS (who tried to remain NEUTRAL, but...Troy was his favorite city)



TROJAN WAR TRIVIA

- The Roman Cicero was said to have seen a copy of *The Iliad* written so small that it fit in a nutshell. According to Isaac Disraeli in *Curiosities of Literature*, the 15,000 verses can be written on a 10 x 8" piece of vellum and folded up in a walnut shell.
- The Olympic games in ancient Greece included a prize for a dramatic work. The three fathers of Greek drama: Aeschylus, Euripides, and Sophocles each received the prize, which was as great an honor as the Nobel Prize in Literature is today.
- Western Literature Firsts: Homer is the 1st Poet of Western Literature, Achilles is the 1st Hero, and *The Odyssey* is the 1st Adventure Story
- Ajax (cousin to Achilles) had a shield made of seven layers of oxhide and a sheet of bronze.