

IMPORTANT PEOPLE

SIDDHARTHA GAUTAMA



- Lived 563-480 BC (83 yrs)
- Born in Nepal
- Creator of Buddhism
- Born into a wealthy family, married at 16 to neighboring princess, Had everything: wealth, family, hot wife – left them all to find meaning of life.
- Followed the example of ascetics (the self denial of wants to achieve understanding of ultimate reality. After almost dying, he turned to meditation. Under a tree he found enlightenment.
- He accepted reincarnation but rejected the Hindu idea of the Hindu caste system

CHANDRAGUPTA MAURYA

- Lived 340-298 BC (42 yrs)
- Born in Paliputra, India
- Ruled the Mauryan Empire from 324-301 BC
- Drove out foreign forces and established the capital of his new Mauryan Empire in Northern India.
- He broke his empire into provinces and had a highly centralized government.



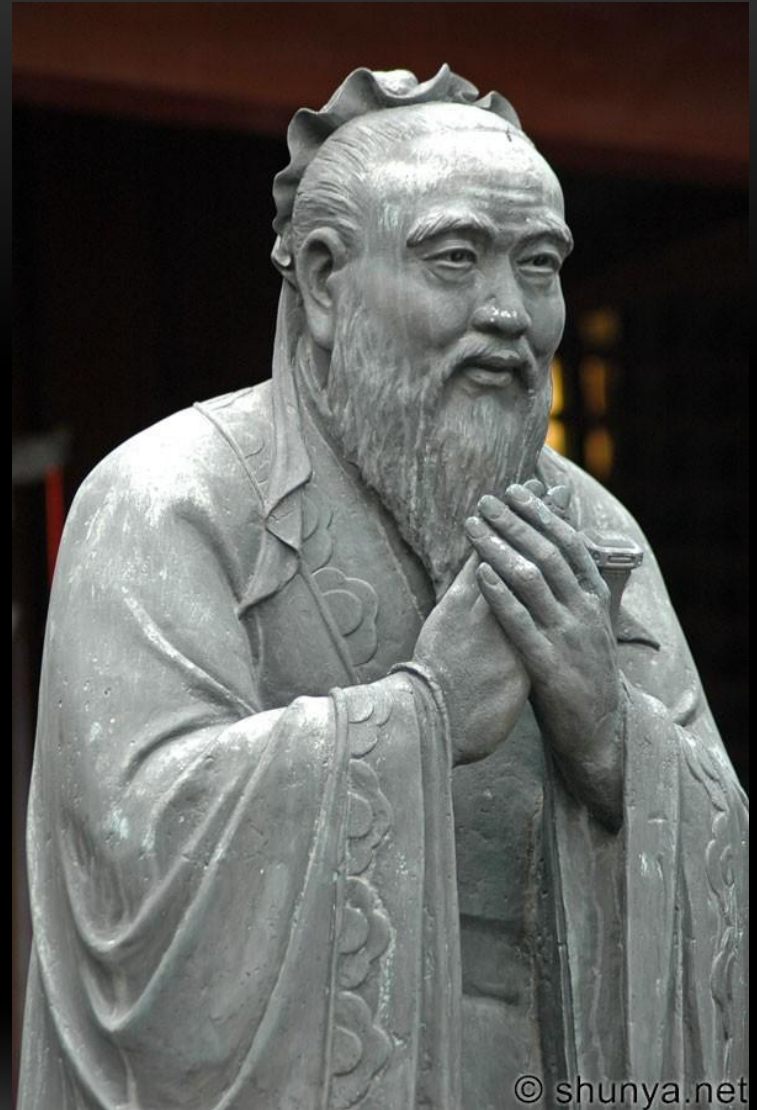
ASOKA



- 274-232 BC (42 yrs)
- Born in Paliputra, India
- Ruler of India
- Considered the greatest ruler of India.
- Converted to Buddhism and used Buddhist ideas to guide his rule.
- Set up hospitals for people and animals.
- Built shelters along roads for weary travelers.
- Trade expanded and prospered under his rule.

CONFUCIUS

- 551-479 BC (72 yrs)
- He was known for being an idealist
- Addressed ethical questions similar to those that concerned the Greeks
- He emphasized truth, justice, correct social relations, and obedience to parents, believing that family was the proper foundation for society and good government.
- He championed the golden rule: “Do not do to others what you would not want for yourself”



QIN SHI HUANG

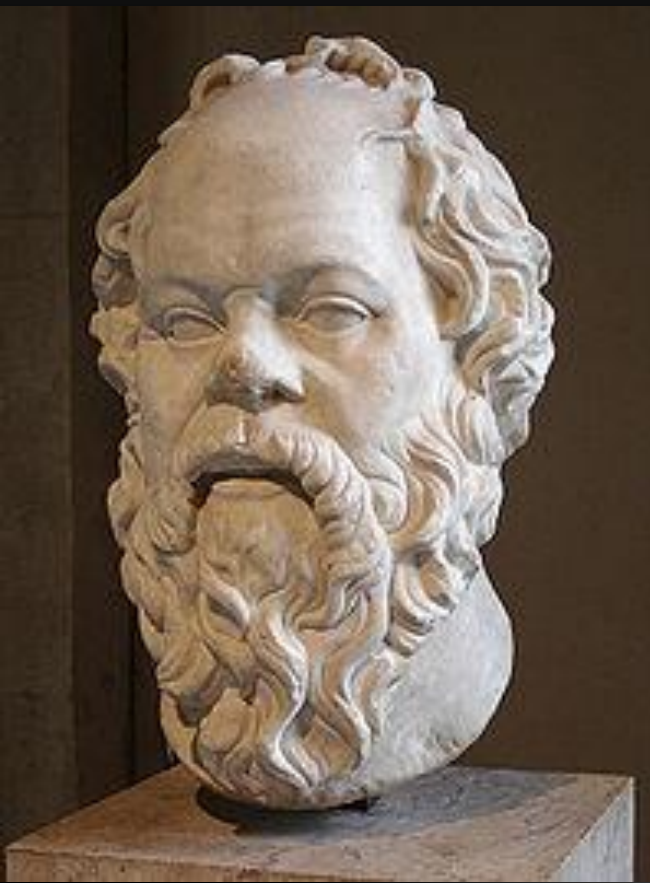


- 259-210 BC (49 yrs)
- 1st Emperor of the Chinese Qin Dynasty
- First came to power at the of 16
- Brought Legalist ideas and opposed the ideas of filial piety and instead that the interests of the state came first, not family.
- Confucian historians paint a picture of him being evil because of two serious acts. 1) burning all the books scholars were using to try and prove him wrong and 2) burying alive 460 scholars who disagreed with him.

QIN SHI HUANG

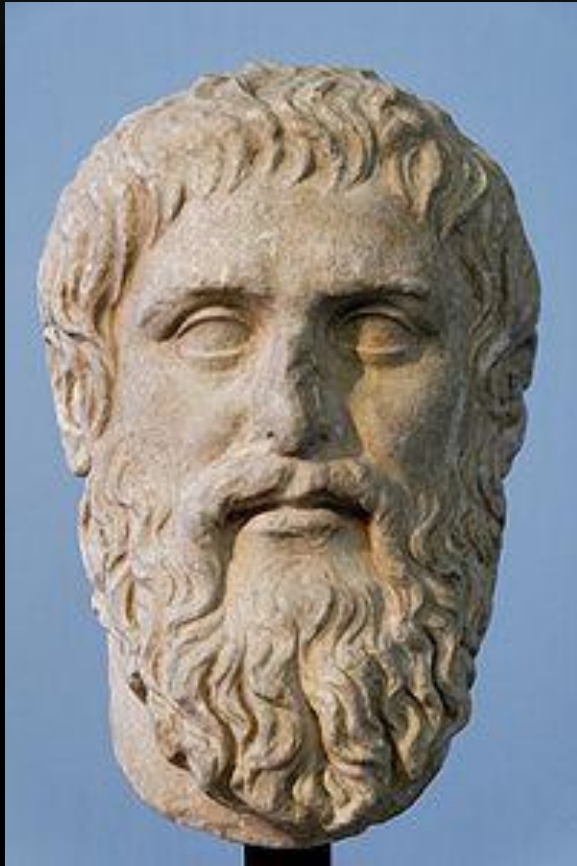


SOCRATES



- 469-399 BC (70 yrs)
- Born in Athens
- Known for being a Philosopher
- Became famous for challenging conventional ideas that most people thought they understood
- He did this by questioning concepts like “good, evil, courage, and justice” to show people that their understanding of such words lacked truth.
- He wrote nothing down but his logical style of argument is portrayed in the works of his followers, mostly Plato.
- His greatest concern was ethics, or how to live a good life
- At the age of 70 his constant questioning was thought to threaten the Athenian state. He was condemned to death, and had to poison himself.

PLATO



- 427-347 BC (80 yrs)
- Known as a philosopher
- A disciple of Socrates and the teacher of Aristotle
- Developed many of Socrates' writings (Symposium and the Republic) about ethics and justice, the nature of reality, and the immortality of the soul.
- He also tried to devise a perfect political system.
- He set up a school, called the Academy, on the outskirts of Athens, which continued to teach philosophy until the 6th century CE.

ARISTOTLE

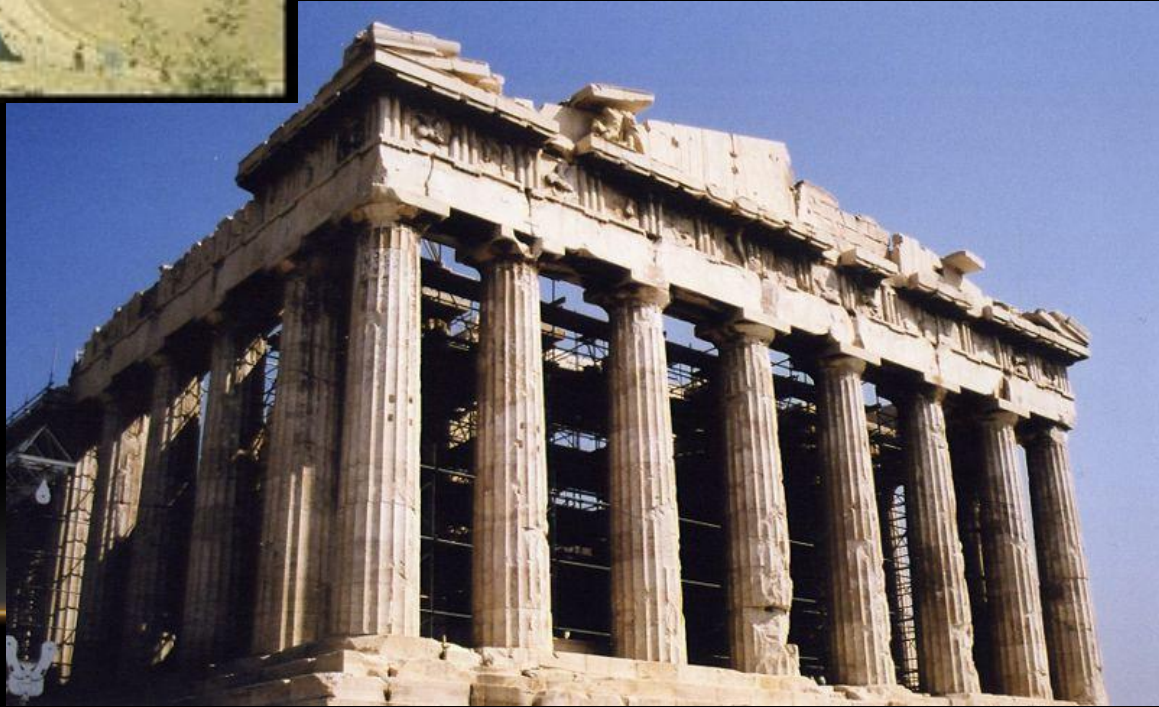
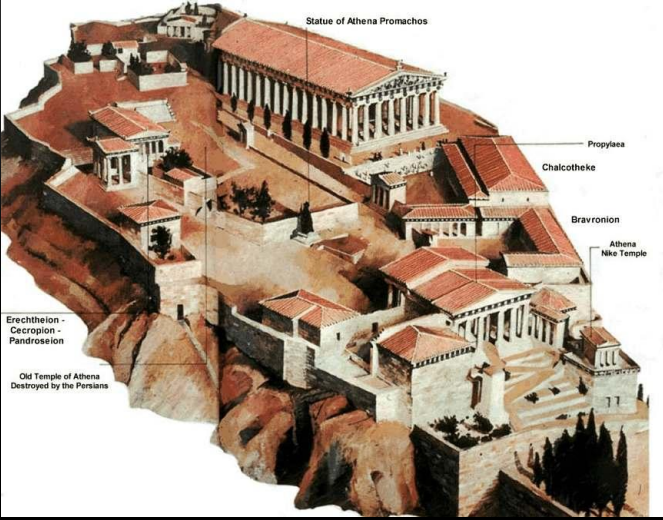


- 384-322 BC (62 yrs)
- Born in Northern Greece
- Known for being a philosopher and scientist
- He was a student of Plato and tutor to Alexander the Great.
- He founded the Lyceum (a school) outside of Athens
- He is considered one of the most influential thinkers in the history of Western thought.
- His surviving works cover logic, ethics, physics, politics, and natural science.
- He had a great respect for the polis as a good way to govern and to make the most of people's talents.

PERICLES

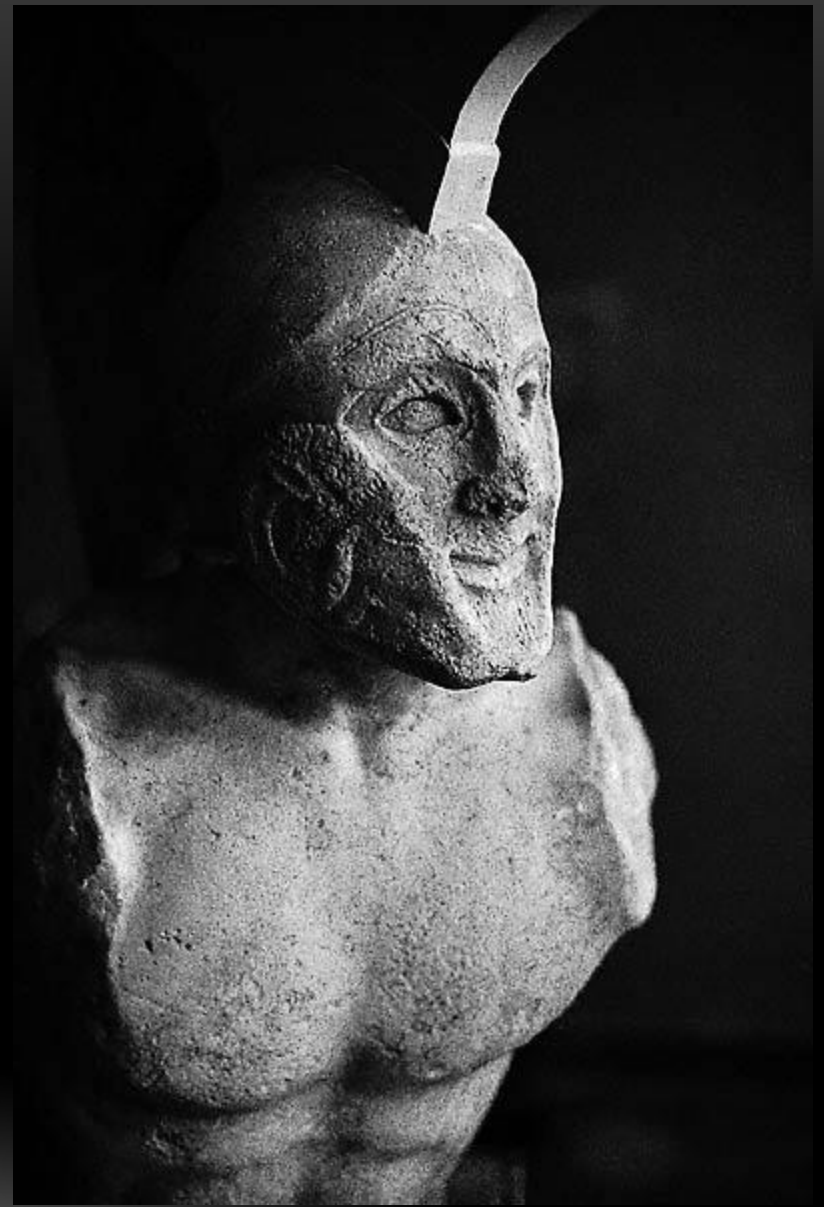


- 495-429 BC (66 yrs) Athens
- Athenian statesman and general
- A prominent and influential statesman, orator, and general of Athens during the city's Golden Age (time between Persian and Peloponnesian wars).
- He was descended, through his mother's side, from the powerful and historically influential Alcmaeonid family.
- Pericles promoted the arts and literature
- Started an ambitious project that built most of the surviving structures on the Acropolis (including the Parthenon). This project beautified the city, exhibited its glory, and gave work to the people.
- He is considered to be the "father of democracy"



LEONIDAS

- Around 520-480 BC
- King of Sparta
- Led 300 Spartans and 6400 other Greeks against a Persian invasion led by Xerxes I
- The time it took to kill the 300 gave the rest of the Greeks to get their troops together and defend themselves and win the Battle of Marathon, led by Pericles



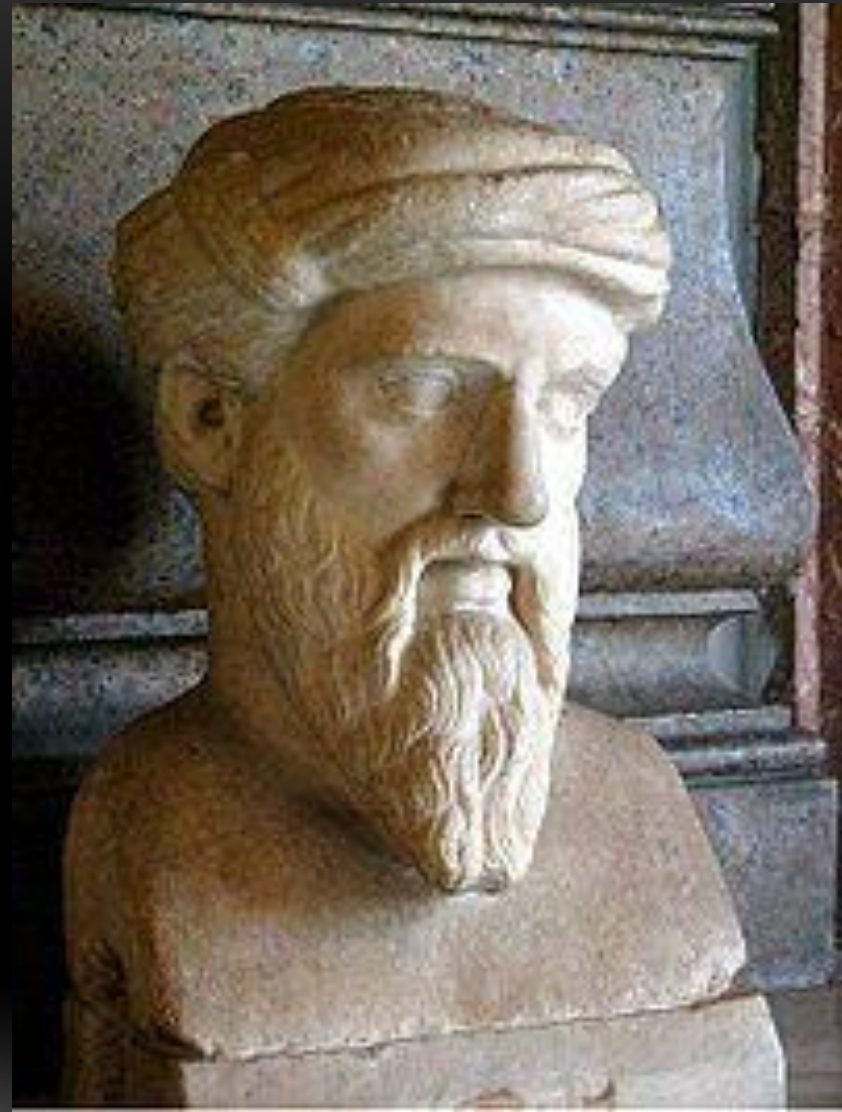
HIPPOCRATES



- 460-370 BC (90 yrs)
- Born in Greece
- Was an ancient Greek physician in the “Age of Pericles”
- Considered one of the most outstanding people in the history of medicine and considered the father of Western medicine.
- He is credited with being the first person to believe that diseases were caused naturally and not the result of superstition and gods. He argued that disease was not a punishment from the gods but instead a product of environmental factors, diet, and living habits.

PYTHAGORAS

- 570-495 BC (75 yrs)
- Born on Samos Island
- Philosopher and Mathematician
- Sought to interpret the entire physical world in terms of numbers and founded their systematic and mystical study.
- He is credited for the Pythagorean theorem although it had been used long before him. He was given credit from his reputation that was carried on by Aristotle who used most of Pythagoras' ideas in politics.



ALEXANDER THE GREAT



- 356-323 BC (33 yrs) From Macedon (Northern Greece)
- King of Macedon
- By the age of 30, he had created one of the largest empires in ancient history, stretching from the Ionian Sea to the Himalayas.
- He was undefeated in battle and is considered one of the most successful commanders of all time.
- Was tutored by Aristotle
- After coming into power after the death of his father, he invaded Persian-ruled Asia Minor and began a series of campaigns lasting ten years. He broke the power of Persia in a series of decisive battles and overthrew the Persian king Darius III. The Macedonian Empire then stretched from the Adriatic Sea to the Indus River.
- He tried to invade India, but was forced to turn back after a near-mutiny of his troops. Alexander died in Bablylon in 323 BC.

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

- He founded over 20 cities that bore his name.
- His settlement of Greek colonists and the resulting spread of culture in the east resulted in a new Hellenistic civilization.
- Military academies even to this date, still teach his tactical exploits.



MR. FULK

- Extremely smart! Just look at the size of his brain!

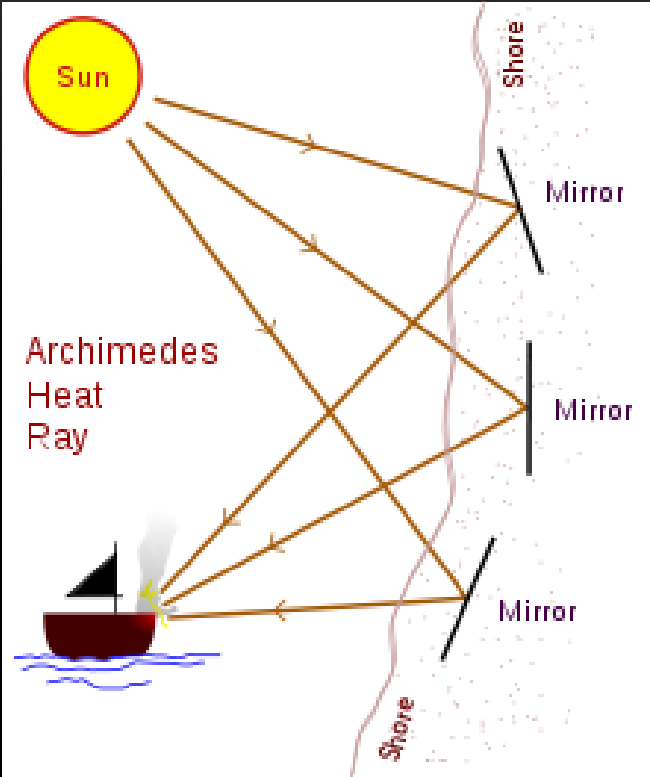
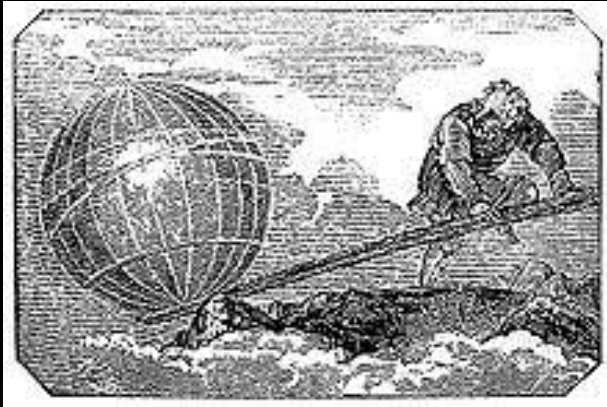
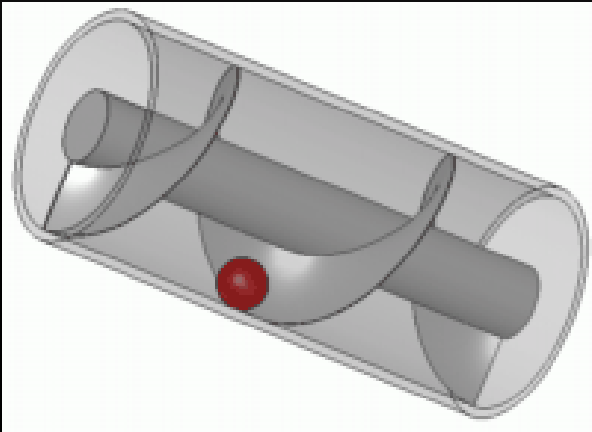


ARCHIMEDES

- 287-212 BC (75 yrs)
- Born in Syracuse
- Scientist, Mathematician, and Inventor
- Credited with finding the value of pi, the ratio of the radius of a circle to its circumference, and formulas for the surface area and volume of a sphere and of a cylinder.
- Also credited with creating the water screw, the lever, and even a solar light ray used as a weapon!
- Is also known for running through the streets and yelling “Eureka!”



ARCHIMEDES



HOMER

- 8th century BC in Greece
- A blind epic poet who traveled Greece telling his stories.
- Is traditionally held to be the author of the Iliad and the Odyssey even though he only recited them orally in Greek theatre. They were written down later by someone else.

