

Features of the Ancient Greek Revolution¹

- **Rapid Colonization**: Greek settlements appeared all over, from Italy to Western Turkey (next to the Babylonian Empire and later the Persian Empire)
- **Crossroads of Culture**: Ionia between Persia and Greece
- **Change of Economics**: The development of currency and trade
- This leads to **Creation of Records and Writing**: From Phoenician pictographs to actual language
 - Used by merchants to help with trade information
- This leads to **Stable Codes of Laws**: Expression of power made concrete in written form
- **Change in Warfare**
 - New soldiers: *hoplites* – heavily armed foot soldiers
 - Regimented Army
 - Soldiers must purchase own equipment
- **Rise of a Middle Class**: Merchants spread money to more people
- These lead to **Change of Government**: Democracy
 - Middle class gets political power since they are needed to defend the city or support rulers financially
- **Rise of the City-State (Polis)**: An attitude of belonging to a natural community – no longer only loyal to one's chieftain
- **Character Traits of these People**
 - Independent
 - Resourceful
 - Intelligent and Thoughtful
 - Obsessed with Beauty
 - Concern with both Regularity and Spontaneity
 - Good Speaking

¹ For a more detailed analysis, see Edward Hussey's *The Presocratics*.