

Unity and Hierarchy in Athenian Social Structure

Lecture Outline

- I. Religion and the Panathenaia as unifying forces
- II. Defining Social Structure
 - A. Kinds of Freedom and Equality
 - 1. Greek Freedom
 - 2. The Delian League
 - 3. Social Status within Athens
 - B. Speech, Action, and Physical Space
- III. The Sources: Uses and Limitations
- IV. Physical Space and Social Structure
 - A. The Kerameikos
 - 1. The Funeral Oration
 - 2. The Potters' Quarter
 - B. The Agora
 - 1. Center of Democratic Structures
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 - C. The Acropolis
- V. Athens, Sparta, and the Greek World

Some Useful Terms:

Kerameikos: Literally, the potters' quarter; the area in the Northwest part of Athens containing the city's largest cemetery, the building to house equipment for the Panathenaia, ceramic workshops, and brothels.

Agora: The political and economic center of Athens, containing public buildings, shops, and lawcourts.

Metic: A 'resident alien,' a free Greek or freedman who resided in Athens by choice but was not and under normal circumstances could not become a citizen.

Delian League: A group of Greek cities united at the end of the Persian Wars to provide for the defense of Greece. It became, in the mid-5th century, the basis for Athens' empire in the Aegean.

Epigraphic Texts: Inscriptions usually on stone, wood, or bronze and most often displayed as public records of the state or an individual.

Epideictic: Speeches delivered in praise or blame of an individual, group, society, or institution.

Forensic: Oratory designed to persuade an audience in a legal context.

Epitaphios: A funeral oration delivered annually at a public festival in honor of Athens' war dead and often containing praise of the state as well as the dead men. An example of epideictic oratory.

Autochthony: The idea that a group of people are the original inhabitants of an area and have lived in that place from their first origins. There is some overlap between an autochthonous people and one that is *gegeneis*, born directly from the earth itself.

Homonoia: Unity of mind and purpose.