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World History

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Sparta was able to stop the army of Persia with 200,000, and the 300 Spartans were able to stop their advancements for three days. Sparta was able to stop the army of Persia with 200,000, and the 300 Spartans were able to stop their advancements for three days. Sparta had 300 soldiers that stopped 200,000 persians for three days, then they killed them with the rest of the army of about 20,000. Most people know them from the show called "300", and depicts the battle were 300 Spartan soldiers stopped the persians for 3 days. Sparta had an army force to be reckoned with.

The phalanx formation was a formation where all the Spartan shields are combined to make a wall. There shields were about thirty pounds.

Sparta invented a mesengi device called a scytale. The Scytal was a message written in strips and tied around a piece of wood, if the diameter of the wood was to big/small the message wouldn't work since it is read left to right so the words line up.

"The only known Spartan innovation is the Scytale, a simple form of analog encryption used for sending military messages securely. Each army commander had a staff of a particular, precise diameter. Messages were written on long strips wound around the staff -- without a staff of the correct diameter the message could not be read properly." (What technology is associated with Ancient Sparta? - Quora. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.quora.com/What-technology-is-associated-with-Ancient-Sparta>)

Spartans prime technology was about weapons. Spartans prime weapon was the Dory or spear. The size of the dory was 7-9 feet in length and 2 inches in diameter. Spartans secondary weapon was a short sword called a xiphos. Spartans longer sword was the kopis, the kopis being 65 cm while there xiphos was 30 to 45 cm. The kopis was used more like an axe.

"The kopis was a very lethal weapon that was used more like an axe than a sword." (What technology is associated with Ancient Sparta? - Quora. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.quora.com/What-technology-is-associated-with-Ancient-Sparta>)

Spartans shields were called Aspis/Hoplion. The aspis weighed about 30 pounds, covered with bronze around a piece of wood along with sporting a design pinched by the person holding the shield. The aspis could be considered a weapon because of the third edge and the weight. Even Spartan sandals could be considered an important part of their battling. Spartan sandals helped them so there wouldn't be any slipping on the rocky terrain.

“Aside from the weapons, the Spartans also used more resistant sandals, that were suitable to rocky terrains and prevented them from slipping during the fray.”(What technology is associated with Ancient Sparta? - Quora. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.quora.com/What-technology-is-associated-with-Ancient-Sparta>) Their weaponry technology helped them last for so long and been a civilization to be basically feared by almost all, after they had beaten the Persians they were known for how strong they were.

Their religion was very important to them, and the Spartans had religion as the top priority, Spartans always, always follow the laws of the gods. Spartans believed that religion reflected of everything like skill.

“Religion in Sparta, like in many societies, had a purpose to support the ideals of a militaristic society. The Spartan ideal of an elite military state influenced the approach to religion and the ways in which religion would be moulded to suit state doctrine, therefore highlighting the importance of religion in upholding the values of Spartan society such as endurance, loyalty, obedience, conformity, and skill. Religion was also used to create social coherence, important in promoting conformity and in controlling the society under the ideals of the military state.”(Spartan Religion. (2016, December 09). Retrieved from <https://sghsancienthistory.wordpress.com/sparta-2/spartan-religion/>)

Three of the Spartans gods/goddesses are Artemis Orthia, Apollo, Poseidon. Artemis Orthia, “Goddess of fertility and childbirth; huntress; sister of Apollo.[...] The Spartans combined her with Orthia, an earlier Spartan goddess.” Apollo, “Sun god; order and harmony; brother of Artemis[...] Associated particularly with Amyklai and the Hyakinthia festival [...] Also worshipped at Delphi where his oracle was consulted by all Greeks: gave approval, through the Great Rhetra, of the Spartan constitution.” Poseidon, “God of the sea.[...] Pausanias: no sanctuary at Guthion mentioned, but a sanctuary to ‘horse-breeding Poseidon’ in Laconia, and sanctuary near the racecourse.[...] Poseidon is also called ‘house-god’ and ‘Family Poseidon’.[...] Near Therapne: ‘Poseidon the earth-holder’.[...] Also the ‘earth-shaker’ (earthquakes). Thucydides 1.128: the earthquake of 465 BC was punishment by Poseidon for the killing of helots who had sought sanctuary at his altar.” (Spartan Religion. (2016, December 09). Retrieved from <https://sghsancienthistory.wordpress.com/sparta-2/spartan-religion/>) An important festival was the Karneia festival.

“The Karneia, a harvest festival celebrated for nine days during the month of August (late summer), was an extremely important festival for the Spartans.”(Spartan Religion. (2016, December 09). Retrieved from <https://sghsancienthistory.wordpress.com/sparta-2/spartan-religion/>)

The Karneia festival was celebrated for nine days of August they had a man run around with ribbons on his head to represent the sacrifice of the Thessalonians and was chased by staphulodromoi (grape-cluster runners). If they young man was caught by the staphulodromoi it basically meant a good year and if not it was a bad year. Their religion backed up their war-torn society.

The structure of the social classes made there basically for the reason so there is always a person that you/they can boss around anytime. Spartan society goes from kings and the council of elders, Aristocrats, perioeci class, then lastly the slaves called helots. Their society was based around the military.

“The culture of Sparta and the Spartans was pinpoint focused upon their military, they were a highly efficient unit on and off the battlefield.” (Spartan Culture. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.legendsandchronicles.com/ancient-civilizations/ancient-sparta/spartan-culture/>)
Sparta were a city state in Greece. Spartan elders were the Gerousia and to become a Gerousia you have to be at least 60 years old and be a Spartan citizen. Gerousia could even dethrone the king if need be.

“The Spartan elders were known as the Gerousia[...] There were certain requirements before a Spartan could be considered for the Gerousia, they would of course have to be a Spartan citizen, be over sixty years old and the more noble your family, the more chance you had of becoming an elder.”(Spartan Culture. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.legendsandchronicles.com/ancient-civilizations/ancient-sparta/spartan-culture/>)

Their social aspect led them to become fighters.

Spartan politics made them a true warrior city state. The Peloponnesian War is the main factor that brought Sparta (and Athens) weak to the point that they were swept away by Rome. The reason why the Peloponnesian War happened was because Athens tried to rule Megara which were Spartans friends as said from the video. The second part of the Peloponnesian War started fourteen years after the thirty year treaty was signed. There was a fight in Sicily and Alcibiades thought it would be a good idea to take control of Sicily. While Athens were going to Sicily, Alcibiades was accused of defacing statues and was arrested. Alcibiades then went to Sparta and helped them destroy the Sicily invaders which took a toll on Athens. The Persians joined in the fight which brought a whole nother army to fight for the Spartans.

When Athens fell Sparta was never able to gain their power they had before and fell to the Romans when they attacked thus ending the Spartans.(Editors, H. (2009, October 29). Peloponnesian War. Retrieved from <https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/peloponnesian-war>)

There political aspect of the Spartans led them to there end when they defeated Athens and got finished by Rome because Sparta suffered to much from the battle.

The spartans were very wartorn, even more so then the persians. During the reign of the Spartans there were a force to be reckoned with.

References

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