



UNFURL THE HISTORY OF GREEK

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ABSTRACT

“There are two truths in the world- the bible and Greek literature”. Greek is a family of a single language, native to Greece, the ancient Greek refers to the period between 800 BC – 500 BC. There was advancement in art poetry and technology during that period. At present Greek is the official language of Cyprus, the European Union, and Greece. The impact of ancient Greek on Christianity and the western world is unforgettable. Greek clothing was simple yet it had outlandish importance in the history of clothing. The people of Greek wore garments that include- chitons, himation, kolpos, epiblema, and more; the clothes were not exactly stitched, but rather were clinched; There were mostly drapes seen in the clothing. Ancient Greek literature has stories about the 12 Olympians and the Greek pantheon. The powers and the strength possessed by each of them.

KEYWORDS- Ancient Greek, Greek literature, Greek clothing, 12 Olympians, Powers of the Olympians.

INTRODUCTION

A study of the garments worn in the Greek period was made in sense of their functions serving capability and aesthetic beauty. The Ancient Greeks were not fussy about their clothing. The garments they wore were made for function, and they were made simply. A single piece of fabric could be styled and restyled again, suiting its purpose. And with Greek summers being brutally hot, the less fabric and complicated seams to deal with were better. In the research, a study about the fabrics used to make the clothing was studied, which included the linen and wool fabric-making process. A study about the types of garments worn including- peplos, chiton, himation, epiblema, and chlamys was made.

The Greeks used brown, red, and yellow dyes made from plants, bark, and minerals. Many of their garments were bleached white and adorned with hand-applied designs with geometric patterns. The ancient technique of cloth making and weaving was deeply studied. A deep study of men's and women's clothing including Greek hats and footwear was made. A glimpse of the pieces of jewelry used in the ancient Greek period including bronze, silver, and gold jewellery was also thrown. A study about the Greek preference for the natural look over that of heavy makeup was made. The most famous hairstyles, tattoos, and perfumes used by the Greeks were also studied.

Women's rights compared to men's were studied and elaborated. Unable to vote, own land, or inherit, a woman's place was in the home and her purpose in life was the rearing of children. In this research, a study about the ancient Greek pantheons was also made including Hera, Demeter, Athena, and

Aphrodite, and their importance in Greek mythology was also studied. Further, the role and responsibilities of women belonging to all ages in Greek were studied, including girls, young women, and young girls. The work performed by Greek women mostly include working in bakeries or factories as a worker, slave or either working as sex prostitute. The research was totally based on a study of the position of women in Greek society, which was no more than a slave.

An idea about ancient Greek clothing can be acquired from the ancient Greek sculptures and the trace paintings over them. The clothing worn by the Greek people was the most colorful. The fabrics were decorated elaborated colors and designs.

1. CLOTHING IN ANCIENT GREEK-

At the time of 800-500 BC, the Greek people mostly wore 2 types of fabric mainly- wool and linen. The wool fabric was spun at home and the linen was imported. Ancient Greek clothing mainly consist of rectangular, square fabric pieces folded around the body, pinned at the side seam and shoulder, and then belted. There were major similarities between the clothing worn by men and women.

2. FABRICS OF THE GREEK PERIOD-

During the time of Greek period, there existed commonly 2 kinds of fabric, wool, and linen, wool was obtained by the people sheep's and was spun at home, mostly by women and servants of the house, and was mostly worn during winters; it was woven by a wooden loom. The other fabric used was linen; it was not found in the region and was imported, mostly for the



hot seasons. The linen was from flax that came from Egypt. Cotton and silk were the other fabrics that existed, but could be afforded by a few wealthy men.

WOMEN'S CLOTHING-Usually, a look of kalpos look (pouch kind of look) was greeted by most of the clothing in the Greek times. A proper Greek woman revealed nothing. A tunic was usually worn by the women, the length of the tunic mostly depends on the type of work they did, and women mostly wore tunics up to floor length. The tunic was pinned at the seam and tied at the waist.

CHITON- was a tunic that was worn by women; it was made up of linen material that made it very light and comfortable for the hot western region. When the chiton was draped at only one shoulder, it was called an EXOMIE. The drape in the women's clothing was given with the help of buttons, loops, and brooches.

PEPLOS- or peplum was a kind of tunic made from large rectangular fabric pieces that were also popular amongst women.

HIMATION- was a kind of cloak worn by Greek people during colder weather to get warmth, the cloak was made of wool fabric.

EPIBLEMA- was a kind of shawl it was worn by the women over the chiton.

STROPHINO- As the clothing worn by the Greek people was mostly baggy and loose, the Greek women also wore Strophino under the chiton and peplos, which was a soft band worn around the mid-section of the body.

MEN'S CLOTHING- Usually, a look of kalpos look (pouch kind of look) was greeted by most of the clothing in the Greek times. Men usually went out for work or for hunting, they also wore tunics, but of a shorter length, till knee level. CHITON was a tunic made from linen fabric and was worn by men, it was wide enough to allow for sleeves it was fastened in the arms with buttons and pins. Men also wore EXOMIE, a one-shoulder draped chiton, worn for horse riding, work, and exercise. HIMATION was cloth worn by the people to protect themselves from the cold weather, it was worn by the soldiers to protect themselves from cold, and they also wore it as nightwear. PETASOS is a wide-brimmed head cover that was also worn by the Greeks to protect themselves from the sun. CHLAMYS was a short cloak worn by the men for riding.

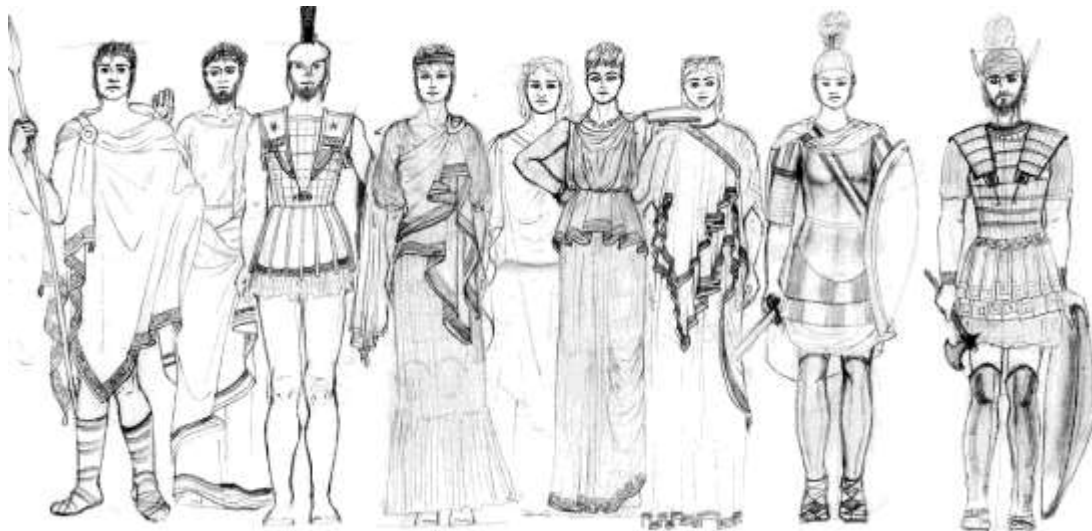
SHOES AND ACCESSORIES-The Greek people mostly proffered to be barefoot at home, but for some special occasions, they wore shoes and boots with their tunic. A belt or griddle was



used by the people to secure the people and the chiton at the center. PETASOS was a broad-brimmed hat that was worn by the Greek men at special occasions.

MAKEUP-Pale skin was the most desirable feature amongst the women, it showed their wealth and that they don't need to work for others; there also existed lipsticks. The most common jewelry worn by women includes necklaces, rings, and earrings. A brooch was a jeweler piece that was used by women to clinch the cloak; gold and silver-made pieces of jewelry were common amongst the rich class.

GREEK PANTHEONS-The 12 Olympians are the major deities of the Greek pantheons. The 12 Olympians were Zeus, Hera, Poseidon, Demeter, Athena, Apollo, Artemis, Ares, Aphrodite, Hephaestus, Hades, and Dionysus. Each and every Olympian had a relationship amongst them, and each of them had a specific area of rule.



- Hera- the queen of all Olympian gods, she was the wife to Zeus. She was the goddess of women and marriage. Peacocks, lions, and cows were sacred to her.
- Zeus, Hades, and Poseidon were three brothers, each of whom had a place to rule. Zeus was the god of the sky; Hades was the god of the underworld and Poseidon was the god of water.
- Zeus- Zeus means bright or sky. Zeus being the king of the Greek gods was her husband of her, he was the god of thunder and sky, and the thunderbolt was the weapon of his choice. Zeus was the father of many gods at Mount Olympus.
- Hades- was the god of the underworld, he possesses precious metals of the earth. He was believed to have a hat that could make the wearer invisible, through this hat he married Demeter's only daughter, his symbol includes wealth and the lovely three-headed dog.
- Poseidon- was the god of water not only rivers but oceans too. He always carried a trident; he tamed the horses and cause earthquakes too.
- Apollo- Apollo was the god of light, sun, poetry, and truth. His twin sister was Artemis; he is associated with music, art, and healing. He was often seen holding a lyre, which was a gift from Hermes.
- Hephaestus- was the ugly god among all, he was the god of fire. He was the son of Zeus and Hera was through Mount Olympus by his mother Hera, as he limped and was born lame. He married the unfaithful Aphrodite; he forges weapons for gods. The smashing of steel in the molten lava creates earthquakes and volcanoes, he worked beneath the earth's surface.
- Aphrodite- was the god of beauty, love, and fertility, she married Hephaestus Aphrodite was born from the

white foam produced by the severed genitals of Uranus after his son Cronus threw them into the sea.

- Artemis- was the goddess virgin goddess of wild animals and hunting, she also helped women in child birthing. Her temple came under the 7 wonders of the ancient world, she was said to be unfaithful.
- Athena- was the goddess of wisdom and courage. She was the patron of Athens and the people of the city built a temple in her honor called Parthenon- a temple of Athena built on the acropolis at Athens in the fifth century BC. Owls, helmets, and spears were among her symbols.
- Dionysus- Dionysus was the ancient Greek god of wine, winemaking, grape cultivation, fertility, ritual madness, theater, and religious ecstasy.
- Ares- was a god of war, and many people hated him because he was filled with blood lust (craving, willingness to kill other peoples.) despite being the god of war, he wasn't a great fighter and often lost to his sister Athena.

All the Olympians are the major deities of the Greek pantheons and had a different style of worship and still have their imprints over the Greek culture and history.

A study about the status and freedoms of women the ancient Greek times was studied by many researchers. The ancient Greek women had a little voice of their own, their daily works include wool-working and washing, relationships, and their virtues, which were depicted by the men in control. Study of the archaeological remains of ancient Greek cultures, including representations of goddesses and mortal women in statues, vase paintings, and figurines, was studied deeply to know the importance of clothing, jewelry, and cosmetic embellishments throughout Greek history. In the research a study about the main garments worn by women in the Greek



period was made, the women mostly wore kurtas, peplos, and chiton.

CONCLUSION

Ancient Greek clothing was mainly about drapes and unstitched, clinched garments. They were commonly worn by people according to season; nylon and wool were the two main fabrics used, belonging to the era of 800- 500 BC, Greek people still wore fashionable clothes, shoes, and accessories. Makeup for getting the pale look was also commonly seen during that time. The Greek pantheons were duly respected and praised by the commoners, each of the twelve Olympians had an impact on the Greek culture and people's life, and all the twelve Olympians had sacred things that were used for worshipping them. Other than that, Greek literature was also equally important. In today's time, the Greek language is the official language of- Greece, the European Union, and Cyprus. It is also recognized in countries like Hungary, Italy, Romania, Ukraine, and Turkey. Greek roots of fashion are also used to coin many new-era fashions in today's world, like drape clothes and peplum dresses. Thus, we can state Greek fashion and style still act as a cradle for 21st-century clothing fashion.

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