

True stories around the Adventures of The Runners that Hold and Guard the Olympic Torch. Over 1000 years ago between 776 BC and AD 395 the Olympic Games began in Olympia, Western School. In the Ancient World Purification was found in Fire, as the flame of Olympus rose. Hieracttus God of Fire and later Plutarch new the importance of the Flame of the Olympus and The Adventures around The Flame.

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The Torch: Prometheus Fire

PART ONE

5th Century BC and Ancient Greek Titan Prometheus has grown relentless in his pursuit of encouraging man to grow in knowledge. To enable Humanity to develop Prometheus decides to steal the Fabled Fire of the God's to give to Humanity. Hidden from Humanity by Matarisvan on the orders of Zeus. Matarisvan was the Mother of the sacrificial fire which grows into becoming the Fire Stick. Matarisvan was a fabled being that worked with Agni, messenger of Vivasvat. As Matarisvan brought the fire to The City of Bhhrigus. followers of Prometheus were in wait to provide the Titan Prometheus with the details of the ancient fires location. As Savana identifies the fire of the Gods the wind comes to try and put it out to stop Prometheus from handing the fabled fire to Humanity. While Sayana was busy identifying God's fire which was also known as Atharvaveda meaning "air, wind, and breeze". The air of the land swept past the Fire had no effect, wind from the sea stroked the land making the fire stronger, and then a cool breeze was felt on the Fire from the Gods showing its incredible power. The Fire was as Bright as the sun and was wonderful in colour. For man had experienced this Fire thanks to the Fire Bringer: Prometheus. When Zeus had found out that Prometheus has given the sacred flame to mankind Zeus: The Greek God of Thunder had Prometheus chained, bound to a rock whilst being tortured, for both the flame and teaching humanities civilization the arts. In anguish on a daily basis by the eagle sent to Prometheus on a daily basis by Zeus to torment him. Heracles comes to help Prometheus by killing the eagle, freeing Prometheus from his chains and from the Rock. For Prometheus was held on a mountain for his torment called "Caucasus" by the Barbarians. After having been held within its cave and set free to go down its foot-hill. The mountain was easy to be found due to its two summits. Within the area of this mountain the Kausasos inhabitants regarded the bird as a hostile eagle. Prometheus having been bound for Thirty thousand Years decides to share his knowledge with Humanity. For man began the Olympics with the practice of wearing

wreaths for great rejoicing and victory observing this through sport and banquets. For Prometheus also knew a secret that could be the downfall of Zeus. This secret being that the women Thetis the Nereid, wanted as a lover, was fated to bear a child greater than Zeus. For if Zeus had slept with Thetis with such overwhelming passion, this lust would have lead to Zeus being overthrown by his own child in the same way Zeus had overthrown his father, Cronus. This secrets revelation leads to the reconciliation between the Titan Prometheus and the Olympian Zeus. Prometheus choosing wisely to warn Zeus about Thetis. Zeus then decides to marry her off to Peleus, The mortal King of Aegina. For the son born from this union became greater than his father, the son named Achilles was to go on to become the Greek hero Achilles, known for his courageous exploits during the still to occur Trojan War. Zeus and Prometheus reconcile their differences. Zeus decides to create an Athenian Festival in honour of Prometheus called "Aeschylus", placing a garland on Prometheus head apologising for Prometheus bondage. For while he was bound Prometheus had a vision prophesying that eventually he and Zeus would be reconciled instituting some kind of festival in his honor. During the festival a play was created and considering the title Aeschylus' Oresteia provided with an aetiology for the Areopagus in Athens. Following these incredible events in Athens a torch race was created honouring the Titan Prometheus. The Torch was first created using the plant "Ferula communis of the genus Ferula of the Apiaceae. As a tall herbaceous perennial, the Ferula communis were found by first runners to the Torch Relay in the Mediterranean Woodlands and shrublands, known as the Narthex. This fennel stalk was to hold the flame as the adventures of The Torch was to begin at this time of great adventure. As Human Kind started to use the Ferula Communis the earliest use of plant botany was experimented upon. As European-Mediterranean culture introduced the biology of plant life the use of the plant helped in its part behind the arts. As Prometheus can also be seen in the Stars in the far reaches of Space. Envision the purple lights and solar system which comes in from the left to the right of space. For Prometheus

was the wisest of the Titans as he knew by giving all mankind the gift of fire, mankind would later have the tools to explore the far reaches of space to explore the solar system and the universe itself. As The Greek Astronomers look to the stars they see The Moon of Prometheus also as Saturn XVI, as an inner satellite of Saturn. Prometheus interests in Space would last for centuries as the small moon with its ridges and valleys would become a Future location for Events of incredible physical prowess. This is a story for another day. When Fire was brought to Man, events were set in Motion to last thousands of years that would bring humanity to Space.

Deep within Greece lies the city of Athens, outside which is the "Akademia", an Academy where an altar has been erected to Prometheus. From this Altar runners would run to Athens carry flaming torches. An ancient contest to keep mythical flame alight. With the prize going to the runner that completes the course without the flame going out. For there can be several runners, but the flame must not go out for there to be a victor. An event which lead to both the Panathenaic and Olympic Games. But for these Games to happen several Greek Sports and Adventures had to occur firstly. Before these Games other sporting events to take place within Greece would be the Pentathlon which included the discus, javelin throwing, jumping, wrestling and running.

As the Runners run pass the altar of Prometheus at The Academy, where several processions originated within the Athenian calendar. One of these was the Panathenaic festival. This at the times was the most important festival to occur in Athens starting with the Torch race from the altar of Prometheus. The route of this torch race our adventurous runners was to take would begin outside the city's boundaries passing through the terrain of the Karameikos with many great adventures occurring on this incredible route which is within an district known for its pottery (include drawing here).

For the Potters knew both Prometheus and Hephaestus as their patrons. For this great race through the city was of great importance to kindle the beginning of the festival with the sacrificial fire on the altar of Athena on the Acropolis concluding the sporting and artistic festival. The runners ran footraces as relays as each team of runners passed on the torch. In the 2nd Century AD, Pausanias wrote about this great race calling it The "Lampadedromia" or "Lampadephoria" instituting it in Athens in Prometheus honor. As the races continued into the Classical period, the races were each run by "ephebes" in honor of both Hephaestus and Athena. For ephebes were well trained athletic adolescent boys and young men to carry the torch. The association between Prometheus is key to Greek Religious significance with the alignment between Athena and Hephaestus. Honouring new technology has a cultic emphasis of a unique degree. The festival to honor Prometheus was known as the Prometheia where wreathes were worn which symbolized Prometheus chains. During this great adventure, other religious sites can be found at both Argos and Opous which is claimed as the final resting place of Prometheus where a tomb has been erected. Also at this location is the city of Panopeus where a cult statue was erected in honor of Prometheus for having created the human torch race there. As the runners run across the ancient citadel, which is on a high rocky outcrop of Athens. A city containing remains of several buildings ancient, of architectural and historical significance. As the Panathenaea Festival grows the procession of athletes depicting Partheon frieze travel through the city. As the Panathenaic Games are held every four years within this ancient city every four years since 566BC. Continuing into the 3rd Century, the Games incorporated the following prize giving, athletic competitions, and cultural festivities. Looking back at the religious festival with many stories to tell, there were many religious occasions. The Great Panathenaea itself had rituals and observances consisting of

numerous sacrifices to Athena who was both patron and deity to hosts of all the events in Athens following orders of Poseidon and others. A sister event to the Great Panathenaea was held yearly a Lesser Panathenaea lasting 3-4 days and was shorter in celebration.

During the rule of Persistratis the First Great Panathenaea was held where artists added music and poetry competiting as part of the Pythian Games which were for Athenians only, and any other Greeks. For the Games for all Greeks are seen as the same as the Olympics with the sports boxing, wrestling, pankration, pentathlon, and chariot racing. The Torch was carried as part of Chariot races between the teams of Runners. For chariot racing was the most prestigious of the sports. These games included the one of the early first torch races from Piaeus (an Ancient Greek Peiraieus is a Port City in the region of Attica, in Greece. During the Games oracles were used to say who would be the Victor. Victors were given incredible medals. Piraeus is located within the Athens urban area which is 12 kilometres (7 miles) southwest from its city centre (municipality of Athens, and lies along Saronic Golf's east coast. A long history dating to ancient Greece. In the 5th Century BC the area was largely developed and selected to serve as the port city for classical Athens. Transforming into the prototype harbour concentrating all import and trade from Athens.

Deep in the bustling city of Piraeus, allot of Activity can be found making it an integral part of Athens. Acting as the home of Greece's biggest harbour and bearing the characteristics of a huge marine commercial industrial centre.

PART TWO

The story of the Olympics goes back to after the awesome 12 labours of Heracles (Hercules), Herakles decided to establish an athletic festival in honor of his father Zeus. Pelops to win a chariot race used both trickery and the help of Poseidon. By winning this race against local king claiming the king's daughter in marriage. The Ceremony arranged as part of the procession to the Parthenon was more important than the games themselves. During the Great Panathenaia a special robe called a Peplos was made by the women of Athens for the Statue of Athena. Strong Athlete carried the statue as part of the procession. A sacrifice had to be made to Athena the 'hekatombe' ("sacrifice of a hundred oxen") and the meat from the animals that were sacrificed were used in an incredible banquet on the festivals final night known as the 'panayclitis' ("all-nighter"). Scholars believe the procession was the theme of the Parthenon Freeze.

During Award ceremonies the giving of Panathenaic amphoria which were large ceremonial vessels containing gel given as prizes. The winner of the chariot race received a prize one hundred and fifty Panathenaic amphora full of olive oil. Within the Panathenaea poetic and musical competitions were also awarded for rhapsodic recitation of Homeric poetry. The instrumental music on the aulus and cithara as the athletes sang to the accompaniments of the aulus cithara (citharody). In addition as the athletes came to together for their chariot race. For chariot racing was the predecessor to today's harness racing. The current century harness racing has grown as an adventurous sport of horse racing as the horses raced in specific carts (at a trot or a pace) looking through time to the Ancient Olympics and other Games as the Torch Athletes raced against each other across country there was great competition. As the current races pulled the cart called a sulky, racing and saddle (trot monte in French) conducted in Europe. It is unknown when the Ancient Sport of Chariot racing began. To race chariots is as old as the chariots themselves. As the racers grew in speed, the artists captured evidence of these races on their pottery as the Sport

existed in Mycenaean world as Homer wrote about the first use of Chariot races. These chariots were also used in the funeral games of Patroclus. Leading on to the Torch being passed between chariots as they raced through the hills and valleys, the stadiums with great uproar and cheer by the spectators dressed in the days fashions. Great participants in the Chariot races were Diomedes, Eumelus, Antilochus, Menelaus and Meriones who once raced around the stump of a tree. With the race being won by Diomedes who received a slave women and cauldron as his prize. Chariot races were used to start the Olympic Games according to legends written by Pindar as King Oenomaus challenged his daughter Hippodamia's suitors to races for his hand in marriage. Pelops defeated King Oenomaus winning Hippodamia's hand in marriage and founded the Olympic Games in honour of his victory. Both the ancient Olympic Games and Pan-Hellenic Games are both written about in the tethrippon and Greek texts as the two horse (synores, Greek)both were using the chariot races to start the games with a number of horses. The Pan-Hellenic Games was a time for great Mutual compretention; institutions were in control of people's lives these games were set up as part of the past time. There were Amphictojonies, inner-city diplomacy and campaigns for multiple city diplomacies. Which were impractical at the time where Kings wanted control of other regions of Greece, the peoples called for the Games to see who were greater. Maritime trading, particularisms and writing systems for numerals of the names of victors, calendars in general. The weakest individuals found to be tiresome were withdrawn disallowed from participation because of their insuperable handicaps. Characterising the games affected the ostentiation in the dress and social contacts of the time. Intermarriage was found to be an obvious solution to political problems at the time between the frontiers. For there were many ritualized conflicts and competition at the Pan-Hellenic Games. Institutions had control of the peoples with restricted memberships such as the pallaestra or the symposium. The accompanying etiquette and social prestige focused as the warring factions had to take on predominant art forms such as the dittyrambec, lyric, or

elegaic poetry. As the Kouros statue came to life forming into the Greek Titan Prometheus speaking "Great are the Panhellenics" everyone was in credibly surprised. Within the building elegant tableware in silver with fine pottery were being used by the pederasty. For these words were specific and in the voque-words. Kalos, and Kagathos (perhaps 'gentleman') and asteiros as (urban witty). The gravitation of all athletes involved in the activities coming away from the chora. Finding the gauche unaccomplished country bumpkin as sheepskin cloak was worn recreating the polite country atmosphere. An Argo government official son was already one of the sons slain in the recent war. For things were hostile between the faction and with Sparta. There was uncertainty about Argos in the north, as the small town of Cleonae was held in importance by controlling the Pan-Hellenic festival the Nemean Games. There was quite independence but with a great stress for the peoples in holding these Nemean Games. Both Pausa and Pausanias agreed to the description of the visiting Sicilian envoy who was dedicated to the Games at Olympia and Delphi. The Sicilians had victors at the Pan-Hellenic Games as they added value to the competive spirit to these and the future Games. As Honour was awarded to prominent figures and victors as the Olympics came into formation. By moving into the prominent social circles. Gossip needed to be avoided, as this wrong gossip preserved that the "Plutach" maintained that 'Elpice' the sister of 'Cimon' was a Polygnotus mistress. Elpice portrait was used for the face of one of the Trojan women in the murial that was seen on the vase The Stoa Poikile

In 680BC was the first time Chariot Racing was used as part of the Olympics expanding from a one day to a two day live event accommodating the new event. For as the Greeks have reached the heights in Sport since the 5th Century BC. Between 800BC and 479AD the first Olympics games were held in Greek colonies on the Black Sea and Sicily and during the Persian invasions. The world was Archaic with world events which included the Rise of Etruscans in Italy, with Rome founding the Assyrian Empire. For the favourite

past time in Greece was the Olympic Games seen as part of religious festivity which included the Panathenaic Games regularly held in Athens. Great festivals were held started with chariots. Stadiums had to be built high above Mount Apollo at Delphi for the Games and chariot racing. The greatest honour for winning the games was that the winning team of horses were paid with statues being built to celebrate their success. To start these games and for use of The Torch a Procession of sacrifice, a bowls were used for wine. Each bowl was decorated with leaves and an image of Dionysus the wine god. The worship of the goddess Athena was common place. As the flames rises from the right hand side of the bowl. Athena stands besides the bowl with a sacrificial bull as double pipes are played. Several objects are used to worship Athena, from a log of wine to a mule. During the Greek Games within ancient Greece champions raced bare back on horses without stirrups, paid jockeys were servants of the horse's owners. Wrestling was one of the most dangerous Greek Sports with prize pots containing olive oil. These vases also known as Panathenaic vases, paintings of Athena on one side and painting of the event on the other. The value of sport was believed of Great importance to the Greeks with training in warfare, honouring the gods within the local sporting competitions. There were 4 big athletic festivals attracted men from the Greek World. The most important was the Olympic Games bringing athletes and their family's honour. For the successful athletes acquired mythical status and wars were suspended the athletes travels to these Great Games. Beautiful buildings and temples were erected providing facilities for the athletes and spectators. Cimon's patronage of Polygnotes which included Pericles' patronage of Pludas is fast beyond the doubt of the scholars of the times. As epihopas of the whole Periclean building programme the man with the considerable influence to speak to was 'Phudas' because of his great wealth. Phudas was prominent enough to object in the Elders meetings of the Ruling Council. Especially when 'Pericles' political enemies wanted to attack the city ultimately forcing him to leave Athens. Pericles was charged with embezzling gold designated by

the Athena Parthenos, quickly receiving the most important commission for any Athenian sculptor of the period. This lead to the aspiration for the assignment to make great image works in chryselephantine for Zeus's temple. As the Games continued into Roman times while the Romans began their rise into power coming to an end in the late fourth century. Many innumerable ancient Greek festivals lead to the upcoming athletic and cultural festival. This 5th Century were great times of courage and endurance filled with local prestige and incredible significance. As the poets 'Pinder' and 'Bacchylides' gave the long catalogue of the victories. Seen as the crown games because of the material objects of value that were given to the victors as gold crowns at Olympia. Of wild Olive at Delphi of Bay and Nemea and Isthmia made of fresh dry celery painted Gold. These crowns were given at both these Olympic Festivals and of Great utility were offered. The Pisa district beside the Alpheas River acquired wide importance.

The Olympics was seen as an important public holiday disciplining the sport was strict in time and presence, as rules that were broken were punished severely. One of the great stadiums of the time was the Delphi Stadium which can be found at the Highest point if the city. The store started grooves as the runners run along the great track to survive the great race. Many seats were cut into the mountainside for the spectators to watch as races occurred with great spectacle along the mountain path to the stadium. A great stadium holding 7000 spectators. To partake in these Olympics a Spirit was needed, an Olympic Spirit for competing in the Olympic Games. For these Olympics have always inspired artists over the years since Ancient times to present days. From 19th century paintings, the German duotones depicted naked athletes exercising against a background of classical columns. Great paintings, sculptors, drawings, and visuals depicting the ancient stories of the Greek Olympics. The Games that was God's tool to bring peace to the world.

A dedicated life to the Olympics and to specialising in one of the events The Discuss. Bronze in material, made during the Sixth Century BC. Reading the Inscription written on objects called the Exodus, to win the Exodus is a Great adventure for any athlete to partake in the contests. The Discuss was dedicated to Castor and Pollux, Twin sons of Zeus. Pollux son of Zeus was a champion discus thrower. Marble statues were created of famous discus thrower, which includes a bronze original made by renowned sculptor Myron.

Armed runners on the 'hoplitodronia', the sacred truces are not interfered with during the Olympics as some people natively imagine how sport brings the world together where all fighting stops. Allowing the Games to take place to bring peace despite the fighting. For at this time the Long and Bitter Peloponnesian War between Athens and Sparta in the late Fifth Century BC as the State Authorities maintaining the city precincts order, for there is no place in the countryside where there can be peace without having an Olympics to help bring the lasting peace. By Trusting the Precepts of the Gods, Great places in Greece were erected to protect the mantle of sacred Truce is rugged.

PART 3

For the past 1000 years between 776BC and AD395 people have flocked to these Olympics held in Olympia, in Western Greece to watch famous athletes take part in Sport. For every champion of Sport were given Olive Crowns of the first Olympic Games. The build up to these Games during the preceding year were devoted to preparations for both the sites and the athletes. The Olympics were sporting events filled with religion, power, politics, scandal, and propaganda. The victor of the Torch relay would kindle the flame on the altar of Zeus. During the five day festival with each Olympics were held in honour of Zeus, the supreme God of Greek mythology. Describing the events, sacred ceremonies and celebrations were part of every Olympic festival. With every Olympics were held during seasons of scorched heat, a fearce heat to hot for humans to endure. Pilgrims would go on sacred pilgrimages to the most sacred places know n as Attis. The Attis were the centre for religious devotion with combination different stadium activities. The North bank of the broad river Alpheios Kladeos, Mountains of Elis, Scenes of which were found on pottery, the peisthetairos and characters in Aristophanes' Birds seeing performance artists in Choras advancing together in feathered costumes.

During the Olympics are many heroes, with the many heroes great stories were told, stories of sporting prowess. Stories of Super heroics in Sport. Heroes known for different sport from The Chariot Race, to running, to the discus. For great distances have been travelled between places in extended walking time. For the Peiraieus Harbour was the harbour used for the trips to Athens as the Torch arrived on dry ground, a harbour that is nine miles in length. There are 36 miles from Elis to Olympia, where the Olympics was to start. The Olympic Games. Good walkers, as Athletes would go cross country far from track and field.

As Greece was divided into 1000 independent cities states. The rivals of Greece lead by rage brought warfare and endemic local wars. Athens was at war for three years out of four. As the territory laid waste, the crops were cut down buildings demolished by the

destruction of war. Civilians targeted as religious sanctuaries were plundered at the outbreak of war. Where Olympic Travellers would travel to the Olympics in Peace there was peace in the world considering the Olympic Pilgrims brought peace to the world. The pilgrims were under divine protection, from the hostility and violence of war amount from the violation of a strict religious taboo. As the pilgrims passed through the actual war zones. The Borders were unmasked and unguarded, travel papers were not available at this time. The Olympics and other Games were seen as past times, peaceful events to bring the world together in peace. During the Games, land was under a Pan-Hellenic 'Sacred Truce' effectively guaranteeing safe passage through the territory of any state to all spectators travelling to and from the Olympics.

One of the events used to bring Greece together in peace was the hophtodromia also known as the steeplechase, running events. For visiting the Olympic site, the stadiums built were part sanctuary, part gallery and part heritage trail. All around the ancient Olympic sites were shrines, altars and statues to the God's. Fringe events including lectures, poetry reading with sundry charlatans and cranks that offered to predict the future. You can be sure these Cranks would not have been able to predict the use of the Olympics in the centuries to come would bring Galactic peace avoiding planet Earths Alien invasion. For Greece was a Foreign land, as we travel through space and time to experience ancient Greek Olympics for sports fans, pilgrims on a once in a lifetime experience for both Celebrities and adventure seekers. Walking through the historical and archaeological record of the ancient Olympic Village reconstructing the past into its historical reality through live human experiences. For this was a time of premier events within the Greek sporting calendar within the City of Elis as they hosted one of the games to the North Western Petoponnese in Olympia in Central Greece. Athens was 120 miles distance away from Thebes, 110 miles away from Peloponnese, Corinth, Argos, and Sparta (The Spartans consider themselves descended from Herakles The half God).

Great lists of Olympic victors were kept from since the Olympiad in 776BC onwards. Of those we have seen the great athletes and the towns they belonged to:

From the 96th Olympiad (396); these were Gisebean victors:

Xenopithes of Chios - boys' stadion

(...)con of Argos for - boys' wrestling

(...) phanes of Heraea - boys' boxing

Astylos of Syracuse - hoplites

Daitondes and Arsilochios of Thebes four horse chariot

76 Scamandros of Mytilene - stadion

Dandis of Argos - dialos

(....) [[..]] of Laconia - dialichos

(....) of Taras - pentathlon

(....) of Maroneia - wrestling

Eulhymos of Locris in Italy - boxing

Theogenes of Thasos - pankration

(....) of Laconia boys - stadion

Theognetos of Locris in Italy boys - boxing

(----) Juros of Syracuse hoplites most powerful of all

Theron of Acragus four - horse chariot

Hieron of Syracuse - horse race

77th Dandis of Argos stadion

(...)ges of Epidauros - diaulos

Ergoteles of Himera - dolichos

(...) amos of Miletus - pentathlon

(----) menes of Samos - wrestling

Euthymos of Locres in Italy boxing

Callias of Athens - pankration

(...) sandredas of Corinth boys 'stadion

(..) cratidas of Taras boys 'boxing'

Tallon of Mainalos - boys 'boxing

(...) gias of Epidsmos - hoplites, winning twice

Demos of Argos - four-horse chariot

Hieron of Syracuse - horse race

78th Parmeneidas of Poseidonia stadion

Parmeneidas the same diallos

(...) medes of Laconia dolichos

(----)tion of Taras pentathlon in the friendliest fashion

Epharmostos of Opous - wrestling

Meoiales of Opous - boxing

Epilimedes of Argos - pankration

Lycophron of Athens boys' stadion

(..) emos of Parrhasea, boys ' - wrestling most beautifully

(...)nes of Tiryns boys: boxing

(...) los of Athens - hoplites

Hieronymos (Hieron?) of Syracuse-four horse chariot

(..) nomos (----) pentathlon

Leontiscos of Messene in Sicily - wrestling

Anthropos (----)boxing

Timanthes of Cleonai pankration

Ikadion (?) (----) boys ' stadion

Phrynichos of Athens (?) boys' wrestling

Alcainetos of Lepreon boys 'boxing

Mnoseas of Cyrene? - hophtes

Diactorides four-horse chariot

Algian of Na (----) horse race

82nd Lycon of Larissa - stadion

Euboulos of (----) - diaulos

Hippobotos of (----) - dolichos

Pythocles of Elis - pentathlon

Leontiscos of Messene in Sicily - wrestling

Ariston of Epidauros - boxing

Damagetos of Rhodes - pankration

Lachon of Chios - boy's stadion

Cleodoros of [----] boys' wrestling

Apollodoros of [----] boys' boxing

Lycos of Thessaly - lophtes

Psaumis of Camarina - four-horse chariot

Python of I [----] horse race

83rd Crison of Himera stadion

Eucleides of Modes dolichos

Ceton of Locris pentathlon

Cimon of Argos - wrestling

Argesilaos (Acousilaes?) of Rhodes boxing

Demagetos of Rhodes pankration

Lacharidas of A [----] boys'. Stadion

Polynicos of Thespia boys! wrestling

Ariston of A [----] stadion

Lyceinos of L [----] Hoplites

[POXY XXIII 238/:

96th Eupolemes of Elis - stadion

Crocinas of Larissa in Thessaly - diaulos

[----] onios of Crete - dolichos

[----] of Corinth - wrestling

Within the tradition of Philostr., De Gymnasticos the original athletes run to the altar of Zeus with the victor kindling the flame on the altar for the sacrifice (of also school. pendol. I. I.49e). This showed the clear religious purpose of the festival in the earliest forms. For the Olympics it was decided beforehand to have Elis issue its own coinage at the time of Zeus's temple completion which was minted at Olympia, holding Zeus's eagle on the reverse. The polis administration of the Olympic Games replaced fifty of its Hellanodikai with the nine tribes of the Elean. Placing the tribes in a permanent headquarter built at Olympia, which is 36km away from Elis. The sanctuary at Olympia, and the polis of Elis are geographically far apart from each other.

Within the Olympics the most famous of the events are the Athletics. In ancient Greece the Greeks competed naked with so much fun for the men and women. 2500 years later things have changed allot. With Discuss throwing since 400BC. Equestrianism, the only event where the wealthy and statesmen could afford to participate with the

chariot and horses. Driving their own chariots, usually arranging charioteers which normally took place at the Hippodrome arena. Within these arenas dangerous accidents would occur with chariot wheels falling off and chariots locking wheels to each other leading to crashes. With a fondness of Combat sport which were the heavy weight events consisting of wrestling, boxing, and the pankration (type of wrestling). These sports specialists could earn a fortune all around the Greek world having competed at Olympia. From these ancient Greek Olympics warring nations had to come together in peace. These Games having been non-political within countries, normally expecting their differences resolved within the competitions. Many prizes were won within the athletic contests all over the world. With a victory at Olympia bringing the prestige. where winners won statues of themselves within the sanctuary of Zeus comemorating their victory. Celebrating the Games was a Great pastime for my fellow Greeks. Every time we would have a great use of memorabilia to help we remember these awesome Olympics. Having these souvenirs were of great value, and today are worth a lot of money when changing hands. When asking my friends Apollodoros and Python if they had souvenirs, they said they had given them to their sons because they had served as reminders of the great victory.

Most Greece envied Sparta because of their Sporting Elite. One of the Olympics was delayed because of the Earthquake that had hot Sparta, all Greece came together to help our brothers in this time of great need. They had magnificent festivals which were held for the public's viewing, and entertainment. Accessing the Gymnasiums were based on importance of need, everyone wanted to use them to practise, preferential treatment were given to the Elite and to those chosen by the Council to take part in the specified sport. Great Songs to the Gods were created to celebrate the harvest season. Songs which could be remembered and sang bang to the children from generation to generation over the Centuries. Within tradition of Greece the runners would run a Marathon of great distances. One of

these awesome runners was the famous 'Pheidippides'. The year is 490BC and the Athenians as the Persians were about the land at Marathon to attack Athens. Ioannus Kouros ran 24 hours to warn his fellow Greeks of the invasion. Whilst Drymos ran from Elis to Epidauros. These events in Greek history played a part in awesome Olympic Victory, as journeys via the mountains of the Arcadia would take over 130km. A cross country event total for the Greek sport.

Free men of Greece were allowed to take part in the Games. These Games were international to some extent as they included athletes from various Greek cities. The colonies of Greece also sent athletes to participate extending the games to the Mediterranean shores and of the Black Sea. Qualifying in the games, athletes names had to be written on lists. With only the young allowed participation as Plutarch, Greek writer narrates as one Greek was rejected because of his age until his lover stepped in and vouched for his youth by interceding with the King of Sparta. Oaths were taken by every athlete in front of the Statue of Zeus.

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