

CLAS 0210

Sport in the Ancient Greek World



Class 15

Monday 1 March

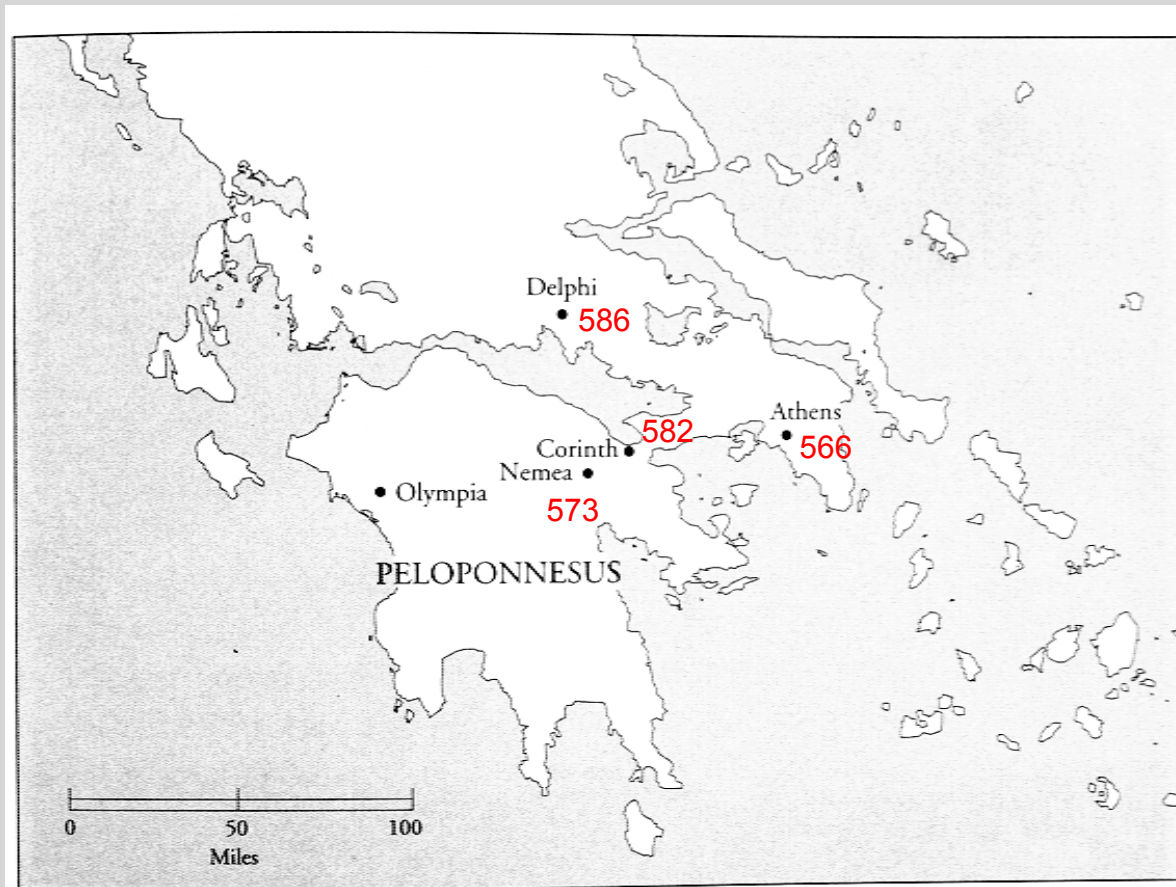
Festivals other than
the Olympics:

The rise of the athletic
periodos

Greek colonies outside Greece that sent athletes to Olympia in the 5th century BC



Sites of the major Greek Games



Map 6

Sites of major Greek games. The Olympics were held at Olympia; the Pythian Games at Delphi; the Isthmian Games near Corinth at Isthmia; and the Nemean Games at Nemea. Together, these four constituted the ancient "circuit" of Greek athletic festivals. The most important local games were held at Athens during the Panathenaic festival.

Start dates of the crown games

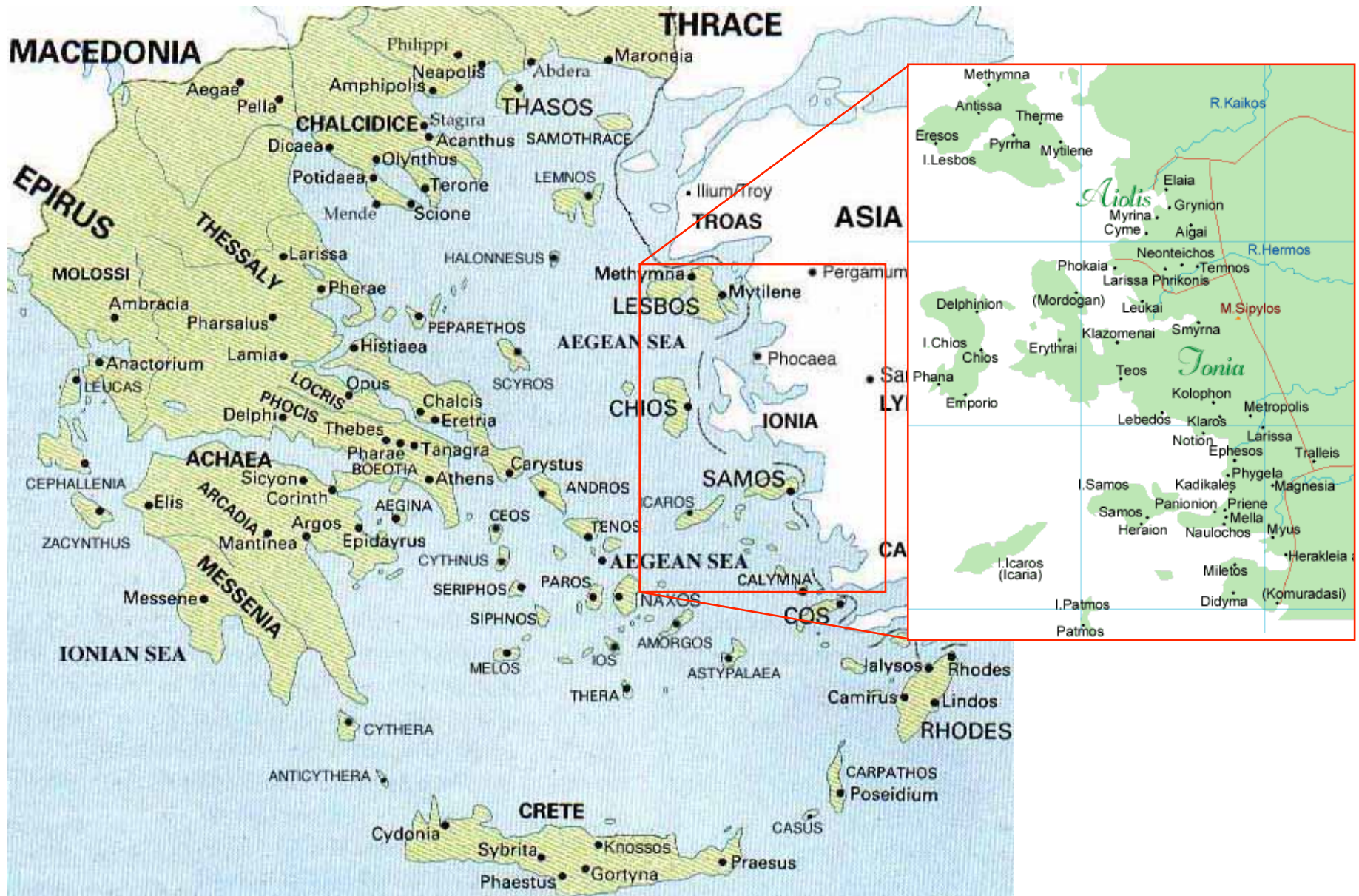
- **Olympic** Games 776 BC
- **Pythian** Games 586 (?582) BC
- **Isthmian** Games 582 BC
- **Nemean** Games 573 BC

- **Panathenaic** Games at Athens 566 BC

- Another 20 or so festival games date from about this time

Rise of baseball as a sport

- no formal rules or clubs until 1845
 - by 1857 >20 organized teams
 - by 1864 some players begin to be paid
 - 1869: first wholly professional team
 - by 1870s, baseball becomes the American “national game”
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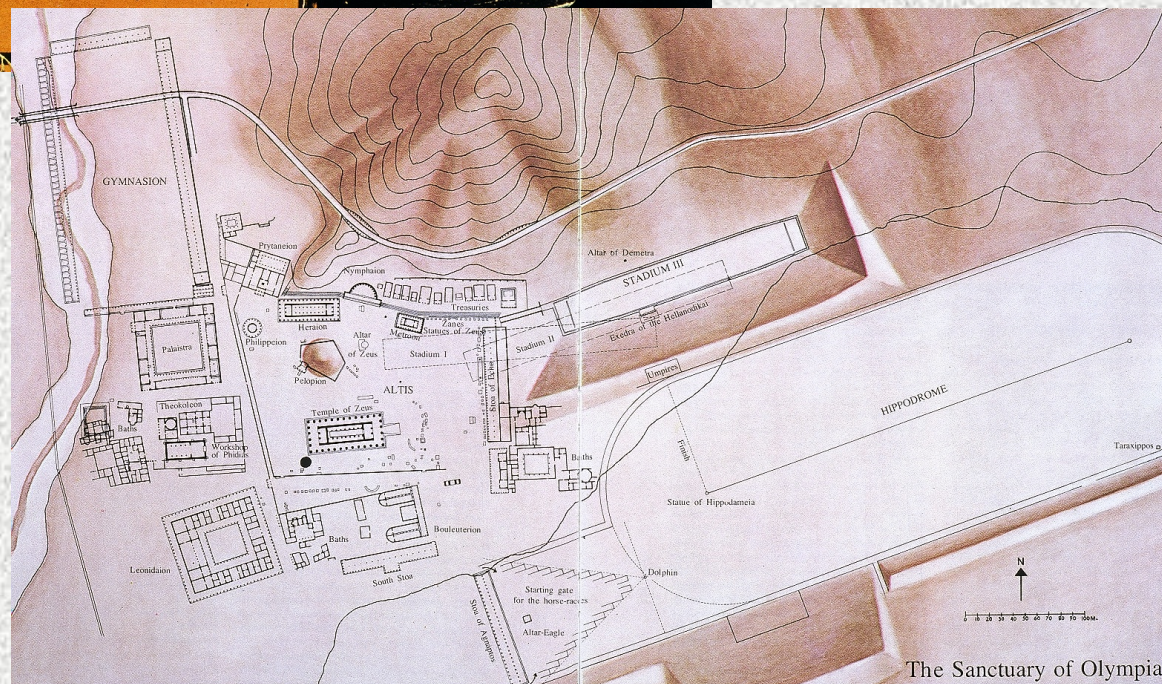
Political fragmentation of the Greek world of city-states



- Nikosthenes vase
- ca. 550-540 BC
- i.e., just 25 years after foundation of Nemean Games



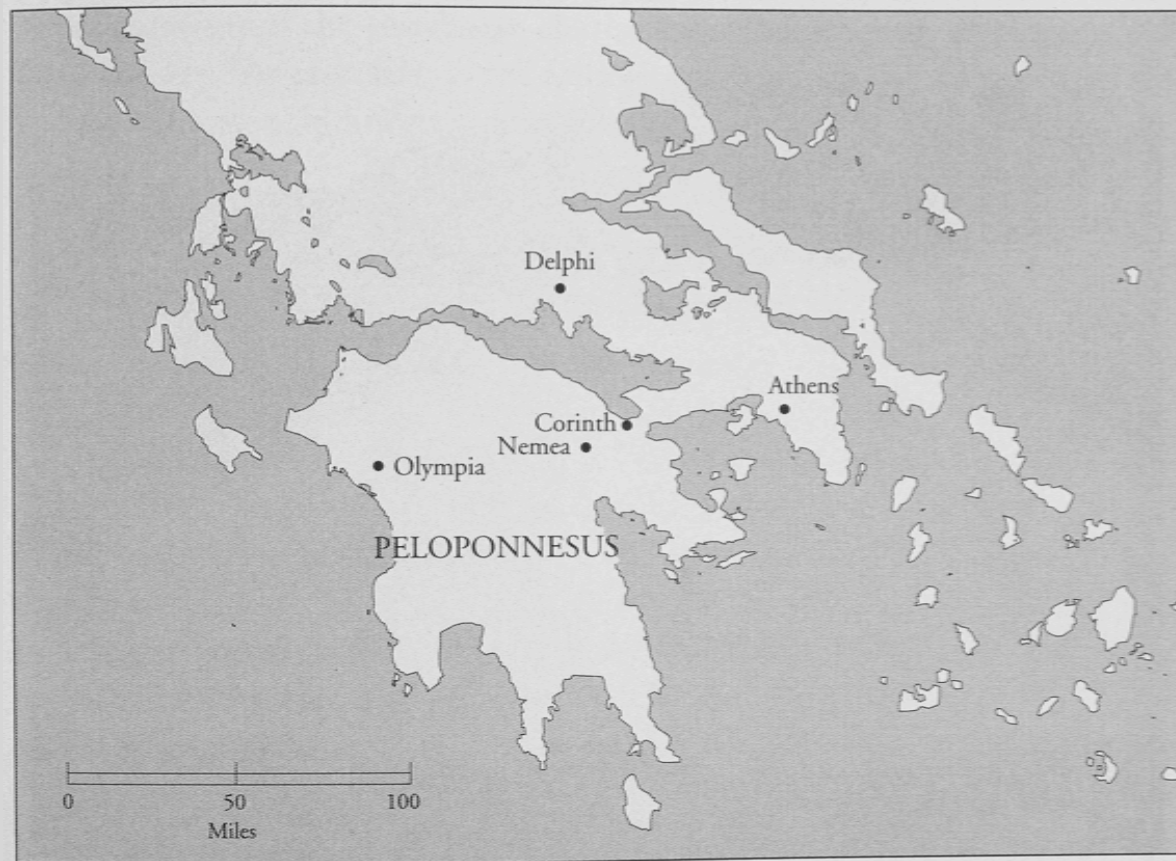
- Sophilos vase
ca. 580 BC
- Olympia?
- Athens?



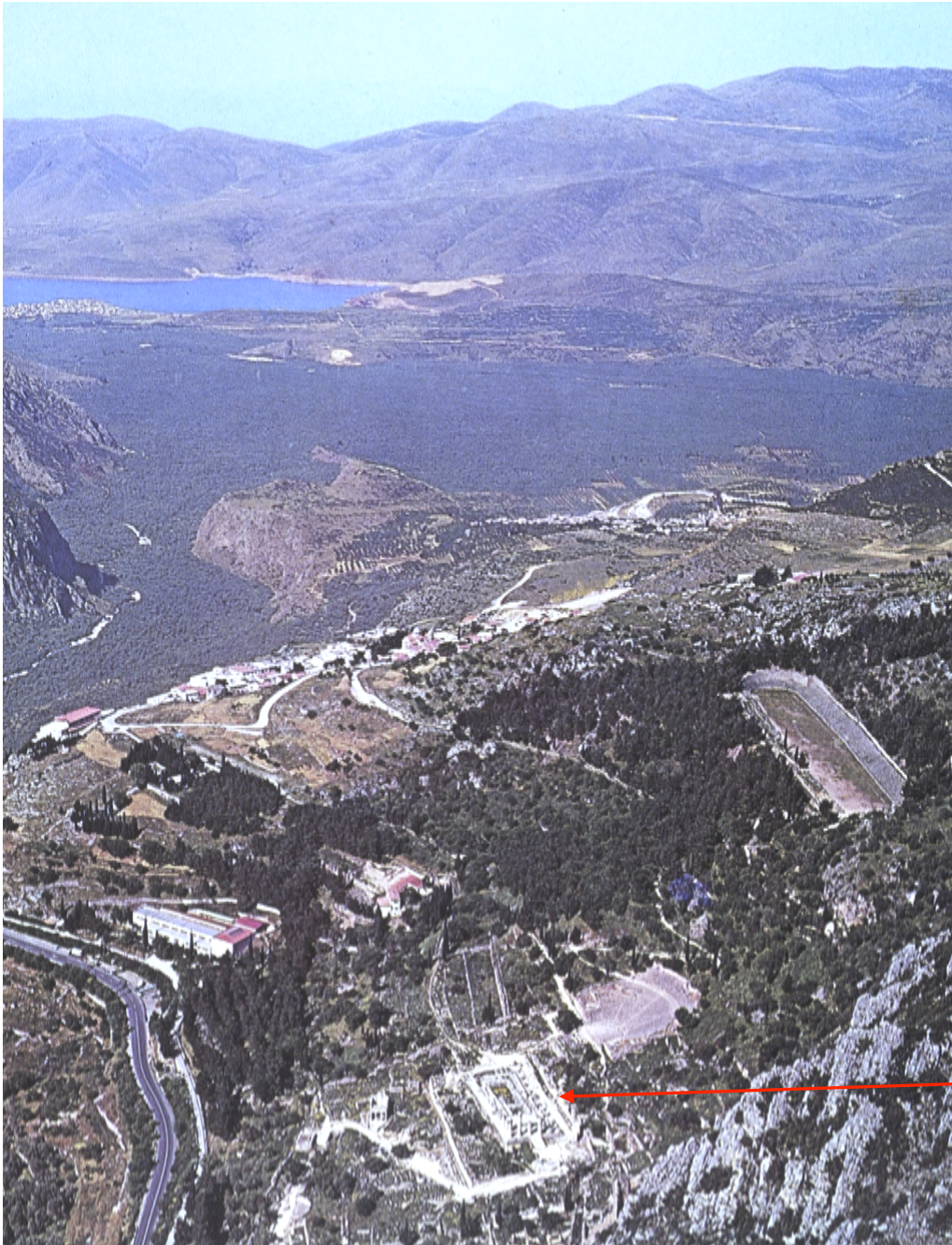
Staggering of the Panhellenic Games

- 476 Olympic Games, Isthmian Games
- 475 Nemean Games
- 474 Pythian Games, Isthmian Games
- 473 Nemean Games
- This 4-year cycle = the *periodos* (circuit)
- *periodonikes* = winner at all 4 crown games

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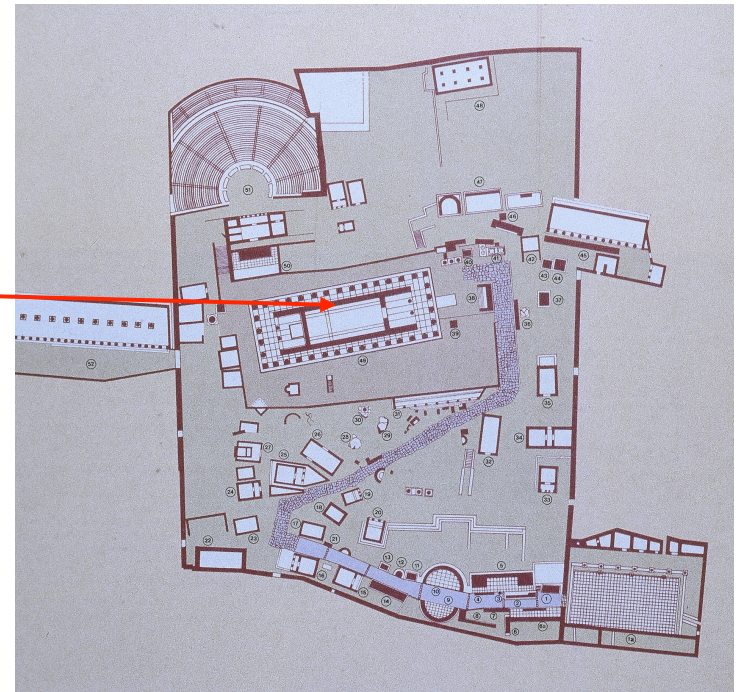
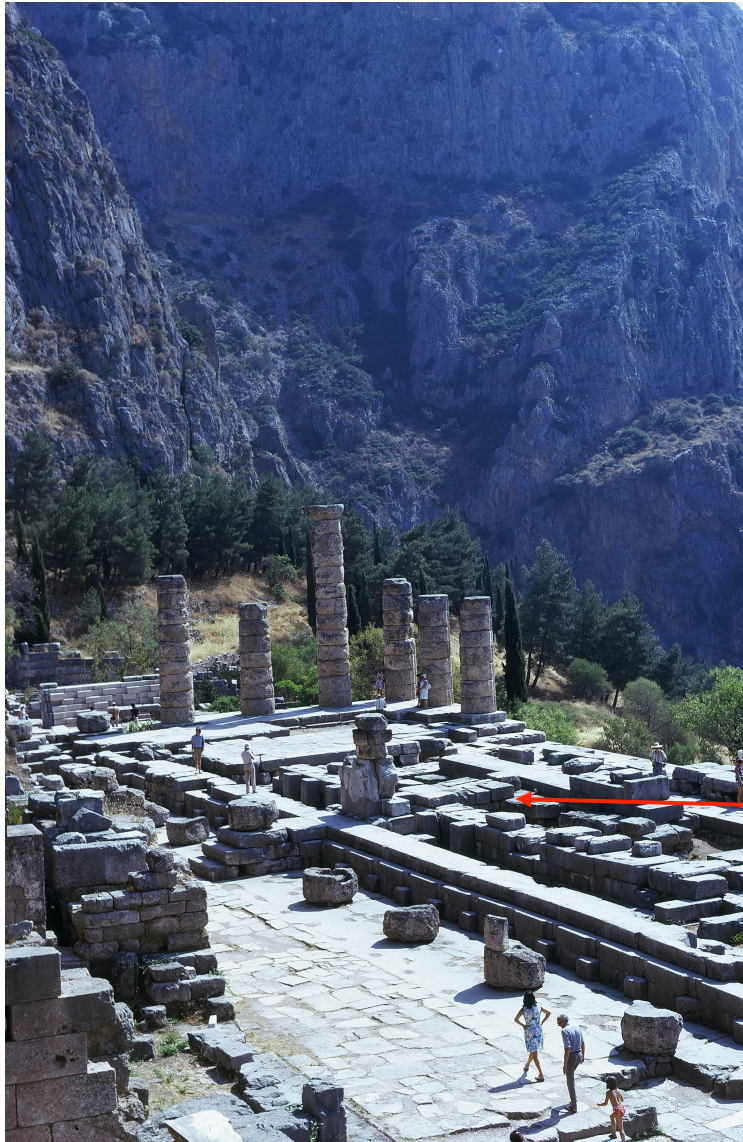


Delphi

- Apollo
- Pytho (snake)
- Pythia (priestess)
- “delphic”

Temple of Apollo

Delphi





- Temple of Apollo at Delphi



Music at the Games

Contests in:

- aulos-playing
- singing to the aulos
- singing with cithara

Religious hymns to
Apollo and other gods

Names of some other events

Kitharodes = singing with lyre accompaniment

Aulos = double-flute competition

Aulodes = singing with flute accompaniment

Synoris = 2-horse chariot race with 8 laps of hippodrome

Tethrippon = 4-horse chariot race with 12 laps of hippodrome

Keles = horseback race with 6 laps of hippodrome