

Thucydides

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- Writing in the 5th century, but later than Herodotus
- Wrote *The History of the Peloponnesian War*.
- Writing about more recent events
- Writing about events he was involved in.
- Narrower focus to his work
- Less fantastical elements



Introduction

Thucydides, an Athenian, wrote the history of the war between the Peloponnesians and the Athenians, beginning at the moment that it broke out, and believing that it would be a great war, and more worthy of relation than any that had preceded it. This belief was not without its grounds. The preparations of both the combatants were in every department in the last state of perfection; and he could see the rest of the Hellenic race taking sides in the quarrel; those who delayed doing so at once having it in contemplation. [2] Indeed this was the greatest movement yet known in history, not only of the Hellenes, but of a large part of the barbarian world—I had almost said of mankind. [3] For though the events of remote antiquity, and even those that more immediately precede the war, could not from lapse of time be clearly ascertained, yet the evidences which an inquiry carried as far back as was practicable leads me to trust, all point to the conclusion that there was nothing on a great scale, either in war or in other matters. (1.1)

- Meanwhile the Thasians being defeated in the field and suffering siege, appealed to Lacedaemon, and desired her to assist them by an invasion of Attica. [2] Without informing Athens she promised and intended to do so, but was prevented by the occurrence of the earthquake, accompanied by the secession of the Helots and the Thuriats and Aethaeans of the Perioeci to Ithome. Most of the Helots were the descendants of the old Messenians that were enslaved in the famous war; and so all of them came to be called Messenians. [3] So the Lacedaemonians being engaged in a war with the rebels in Ithome, the Thasians in the third year of the siege obtained terms from the Athenians by razing their walls, delivering up their ships, and arranging to pay the monies demanded at once, and tribute in future; giving up their possessions on the continent together with the mine.
 - (1.101).

Stylistic features

- Less focus on the individual, more on groups and states
 - More all-male groups
- Chronology
- Inclusion of speeches
- More selective than Herodotus
 - less digressions
 - a consequence of the topic?

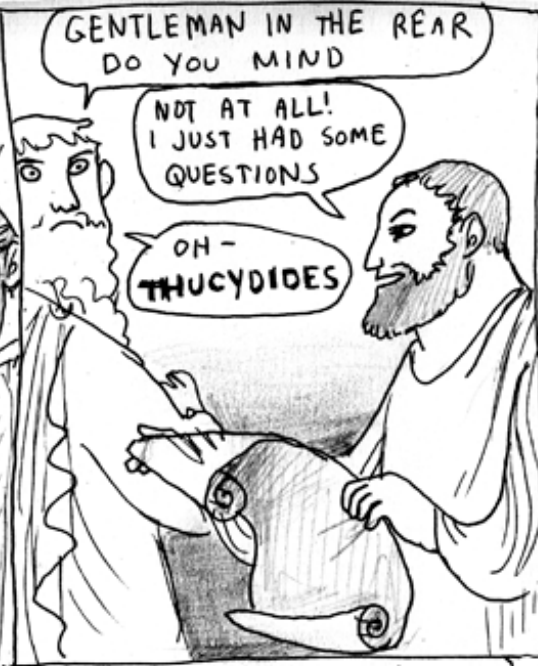
Later Historians

- Xenophon
- Cteisas
- Alexandrian Histoians

WHO IS THE FATHER OF HISTORY



BASICALLY I INVENTED HISTORY! THAT IS PRETTY IMPRESSIVE! WOULD YOU LIKE TO CARVE A BUST OF ME FOR YOUR LIBRARY? GET IN LINE!



From:
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