



PROLEGOMENA

Αξιον εστί μακαρίζειν σε την Ελλάδα Γη του Πολιτισμού
και της Ορθοδοξίας, της Ελευθερίας και της, Δημοκρατίας!
It is worth praising you Hellas, Land of Civilization,
and Orthodoxy, of Liberty and Democracy!

FOREWORD

The idea for a Greek Ethos periodical came to me after my euphoric epiphany while watching the groundbreaking innovative opening ceremony of the 2004 Athens Olympic Games and the festive closing songfest. Ecstasy turned to pride when I thought about the fact that it was in 776 BC, 2780 years earlier when most of the world was in a dark dystopian state, when two transformational events by two universally acclaimed protagonists, the epic poems Iliad and Odyssey by Homer and the Olympic Games by Hercules were born in.....

The Olympics were started by ...! 1

According to poet Pindar of Thebes, whose lyric poems extolled the Olympic champions and made them famous throughout the ancient world, the Olympic Games were started by Hercules. It seems that Hercules found himself with time on his hands because he completed his fifth Labor of cleaning the barns of King Augeas (Αυγείας) of Elis in an ingenious way and in a very short time. It took Hercules only a single day to solve the problem of nuisance odor and pollution caused by

Hercules' Solution to Pollution is ...! 2

To clean the barns, Hercules re-routed the flow of two rivers through the cattle barns. The combined volume of the rivers flushed out the barn manure in a day, thus meeting the terms of his contract with King Augeas giving rise to the Hercules Principle #1 that "The Solution to Pollution is...Dilution!" It has been applied most successfully in the water closet (flushing toilet) innovation that has sanitized and deodorized our homes. We use gallons of water to flush out a few ounces of urine! Hercules' Principle #1 is the core tenet of the transformational American!

World's Biggest and Most Prestigious Sporting event is ...! 3

Reawakening Hellenes in Diaspora to ...! 3

Immersed in the cauldron of competing cultures, it is easy to disconnect from our own culture. Failure to appreciate the significance of Hellenic history and ethos could have serious consequences for us and for our future generations of Greeks in diaspora because it prevents us from taking advantage of the power of our unique cultural heritage. I, for one, feel strongly that I am the descendant of bright minds and great heroes known throughout the ancient world that was dominated by Magna Graecia. This cultural and political power is hard to fathom nowadays, with the Greeks playing Russian roulette with the country's finances, allowing the Northern Europeans to besmirch with hubris our Filótimo (Φιλότιμο), our love of

Hellenic Seminal Ideas include ...! 5

Wars with No End: From Troy to Twin Towers to ...! 6

Nostalgia derives from Nostos ...! 6

Nostalgia (Νοσταλγία) is the Greek word for being homesick with a bit of melancholy for the halcyon days of "home". Nostalgia derives from "νόστος = nóstos". Nostos is the inexorable quest of people to return to their birthplace, the way salmon do. Amazingly, 3,000 years ago, blind bard Homer must have known this about salmon when he wrote his universally acclaimed epic poem the "Odyssey". The poem is about peripatetic Odysseus whose ...!

We Are the Beginners of ...! 7

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Introduction



Prolegomena



Greek Word Power



The Flood



Crete



Peloponnese



Athens



Macedonia



Byzantium



Crusades



Turkokratia



Independence 1821



Catastrophe 1922



Civil War 1940's



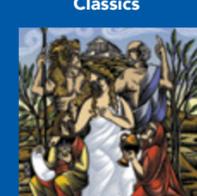
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Greek Resource Guide