Chapter 1 : Embodying Democracy : S. Birch :

Embodying Democracy analyzes the politics of electoral reform in eight post-communist states including Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Russia and Ukraine.

The Acropolis of Athens by Leo von Klenze. Athens is often regarded [i] as the birthplace of democracy and remains an important reference-point for democracy. Athens emerged in the 7th century BCE, like many other poleis , with a dominating powerful aristocracy. These problems exacerbated early in the 6th century; and, as "the many were enslaved to few, the people rose against the notables". This included Sparta in the second half of the 7th century BCE. The constitutional reforms implemented by Lycurgus in Sparta introduced a hoplite state that showed, in turn, how inherited governments can be changed and lead to military victory. As the Rhetra did in Lycurgian Sparta, Solon formalized the composition and functions of the governmental bodies. All citizens gained the right to attend the Ecclesia Assembly and to vote. The Ecclesia became, in principle, the sovereign body, entitled to pass laws and decrees, elect officials, and hear appeals from the most important decisions of the courts. The higher governmental posts, those of the archons magistrates , were reserved for citizens of the top two income groups. The retired archons became members of the Areopagus Council of the Hill of Ares , which like the Gerousia in Sparta, was able to check improper actions of the newly powerful Ecclesia. Solon created a mixed timocratic and democratic system of institutions. The constitutional reforms eliminated enslavement of Athenians by Athenians, established rules for legal redress against over-reaching aristocratic archons, and assigned political privileges on the basis of productive wealth rather than of noble birth. His sons Hippias and Hipparchus succeeded him. In the late s, Ephialtes and Pericles presided over a radicalization of power that shifted the balance decisively to the poorest sections of society, by passing laws which severely limited the powers of the Council of the Areopagus and allowed thetes Athenians without wealth to occupy public office. If we look to the laws, they afford equal justice to all in their private differences; if no social standing, advancement in public life falls to reputation for capacity, class considerations not being allowed to interfere with merit; nor again does poverty bar the way, if a man is able to serve the state, he is not hindered by the obscurity of his condition. The freedom which we enjoy in our government extends also to our ordinary life. Marble, Roman copy after a Greek original from ca. The Athenian democracy of Cleisthenes and Pericles was based on freedom of citizens through the reforms of Solon and on equality of citizens isonomia - introduced by Cleisthenes and later expanded by Ephialtes and Pericles. To preserve these principles, the Athenians used lot for selecting officials. Casting lots aimed to ensure that all citizens were "equally" qualified for office, and to avoid any corruption allotment machines were used. The courts had unlimited power to control the other bodies of the government and its political leaders. Debate was open to all present and decisions in all matters of policy were taken by majority vote in the Ecclesia compare direct democracy , in which all male citizens could participate in some cases with a quorum of The decisions taken in the Ecclesia were executed by the Boule of , which had already approved the agenda for the Ecclesia. The Athenian Boule was elected by lot every year [58] and no citizen could serve more than twice. Socrates , Plato , and Aristotle Within the Athenian democratic environment, many philosophers from all over the Greek world gathered to develop their theories. Aristotle â€" BCE continued the work of his teacher, Plato, and laid the foundations of political philosophy. The political philosophy developed in Athens was, in the words of Peter Hall, "in a form so complete that hardly added anyone of moment to it for over a millennium". For Aristotle, the underlying principles of democracy are reflected in his work Politics: But one factor of liberty is to govern and be governed in turn; for the popular principle of justice is to have equality according to number, not worth, and if this is the principle of justice prevailing, the multitude must of necessity be sovereign and the decision of the majority must be final and must constitute justice, for they say that each of the citizens ought to have an equal share; so that it results that in democracies the poor are more powerful than the rich, because there are more of them and whatever is decided by the majority is sovereign. This then is one mark of liberty which all democrats set down as a principle of the constitution. And one is for a man to live as he likes; for they say that this is the function of liberty, inasmuch

as to live not as one likes is the life of a man that is a slave. This is the second principle of democracy, and from it has come the claim not to be governed, preferably not by anybody, or failing that, to govern and be governed in turns; and this is the way in which the second principle contributes to equalitarian liberty. Both votes took place under manipulation and pressure , but democracy was recovered in less than a year in both cases. Reforms following the restoration of democracy after the overthrow of the Thirty Tyrants removed most law-making authority from the Assembly and placed it in randomly selected law-making juries known as "nomothetai". Finally, after the Roman conquest of Greece in BC, Athens was restricted to matters of local administration. However, democracy in Athens declined not only due to external powers, but due to its citizens, such as Plato and his student Aristotle. Roman Republic Even though Rome is classified as a Republic and not a democracy, its history has helped preserve the concept of democracy over the centuries. The Romans invented the concept of classics and many works from Ancient Greece were preserved. Cicero attacks Catilina , from a 19th-century fresco. Rome was a city-state in Italy next to powerful neighbors; Etruscans had built city-states throughout central Italy since the 13th century BCE and in the south were Greek colonies. Similar to other city-states, Rome was ruled by a king. However, social unrest and the pressure of external threats led in BCE the last king to be deposed by a group of aristocrats led by Lucius Junius Brutus. The plebs were demanding for definite, written, and secular laws. The patrician priests, who were the recorders and interpreters of the statutes, by keeping their records secret used their monopoly against social change. After a long resistance to the new demands, the Senate in BCE sent a commission of three patricians to Greece to study and report on the legislation of Solon and other lawmakers. This commission, under the supervision of a resolute reactionary, Appius Claudius, transformed the old customary law of Rome into Twelve Tables and submitted them to the Assembly which passed them with some changes and they were displayed in the Forum for all who would and could read. The Twelve Tables recognised certain rights and by the 4th century BCE, the plebs were given the right to stand for consulship and other major offices of the state. The political structure as outlined in the Roman constitution resembled a mixed constitution [73] and its constituent parts were comparable to those of the Spartan constitution: While in the city of Rome, the consuls were the head of the Roman government and they would preside over the Senate and the assemblies. While abroad, each consul would command an army. The Senate passed decrees, which were called senatus consultum and were official advices to a magistrate. Though it technically had no official role in the management of military conflict, the Senate ultimately was the force that oversaw such affairs. The requirements for becoming a senator included having at least , denarii worth of land, being born of the patrician noble aristocrats class, and having held public office at least once before. New Senators had to be approved by the sitting members. Despite the obvious power the assemblies had, in practice, the assemblies were the least powerful of the other bodies of government. An assembly was legal only if summoned by a magistrate [75] and it was restricted from any legislative initiative or the ability to debate. And even the candidates for public office as Livy writes "levels were designed so that no one appeared to be excluded from an election and yet all of the clout resided with the leading men". This was not to say that the balance was in every way even: These values were enforced with laws regulating the private life of an individual. The laws were applied in particular to the upper classes, since the upper classes were the source of Roman moral examples. Rome became the ruler of a great Mediterranean empire. The new provinces brought wealth to Italy, and fortunes were made through mineral concessions and enormous slave run estates. Slaves were imported to Italy and wealthy landowners soon began to buy up and displace the original peasant farmers. By the late 2nd century this led to renewed conflict between the rich and poor and demands from the latter for reform of the constitution. The background of social unease and the inability of the traditional republican constitutions to adapt to the needs of the growing empire led to the rise of a series of over-mighty generals, championing the cause of either the rich or the poor, in the last century BCE. Transition to empire[edit] A fragment of a bronze equestrian order statue of Augustus , Roman Emperor , 1st century AD. Over the next few hundred years, various generals would bypass or overthrow the Senate for various reasons, mostly to address perceived injustices, either against themselves or against poorer citizens or soldiers. One of those generals was Julius Caesar , where he marched on Rome and took supreme power over the republic. Their

combined strength gave the triumvirs absolute power. However, in 31 BC war between the two broke out. Thereafter, there was no one left in the Roman Republic who wanted to, or could stand against Octavian, and the adopted son of Caesar moved to take absolute control. Octavian left the majority of Republican institutions intact, though he influenced everything using personal authority and ultimately controlled the final decisions, having the military might to back up his rule if necessary. By 27 BCE the transition, though subtle, disguised, and relying on personal power over the power of offices, was complete. In that year, Octavian offered back all his powers to the Senate, and in a carefully staged way, the Senate refused and titled Octavian Augustus â€" "the revered one". He was always careful to avoid the title of rex â€" "king", and instead took on the titles of princeps â€" "first citizen" and imperator , a title given by Roman troops to their victorious commanders. Once Octavian named Tiberius as his heir, it was clear to everyone that even the hope of a restored Republic was dead. Most likely, by the time Augustus died, no one was old enough to know a time before an Emperor ruled Rome. The Germanic tribal thing assemblies described by Tacitus in his Germania. The Christian Church well into the 6th century AD had its bishops elected by popular acclaim. The collegia of the Roman period: Institutions in the medieval era[edit] Further information: Most of the procedures used by modern democracies are very old. Almost all cultures have at some time had their new leaders approved, or at least accepted, by the people; and have changed the laws only after consultation with the assembly of the people or their leaders. Such institutions existed since before the times of the Iliad or of the Odyssey , and modern democracies are often derived from or inspired by them, or what remained of them. Nevertheless, the direct result of these institutions was not always a democracy. It was often a narrow oligarchy , as in Venice , or even an absolute monarchy, as in Florence , in the Renaissance period; but during the medieval period guild democracies did evolve. The continuations of the early Germanic thing: The Witenagemot folkmoot of Early Medieval England , councils of advisors to the kings of the petty kingdoms and then that of a unified England before the Norman Conquest. Tynwald , on the Isle of Man , claims to be one of the oldest continuous parliaments in the world, with roots back to the late 9th or 10th century. The Althing , the parliament of the Icelandic Commonwealth , founded in The Althing was preceded by less elaborate " things " assemblies all over Northern Europe. As in Iceland, the lawspeaker presided over the assemblies, but the Swedish king functioned as a judge. Adam of Bremen wrote that the people used to obey the king only when they thought his suggestions seemed better, although in war his power was absolute. The election of Uthman in the Rashidun Caliphate 7th century. The election of Gopala in the Pala Empire 8th century. The new king had to be descended within four generations from a previous king, so this usually became, in practice, a hereditary kingship; although some kingships alternated between lines of cousins. The Ibadites of Oman , a minority sect distinct from both Sunni and Shia Muslims, have traditionally chosen their leaders via community-wide elections of qualified candidates starting in the 8th century.

Chapter 2 : Project MUSE - Embodying Radical Democracy: Reflections on the FSR/WATER Summer Foru

Today, the House voted to pass H.R. , the "ADA Education and Reform Act of ". Details on who voted how here from C-SPAN. This legislation, if it becomes law, will undermine the enforcement of the Americans for Disabilities Act, and make our communities much less accessible to people with disabilities and others.

Chapter 3 : Regjeringskvartalet - government quarter in the heart of the city | White Arkitekter

*Embodying Democracy: Electoral System Design in Post-Communist Europe [Sarah Birch, Frances Millard, Marina Popescu, Kieran Williams] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Embodying Democracy analyzes the politics of electoral reform in eight postcommunist states including Poland.*

Chapter 4 : Embodying Democracy : Kieran Williams :

Embodying Democracy analyzes the politics of electoral reform in eight postcommunist states including Poland,

Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Russia, and Ukraine. By exploring the multiple facto. " -- paperbackshop @ Illinois, United States.

Chapter 5 : Embodying Democracy

Abstract. The transition from communism to market democracy brought about a fundamental reconception of political representation, reflected in the wave of electoral reforms that swept the Central and Eastern European region during the early post-transition years.

Chapter 6 : Sean Penn Suggests Kamala Harris, Jeff Flake Ticket to Fix the â€˜Damage of this Administra

a site of embodying radical democracy or incarnating an ekklesia of wo/men (women and men), as well as consider its importance for their future scholarly, pedagogical, and activist work.

Chapter 7 : History of democracy - Wikipedia

Embodying hope, freedom and equity Regjeringskvartalet was one of six proposals invited by the Norwegian Directorate of Public Construction. The need for security within a densely built urban environment was a challenge however, the proposal takes a radical design approach that actively breaks down the historical, cultural and physical barriers of the city, rather than create new boundaries and separations.