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Archimedes (c. 287 B.C. - 212 B.C.)

He is the greatest of ancient Greek mathematicians. Creator of Statics and Hydrostatics.

Born in Syracuse, a city of Sicily in about 287 B.C. His father Phidias was an astronomer, he was on intimate terms with King Hiero himself.
He was brilliant at maths, especially in geometry. His work in geometry, hydrostatics and mechanics was of a pioneer nature.
His many discoveries and inventions include the Archimedes Screw, Archemedes Principle, and the value of 'pi' (π).

Foreheads were tapped of mad man, obviously suffering from the effects of the day's Sun. The naked runner passed, busy tongues speculated on the happening. This feat of absent-mindedness was done by Archimedes. Hiero, King of Syracuse, suspected the golden crown, given the task to this great mathematician. In the normal course of that routine, he went to the public bath. Suddenly he splashed out of his tub, shouting: "Eureka! Eureka!".

Roman general Marcellus laid siege to Syracuse. Archimedes is sometimes credited with having set the Roman fleet on fire by means of an arrangement of mirrors and lenses. Archimedes refused to attach any value to his mechanical inventions, as he regarded them as beneath the dignity of pure science. He wrote many books. Some of them are now lost.

Archimedes was sometimes strange in his manner. He was often so absorbed in his scientific problems that he neglected his person and had even to be taken to the baths by force. It is recorded that during his ablutions he drew geometrical designs in the soapsuds on his body.

He was killed when the Roman soldier ordered him to come on, the general wanted to see him. "Eh? What? Oh, go away. I'm busy in my problem". Archimedes answered. An angry flush mounts to the Roman's cheek. A thrust of the short, broad sword, and Archimedes falls on top of his infinished problem.

In 75 B.C. Cicero found the tomb of Archimedes near Agrigentine Gate, over-grown with briars and thorns. His tomb was marked by the figure of a sphere inscribed in a cylinder.