

480 BC

Millennium: [1st millennium BC](#)

Centuries: [6th century BC](#) - **[5th century BC](#)** - [4th century BC](#)

Decades: [510s BC](#) [500s BC](#) [490s BC](#) - [480s BC](#) - [470s BC](#) [460s BC](#) [450s BC](#)

Years: [483 BC](#) [482 BC](#) [481 BC](#) - **[480 BC](#)** - [479 BC](#) [478 BC](#) [477 BC](#)

The Persian invasion of Greece in 480–479 BCE

Year **480 BC** was a year of the [pre-Julian Roman calendar](#).

Events

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By place

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

Greece

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- May - King [Xerxes I](#) of [Persia](#) marches from [Sardis](#) and onto [Thrace](#) and [Macedonia](#).
- A force of 10,000 Greeks goes to the [Vale of Tempe](#).
- [August 11](#) - The [Battle of Thermopylae](#) ends in victory for the [Persians](#) under Xerxes.
- [Pausanias](#) becomes regent for Leonidas' son, [Pleistarchus](#), after [Leonidas I](#) is killed at [Thermopylae](#).
- [Phocis](#) and the coasts of [Euboea](#) are ruined by the [Persians](#). [Thebes](#) and most of [Boeotia](#) join Xerxes.
- King [Alexander I of Macedon](#) must join [Xerxes](#) in a battle through [Greece](#).
- August - The [Persians](#) win over the [Greeks](#) in the [Battle of Artemisium](#).
- [September 21](#) - The [Persians](#) sack [Athens](#). The people leave to [Salamis](#) and then [Peloponnesus](#).
- [September 28](#) - The [Battle of Salamis](#) brings victory to the [Greeks](#).

Roman Republic

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- [Roman](#) troops march against the [Veintes](#).

Sicily

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- Xerxes wants the Carthaginians to attack the Greeks in Sicily. [Carthage](#) sends across a large army.
- The Greek city of [Himera](#) asks for Carthaginian support in its fight with [Akragas](#). With the help of [Gelo](#), the Carthaginians are defeated in the [Battle of Himera](#). After the defeat, Hamilcar kills himself.

Persian empire

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- The Imperial treasury at the [Persepolis](#) Palace is completed after a building time of thirty years.

By topic

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Arts

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- The [archaic period](#) of [sculpture](#) ends in [Greece](#). The Severe (Early [Classical](#)) period starts (approximate date).
- A sculpture of a *Dying warrior* is made in the left corner of the east pediment of the [Temple of Aphaea](#) in [Aegina](#) (approximate date). Today, it is kept at the *Staatliche Antikensammlungen und Glyptothek* in [Munich, Germany](#).
- The sculpture of a [Kritios Boy](#) is made on [Acropolis, Athens](#) (approximate date). It is now kept in the [Acropolis Museum](#) in [Athens](#).
- Work begins on the detail *Musicians and Dancers* on a wall painting in the *Tomb of the Lionesses* in [Tarquinia](#). It is finished about [ten years later](#).

Births

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- [Euripides](#), [Greek playwright](#) (d. [406 BC](#))
- [Antiphon](#), [Attic](#) orator (d. [411 BC](#))
- [Philolaus](#), [Greek](#) mathematician and philosopher (d. c. [405 BC](#))

Deaths

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- [August 11](#) - [Leonidas I](#), Agiad King of Sparta (died at [Thermopylae](#))

- [Xenophanes, Greek philosopher](#) (b. [570 BC](#))
- [Hamilcar, Carthaginian](#) general

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