

The Classical World made many contributions to the development of science, literature, and ethics. These contributions have influenced the modern world today. Many mathematicians, astronomers, and scientists contributed to the development of many of the luxuries we enjoy today. Homer, author of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, made contributions to the field of literature through his writing. In the field of ethics, many philosophers from the Classical World contributed to the standards, values, and principles of our society today. Some of the major contributions from the Classical World is in the field of science.

Mathematicians, astronomers, and scientists made important contributions that formed the basic element of science. From this basic element came the luxuries we enjoy today. Pythagoras, a mathematician, proved "the relationship between the legs and the hypotenuse of a right triangle."¹ From this, he derived the Pythagorean Theorem. This contribution mainly influenced architecture and geometry today. Equally, Eratosthenes also influenced architecture and geometry. He developed a method of determining the circumference of the Earth by using geometry. Developed by Archimedes, the Archimedes Principle contributes greatly to the field of science. The principle states that "a body immersed in a fluid is buoyed up by a force equal the weight of the fluid displaced by the body."² The Archimedes Principle influenced the development of the boat and submarine.

The Classical World also contributed to the field of literature.

Literature has come a long way from the Classical World since its development by many authors and playwrights of this time period. Homer, author of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, affected prose and poetry through his writing of Homeric poems. Sophocles, a playwright, "presented many changes in Greek Drama."³ These changes led to the development of more actors in a play and the addition of more scenery. Accordingly, these changes have influenced modern day movies in that they have more actors. Since the Classical World contributed to the fields of science and literature, it also helped develop the fields of ethics.

The standards, values, and principles of a society were also contributed by various philosophers of the Classical World. Pythagoras founded the "Rosicrucian Fellowship," a religious and philosophical school. One of the three main rules of this school was, "No eating beans or meat," which most likely influenced the idea of the modern day vegetarian. Wanting people to think for themselves, Socrates did not want the people of his time to "imitate their elders."⁴ To Socrates, "people should depend on reason and logic to guide their lives." ⁴ These beliefs have contributed to the development of

ethics. Also these beliefs have influenced the basic thinking and making decisions of man. In these three fields, the Classical World made many contributions.

The Classical World made many contributions to the fields of science, literature, and ethics. These contributions, in many ways, influenced the modern world. Mathematicians, astronomers, and scientists like Pythagoras, Eratosthenes, and Archimedes contributed to the field of science and influenced the modern world greatly. Contributing in the field of literature, Homer and Sophocles have affected prose, poetry, and Drama through their literary works. Philosophers have changed our views on different matters such as alternatives to eating. The contributions from the Classical World developed and influenced the way we view science, literature and Drama, and ethics in today's society.