

The older book, *The Use and Abuse of History*, which is, in some ways, more technical and more specialized, contains twelve essays on «Myth, Memory and History»; «The Ancestral Constitution»; «Generalizations in Ancient History»; «The Historical Tradition: The *Contributi* of Arnaldo Momigliano»; «Archaeology and History»; «Anthropology and the Classics»; «The Ancient Greeks and Their Nation»; «The Problem of the Unity of Greek Law»; «The Alienability of Land in Ancient Greece»; «Sparta»; «Utopianism Ancient and Modern»; and «The Heritage of Isocrates». What these essays have in common is the place or uses of the past, not only in academic circles but also in past and present cultural life, and in the narrower field of politics and political argument. Some of the essays are programmatic and didactic; others are more substantive, and deal with particular institutions and societies. All can be read by the nonspecialist. The central theme is never lost sight of, namely, how do people think about their past and what difference does this make to them. In the process we have an investigation of how the Greeks understood the past (myth and history); how lawmakers used and abused history to justify their own actions; how each generation reinterprets the past; and how modern historians are influenced (sometimes quite badly) by their own preconceptions (misconceptions?).

There is really no need for an extended review of Finley's *Ancient History* and *The Use and Abuse of History*, which have been on classicists' shelves for a number of years. What is important is to remind readers of their reissuance in convenient, fairly inexpensive format, for students, scholars, and the general public alike, and Finley's legacy to all that «The past must be deconsecrated, freed from cult, and converted into a living past... a relevant past. High culture must be anchored again, in new ways, to the search for, and the preservation of, values of the present and for the future» (*The Use and Abuse of History*, p. 213).

Whether one agrees or not with Moses Finley's particular intellectual stance, what he has to say is always worth listening to and considering in any analysis of ancient Greek and/or Roman History.

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Chester G. Starr, *Past and Future in Ancient History*. Publications of the Association of Ancient Historians I. Lanham, MD., New York, and London: University Press of America, 1987. Pp.x+70. Paperback, \$ 7.25. Library Binding, \$16.25.

Chester G. Starr, *The Influence of Sea Power on Ancient History*. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989. Pp. xii (unnumbered)+105. Hardcover, \$12.95.

Chester G. Starr, longtime professor of ancient history at the University of Michigan and prolific author of twenty-one books, many articles and reviews, continues to publish as Bentley Professor of History Emeritus, the founding president of the Association of Ancient Historians, and Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

At the 1985 annual meeting of the Association of Ancient Historians, it was decided to inaugurate a series of occasional publications, one of whose chief aims was to further the teaching of and research in Ancient History in the United States

