

Howard, Father J. P. Babin, Jacques Carrey of Troyes, J. Pitton de Tournefort, Richard Pococke, Johann Joachim Winckelman, James Stuart and Nicholas Revett, Richard Chandler, Lord Elgin, C. R. Cockerell, Colonel William Martin Leake, Ludwig Ross, Charles Thomas Newton and many others, come alive on these pages. Current, living archaeologists are also given due credit.

It is the author's special aim «to follow the progress of archaeology over the centuries and to outline the picture of Greek life to which antiquarians and archaeologists have contributed» (Preface). In so doing, Ling has included three Chapters on military and political history, economics and society, and art and architecture. A special, and very attractive feature, has been to portray visually and verbally the three major archaeological sites of Delos, Olympia, the Acropolis at Athens, and everyday life in classical Athens.

The particular beauty of *The Greek World* is that it tries quite successfully to give us an integrated view of ancient world, based on current archaeological evidence, with full awareness that our knowledge remains incomplete but is still immensely revealing for a proper understanding of one of the greatest civilizations of all time.

JOHN E. REXINE
Colgate University

The Pythagorean Sourcebook and Library: An Anthology of Ancient Writings Which Relate to Pythagoras and Pythagorean Philosophy. Compiled and Translated by Kenneth Sylvan Guthrie with Additional Translations by Thomas Taylor and Arthur Fairbanks, Jr. Introduced and Edited by David R. Fideler. With a Foreword by Joscelyn Godwin. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Phanes Press, 1987. Pp. 361. 20 illustrations. Cloth \$ 30.00. Paperback \$ 17.00.

Pythagoras (fl. 500 B. C.) is reputed to have been the first man to call himself a philosopher. His work as a pioneering mathematician and teacher is well known. His disciples were many, and his influence on Plato, Empedocles, and other philosophical thinkers was considerable. Pythagoras himself, like Socrates, wrote nothing, but from other writers we know that he was a spiritual teacher who believed in an ascetic way of life, the doctrine of metempsychosis (transmigration of the soul), vegetarianism, and the liberation of the soul from the body, and one who seriously investigated the ways of nature and came up with the doctrine of «the music of the spheres» (by determining the principal intervals of the musical scale) and taught that the heavenly bodies were divided by regular intervals according to the laws of harmony.

The Pythagorean Sourcebook and Library is the largest collection of Pythagorean writings ever to appear in English. The anthology contains four ancient biographies of Pythagoras and more than twenty-five Pythagorean writings from the Classical and Hellenistic periods. Authors include Iamblichus of Chalcis, Porphyry of Tyre, Photius, Diogenes Laertius, Philolaus, Archytas, Ocellus Lucanus, Hippodamus the Thurian, Diotogenes, Theages, Zaleucus the Locrian, Charondas the Catanean, Callicratidas, Perictyone, Aristoxenus, Euryphamus, Hipparchus, Metopus, Crito, Polus, Sthenidas, Ephantus, Pempelus, Phyntis, Clinias, Sextus the Pythagorean, Stobaeus, Clement of Alexandria, Hierocles, Timaeus of Locri, the

Church Fathers, Plato and Aristotle, and the Doxographers – a very impressive array of well known and not so well known figures.

Originally gathered together in an edition called the *Pythagoras Source Book and Library* by Kenneth Sylvan Guthrie, the Pythagorean writings then translated were issued in a very small printing by the Platonist Press in 1919 and 1920, initially in Guthrie's own translations and then added to by Thomas Taylor in the new edition edited by David R. Fideler and with further translations by Arthur Fairbanks. David Fideler also provides a substantial (pp. 19-54) and illuminating introduction and Joscelyn Godwin a lively Foreword that stresses that Pythagoras «bequeathed to his followers, and to the whole of Western civilization, many important studies and sciences which he was instrumental in either formulating or systematizing» (p. 19).

The Pythagorean Sourcebook and Library is a very rich and orderly source for studying Pythagoreanism, its emphasis on number, cosmos, and harmony. For the Pythagoreans number was the principle, the source, the root of all things and the monad or unity was the principle of number. The cosmos was for them created out of the elements of number, namely, the limited (*peras*) and the indefinite (*apeiron*). The limit and indefinite, form (limit) and matter (indefinite) were woven together through numerical harmony (cf. Pythagoras on the monochord and the Tetraktys, which symbolized the perfection of number and the elements which constituted it). Fideler asserts that Pythagorean philosophy is in many ways a philosophy of *analogia* (because each of his classes of phenomena are analogous or proportionately similar to the same level in every other class).

For Pythagoras philosophy represents a «purification» whose aim is assimilation to God. The universe itself is divine because of its inherent order (*kosmos*) and the harmonies and symmetries that it embraces. The same divine characteristics exist in the human soul, which must be made aware of its harmonic origin, structure, and content and because divine Number is the source of all harmony and order. To be happy we must come to know the perfection of numbers of the soul. Arithmetic, geometry, music (harmonics), and astronomy are essential for the Pythagorean.

Pythagoras was the founder of a philosophy of whole systems. David Fideler insists that «Pythagoras would say that, from the standpoint of natural philosophy, a superfluous multiplicity of facts and compartmentalized data is useless in a higher sense unless one can determine their relation to the whole, or the universal patterns which underlie all creation» (p. 45). For this there is no better guide, according to Fideler, than the Pythagorean sciences. The call is for return to the study of universal principles in which the value of harmonic proportion is paramount.

The Pythagorean Sourcebook and Library is an indispensable compilation of original materials in very readable translations with notes, four appendices on the tetraktys, Pythagorean titles, ratios of the Pythagorean scale, and mathematical discoveries, a glossary, and a bibliography of over four hundred titles (plus indices of proper names and titles) to satisfy all needs for increasing our knowledge and understanding of Pythagoras and Pythagoreanism.

JOHN E. REXINE
Colgate University