

Athens in Tragedy

Euripides *Children of Heracles* (c. 430 BC)

90ff

Iolaus, Chorus Herald: Heracles' sons lead by cousin Iolaus: telling Theban herald respect suppliants according to the gods.

303ff

Iolaus: Ath only protecting state; tells children never attack Ath; Ath enemies with Pelasgian race.

1027ff

Eurystheus: Ath did not kill prisoner; therefore will protect Ath under Attica; predicted Spartans.

Sophocles *Oedipus at Colonus*

260ff

Oedipus: Ath pious, sheltered strangers, seeking same kindness.

1006ff

Oed: Ath worships best.

Oed (to Thes): Saved children; gods reward; reverence, humanity, honesty.

1520ff

Oed (to Thes): Place Oed must die act as defence.

Herodotus *Histories* 9.27 (450-420s BC)

Achievements of Ath over Arcadians – right to place of honour: accepted Heraclidae after rejected from other Greek states; & against Tegyria; vanquished Pelop, Eurystheus, Amazons, Troy; buried Argives; previous achievements not important; deserves because of Marathon.

Isocrates *Panegyricus* 54ff (390 begun, 380 published)

Power shown through Ath's requests; omit recent instances, historical – before Troy, children of Heracles, Adrastus; high quality leadership.

Thucydides 2.40 Pericles' Funeral Speech (delivered in 431/0 BC)

Better than other places; do not receive good; reliable friendship because of debt and gratitude; are kind for the sake of it.