Origins of Democracy:



The Parthenon in Athens, Greece

The word *democracy* comes from the Greek roots demos, meaning people) and *kratos*, meaning power or strength. The concept of democracy, as practiced in Athens around 500 BCE, allowed male citizens to vote at meetings held regularly throughout the year to decide on issues such as taxation, declaring war, and spending money.

According to ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle, “if liberty and equality are chiefly to be found in democracy, they will be best attained when all persons alike share in government”.