Athenian Democracy

Athenian democracy

Inducted primarily

by Pericles

and Eucleides

replacing tyranny

and instability

by the end of the fifth century BC

The foundation of contemporary

society

Bedrock of equality.

Yet appears more an oligarchy

than legitimate democracy

“the right…to participate in meetings of assembly”[[1]](#footnote-1)

except for those in the community

such as women, slaves, or ephebes[[2]](#footnote-2).

The polis that claims the ideologies

of morality

and unity

also cultivates exclusivity

and manifest inequality

Athenian democracy

Rather 4tentrenched patriarchy

Promoting racial hierarchy

including male superiority

and validating slavery

Power to the aristocracy

who own the monopolies

who practice their philosophy

or astrology

or astronomy

Rather than taking responsibility

for social priorities.

A society

in which economy

and military

Are ruled by seniority

decisions made in obscurity

to protect against meritocracy

or equal opportunity

Athenian democracy

magnifying disparity:

supporting the authorities

providing them impunity

whilst forsaking the majority

who hold no prerogative in the bureaucracy

Yet impossibly

we still idolise this ancient democracy

amusingly

perhaps foolishly

Blinded by the tales of classical history

Equality

merely hypocrisy

Jarrah Lindhout

1. Solon,

   Premier archon [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Adolescent male class [↑](#footnote-ref-2)