

# Pythagoras

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This is the story of Pythagoras and the Pythagoreans, whose insights transformed the ancient world and still inspire the realms of science, mathematics, philosophy and the arts. Einstein said that the most incredible thing about our universe was that it was comprehensible at all. As Kitty Ferguson explains, Pythagoras had much the same idea - but 2,500 years earlier. Though known by many only for his famous Theorem, in fact the pillars of our scientific tradition - belief that the universe is rational, that there is unity to all things, and that numbers and mathematics are a powerful guide to truth about nature and the cosmos - hark back to the convictions of this legendary scholar. Kitty Ferguson brilliantly evokes Pythagoras' ancient world of, showing how ideas spread in antiquity, and chronicles the incredible influence he and his followers have had on so many extraordinary people in the history of Western thought and science. 'Pythagoras' influence on the ideas, and therefore on the destiny, of the human race was probably greater than that of any single man before or after him' - Arthur Koestler.

## Pythagoras

One of the most important mathematical theorems is named after Pythagoras of Samos, but this semi-mythical Greek sage has more to offer than formulas. He is said to have discovered the numerical nature of the basic consonances and transposed the musical proportions to the cosmos, postulating a \"harmony of the spheres.\" He may have coined the words \"cosmos\" and \"philosophy.\" He is also believed to have taught the doctrine of transmigration of souls and therefore to have advised a vegetarian diet. Ancient legends have Pythagoras conversing with dogs, bears, and bulls. A distinctly Pythagorean way of life, including detailed ritual regulations, was observed by his disciples, who were organized as a secret society. Later, Pythagorean and Platonic teachings became fused. In this Platonized form, Pythagoreanism has remained influential through medieval Christianity and the Renaissance down to the present. Christoph Riedweg's book is an engaging introduction to the fundamental contributions of Pythagoras to the establishment of European culture. To penetrate the intricate maze of lore and ascertain what history can tell us about the philosopher, Riedweg not only examines the written record but also considers Pythagoras within the cultural, intellectual, and spiritual context of his times. The result is a vivid overview of the life and teachings of a crucial Greek thinker and his most important followers.

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thinker and his most important followers.

## **Pythagoras and the Pythagoreans**

A fascinating portrait of the Pythagorean tradition, including a substantial account of the Neo-Pythagorean revival, and ending with Johannes Kepler on the threshold of modernism.

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## **What's Your Angle, Pythagoras?**

In ancient Greece, young Pythagoras discovers a special number pattern (the Pythagorean theorem) and uses it to solve problems involving right triangles.

## **The Math Book**

This book covers 250 milestones in mathematical history, beginning millions of years ago with ancient odometers and moving through time to our modern-day quest for new dimensions.

## **How Plato and Pythagoras Can Save Your Life**

University professor, psychotherapist and recovering former nightclub owner Dr. Nicholas Kardaras presents a mind blowing, reality rocking, and life changing approach to Greek philosophy. Having once owned celebrity-studded NY nightclubs where he had mingled with the likes of JFK, Jr., Uma Thurman and Tom Cruise, Kardaras would emerge from that glamorous-yet-self-destructive world to discover the powerful and transformative teachings of his ancient ancestors. To his amazement, he learned that ancient Greek philosophy, contrary to popular misconceptions, was not a dry and academic pursuit, but a vibrant and holistic transformative practice. In *How Plato and Pythagoras Can Save Your Life*, Dr. Kardaras breathes new life into those ancient teachings as he incorporates some of the most cutting edge advances in the fields of quantum mechanics and consciousness research to validate the insights and wisdom of the ancient Greek sages. As he guides readers through an array of contemplative practices designed to help them live a more meaningful life, Kardaras warns the reader to be prepared because they just might also catch a glimpse of that trippy realm called Ultimate Reality.

## **Pythagoras**

The timeless brilliance of this exhaustive survey of the best classical writers of antiquity on Pythagoras was first published in 1687 in Thomas Stanley's massive tome, *The History of Philosophy*. It remains as contemporary today as it was over three hundred years ago. The text of the 1687 book has been reset and

modernized to make it more accessible to the modern reader. Spelling has been regularized, obsolete words not found in a modern dictionary have been replaced, and contemporary conventions of punctuation have been used. Biographical sketches of Thomas Stanley and Pythagoras by Manly Palmer Hall, founder of the Philosophical Research Society, have been included, along with a profound overview of Pythagorean philosophy by Platonic scholar Dr. Henry L. Drake. The extensive Greek language references throughout the text have been corrected and contextualized, and reset in a modern Greek font. Each quotation has been verified with the source document in Greek. An extensive annotated appendix of these classical sources is included. A complete bibliography details all the reference works utilized, and a small Glossary defines a number of terms, especially those from musical theory, which may be unfamiliar to the non-technical reader.

## **Pythagoras Revived**

The Pythagorean idea that number is the key to understanding reality inspired Neoplatonist philosophers in the fourth and fifth centuries to develop theories in physics and metaphysics based on mathematical models. The theories produced by this revived interest in Pythagoreanism were to become influential in medieval and early modern philosophy, and this book makes use of some newly-discovered evidence to examine for the first time the development of those theories.

## **Pythagoras and the Early Pythagoreans**

In ancient tradition, Pythagoras emerges as a wise teacher, an outstanding mathematician, an influential politician, and as a religious and ethical reformer. This volume offers a comprehensive study of Pythagoras, Pythagoreanism, and the early Pythagoreans through an analysis of the many representations of the individual and his followers.

## **Pythagoras & His Theorem**

At a moment of great discovery, one Big Idea can change the world... Pythagoras was arguably the first 'genius' of Western culture, establishing a blend of high intellect and high lunacy, both of which have become recurrent features of this scholarly heritage. Most memorably, he created the Pythagorean Theorem, and established the concept of proofs in mathematics. Less well known was the religion he founded which forbade his disciples from eating beans or stepping over fallen poles! Pythagoras & His Theorem tells the remarkable story of the life of this poorly understood genius and the transformation his work brought about in mathematics. Pythagoras' Big Idea is presented in an accessible and enthralling way, providing an explanation of the meaning of his work, its historical and scientific context, and significance for the world in which we live. The Big Idea series is a fascinating look at the greatest advances in our scientific history, and at the men and women who made these fundamental breakthroughs.

## **Pythagoras**

Biography of the Greek philosopher Pythagoras and his lasting contributions on the fields of mathematics and philosophy.

## **Pythagoras, the Immortal Sage**

No one who has ever lived has contributed more to the progress of mankind than Pythagoras. Without question the wisest man who ever lived, he was the first Greek to be called by the name of philosopher.

## **Iamblichus' Life of Pythagoras**

Pythagoric life accompanied by fragments of the ethical writings of certain Pythagoreans in the Doric dialect

and a collection of Pythagoric sentences from Stobaeus and others.

## **Pythagoras, a Life**

An ancient Greek boy, Pythagoras, helps his cousins produce pleasant music when he adjusts the mathematical ratios between the part of their pipes and lyres, knowledge he would later use to become a famous philosopher.

## **Pythagoras and the Ratios**

"Numerology is about numerology, which is the delusion that numbers have power over events. ... The message of the book is that numbers indeed have power, but the power is not over events, it is over the human minds. It is intended for anyone interested in human folly and requires no mathematical knowledge beyond arithmetic."--Cover

## **Numerology, Or, What Pythagoras Wrought**

The enthralling story of Pythagoras and the Pythagoreans, whose insights transformed the ancient world and still inspire the realms of science, mathematics, philosophy, and the arts. "Pythagoras's influence on the ideas, and therefore on the destiny, of the human race was probably greater than that of any single man before or after him," wrote Arthur Koestler. Though most people know of him only for the famous Pythagorean Theorem ( $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ ), in fact the pillars of our scientific tradition--belief that the universe is rational, that there is unity to all things, and that numbers and mathematics are a powerful guide to truth about nature and the cosmos--hark back to the convictions of this legendary sixth-century B.C. scholar. Born around 570 B.C. on the cultured Aegean island of Samos, Pythagoras (according to ancient tales) studied with the sage Thales nearby at Miletus, and with priests and scribes in Egypt and Babylon. Eventually he founded his own school at Croton in southern Italy, where he and his followers began to unravel the surprising deep truths concealed behind such ordinary tasks as tuning a lyre. While considering why some string lengths produced beautiful sounds and others discordant ones, they uncovered the ratios of musical harmony, and recognized that hidden behind the confusion and complexity of nature are patterns and orderly relationships. They had surprised the Creator at his drafting board and had glimpsed the mind of God! Some of them later would also find something darker in numbers and nature: irrationality, a revelation so unsettling and subversive that it may have contributed to the destruction of their brotherhood.

## **The Life of Pythagoras**

Pythagoras was one of the great geniuses of the West and yet, apart from his famous Pythagorean theorem, he is virtually unknown. If we rely on modern scholars and academics we find that his long-forgotten legacy is misunderstood and even distorted, and is therefore almost nonexistent. This new and provocative work from Carol Dunn (author of *Plato's Dialogues: Path to Initiation*) accomplishes two main objectives. First, it shows that the early pioneers of modern physics, mainly Newton and Kepler, scientifically and mathematically confirm Pythagoras' discoveries of the sixth century bc--the heliocentric theory of our cosmos and the parallel theory regarding the Harmony of the Spheres. These are discoveries for which Pythagoras has received scant recognition by the Western philosophical tradition. Second, the author argues against the proposition that the heliocentric theory was initiated not by Pythagoras but instead by his student Philolaus, who lived in the fifth century bc, and whose astronomical theory, according to Dunn, is not based on science. Pythagoras, the Master is well researched and accessible, offering readers a firm basis to reexamine the importance of Pythagoras' work and whether he or Philolaus discovered these paradigm-changing astronomical theories two thousand years before Western science rediscovered them in the seventeenth century.

## **The Golden Verses of Pythagoras**

Though known today primarily for the mathematical theorem that bears his name, Pythagoras was a mystically-minded philosopher with a particular interest in music, astronomy, cosmology, numerology, and the soul. This book paints a vivid picture of the world in which Pythagoras lived—and since the philosopher was so widely travelled that includes Greek, Egyptian, and Babylonian civilization in the sixth century BCE. Along with chapters discussing Pythagoras's life and beliefs, as well as the lifestyle he advocated, there is a timeline listing important events from his life.

## **The Music of Pythagoras**

Drawing on the most authoritative sources available -- the writings of Pythagoras's disciples -- Divine Harmony details in an accessible manner the sixth-century Greek scientist's wanderings in the ancient world; his innovations in philosophy; his ideas about social reform, which eventually got him killed; and his groundbreaking theories in math and science.

## **Pythagoras, the Master**

The celebrated mathematician and philosopher Pythagoras left no writings. But what if he had and the manuscript had never been found? Where would it be located? Two mathematicians, one American, one British, set out, unbeknownst to each other, to find the missing manuscript.

## **Pythagoras**

Bringing together geometry and philosophy, this book undertakes a strikingly original study of the origins and significance of the Pythagorean theorem. Thales, whom Aristotle called the first philosopher and who was an older contemporary of Pythagoras, posited the principle of a unity from which all things come, and back into which they return upon dissolution. He held that all appearances are only alterations of this basic unity and there can be no change in the cosmos. Such an account requires some fundamental geometric figure out of which appearances are structured. Robert Hahn argues that Thales came to the conclusion that it was the right triangle: by recombination and repackaging, all alterations can be explained from that figure. This idea is central to what the discovery of the Pythagorean theorem could have meant to Thales and Pythagoras in the sixth century BCE. With more than two hundred illustrations and figures, Hahn provides a series of geometric proofs for this lost narrative, tracing it from Thales to Pythagoras and the Pythagoreans who followed, and then finally to Plato's Timaeus. Uncovering the philosophical motivation behind the discovery of the theorem, Hahn's book will enrich the study of ancient philosophy and mathematics alike.

## **Divine Harmony**

The Pythagoras's Theorem is one of the famous and earliest theorems widely used and learned at school. According to legend, Pythagoras was so happy when he discovered this theorem that he would have offered a sacrifice of oxen. Who was Pythagoras, the famous mathematician and Philosophy? This short book exposes the life and works of Pythagoras and the Pythagoreanism.

## **Pythagoras' Revenge**

The story of Ascended Master Kuthumi's human adventures continues on with the life of Pythagoras of Samos- history's most famous mathematician and one of Ancient Greece's most notable philosophers. Set in an amazing time of change for humanity, Pythagoras takes us on a journey through the mystery schools of the ancient world -- from the mystics of Egypt and Phoenicia through to the Zoroastrian magi of Babylonia, the oracles of Greece and even the early Buddhist monks. Along the way he shares his personal experiences and reflects on just what he was shown. This culminates in the establishment of his renowned school in

Crotona. Once again Kuthumi invites us into the very human aspects of an extraordinary life. Pythagoras' life is not only remarkable for what he achieved but for what he allowed himself to experience. The stories he shares are much more than recollections though-often revealing long lost secrets and wisdoms that are just now resurfacing!

## **The Metaphysics of the Pythagorean Theorem**

Surviving fragments of information about Pythagoras (born ca. 570 BCE) gave rise to a growing set of legends about this famous sage and his followers, whose reputations throughout Antiquity and the Middle Ages have never before been studied systematically. This book is the first to examine the unified concepts of harmony, proportion, form, and order that were attributed to Pythagoras in the millennium after his death and the important developments to which they led in art, architecture, mathematics, astronomy, music, medicine, morals, religion, law, alchemy, and the occult sciences. In this profusely illustrated book, Christiane L. Joost-Gaugier sets out the panorama of Pythagoras's influence and that of Christian and Jewish thinkers who followed his ideas in the Greek, Roman, early Christian, and medieval worlds. In illuminating this tradition of thought, Joost-Gaugier shows how the influence of Pythagoreanism was far broader than is usually realized, and that it affected the development of ancient and medieval art and architecture from Greek and Roman temples to Gothic cathedrals. Joost-Gaugier demonstrates that Pythagoreanism—centered on the dim memory of a single person that endured for centuries and grew ever-greater—inspired a new language for artists and architects, enabling them to be “modern.”

## **Pythagoras**

Numerology is the delusion that numbers have power over events. It is a descendent of number mysticism, the belief the contemplation of numbers can give mystical and non-rational insights into life, the universe and everything. 2500 years ago, Pythagoras originated number mysticism, crediting certain numbers with characteristics, through numerology, is a more recent invention that allots numbers, hence characteristics, to individuals. Underwood Dudley outlines here the history of number mysticism and numerology and gives many examples, including biorhythms, Bible-numberists, pyramidologists and a plethora of others. His message is that numbers do indeed have power, but over minds not events. This is the only book that exposes this particular human folly, and requires no mathematical background beyond knowledge of numbers.

## **Pythagoras of Samos**

Nigel Graddon's exciting new book offers for the first time an in-depth, two-part study of the world's first and most remarkable philosopher. This comprehensive account comprises both the historical and metaphysical aspects of Pythagoras' philosophy and teachings. In Part 1, the work draws on all known biographical sources as well as key extracts from the esoteric record to paint a fascinating picture of the Master's amazing life and work. Topics covered include the unique circumstances of Pythagoras' birth, his forty-year period of initiations into all the world's ancient mysteries, his remarkable meeting with a physician from the mysterious Etruscan community, his establishment of a school at Crotona and its extraordinary teachings both “outer” and “inner,” his belief—unique for his time—in the reincarnation doctrine of metempsychosis, his groundbreaking mathematical teachings, and his many influences on thinkers, artists and scientists that came after. Part 2 comprises, for the first time in a publicly available work, a metaphysical interpretation of Pythagoras' Science of Numbers, a powerful system of inner learning that Pythagoras taught only to his most dedicated students.

## **Pythagoras**

Pythagoras, a famous Greek scholar, mathematician, and philosopher, formulated a proof for a theorem that is named for him—the Pythagorean theorem. This theorem states that in any right triangle, the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides. The Pythagorean theorem for right-

angled triangles likely was known long before the time of Pythagoras. It was probably used by the ancient Egyptians to construct the pyramids. The theorem is quite believable without rigorous proof to anyone willing to expend a modest effort in some experimentation. One method is to draw a number of right-angled triangles in as wide a variety as practicable and measure all of the sides. It will be determined that, for each triangle drawn, the square of the length of the side opposite the right angle is about equal to the sum of the lengths of the squares of the other two sides. Another method requires the availability of a balance. For this more interesting experiment, construct a right-angled triangle and a square on each side using a piece of sheet metal or cardboard. Then cut out the three squares and weigh them on the balance. The square on the hypotenuse should balance the other two. Contained within this book are some rigorous proofs and some interesting perspectives regarding right angles and right-angled triangles. Doubtless, this theorem is one of the most useful concepts in mathematics.

## Measuring Heaven

Since wise people are in the habit of invoking the divinities at the beginning of any philosophic consideration, this is all the more necessary on studying that one which is justly named after the divine Pythagoras. Inasmuch as it emanated from the divinities it could not be apprehended without their inspiration and assistance. Besides, its beauty and majesty so surpasses human capacity, that it cannot be comprehended in one glance. Gradually only can some details of it be mastered when, under divine guidance we approach the subject with a quiet mind. Having therefore invoked the divine guidance, and adapted ourselves and our style to the divine circumstances, we shall acquiesce in all the suggestions that come to us. Therefore we shall not begin with any excuses for the long neglect of this sect, nor by any explanations about its having been concealed by foreign disciplines, or mystic symbols, nor insist that it has been obscured by false and spurious writings, nor make apologies for any special hindrances to its progress. For us it is sufficient that this is the will of the Gods, which all enable us to undertake tasks even more arduous than these. Having thus acknowledged our primary submission to the divinities, our secondary devotion shall be to the prince and father of this philosophy as a leader. We shall, however have to begin by a study of his descent and nationality.

## Numerology

Homage to Pythagoras collects essential documents by people at the leading edge of the sacred sciences today. These articles--both scholarly and sympathetic to the Pythagorean perspective--are proof of the contemporary interest in Pythagoras' philosophy as a living reality and provide a major addition to the field of Pythagorean studies and traditional mathematics. Contents: Introduction by Christopher Bamford  
 \"Ancient Temple Architecture\" by Robert Lawlor  
 \"The Platonic Tradition on the Nature of Proportion\" by Keith Critchlow  
 \"What is Sacred Architecture? by Keith Critchlow  
 \"Twelve Criteria for Sacred Architecture\" by Keith Critchlow  
 \"Pythagorean Number as Form, Color, and Light\" by Robert Lawlor  
 \"The Two Lights\" by Arthur Zajonc  
 \"Apollo: The Pythagorean Definition of God\" by Anne Macaulay  
 \"Blake, Yeats, and Pythagoras\" by Kathleen Raine  
 About the Authors  
 ROBERT LAWLOR is the author of Sacred Geometry; Earth Honoring; and Voices of the First Day. After training as a painter and a sculptor, he became a yoga student of Sri Aurobindo and lived for many years in Pondicherry, India, where he was a founding member of Auroville. In India, he discovered the works of the French Egyptologist and esotericist, R. A. Schwaller de Lubicz, which led him to explore the principles and practices of ancient sacred science.  
 KEITH CRITCHLOW is the author of Order in Space; and Time Stands Still. A painter, Critchlow discovered geometry intuitively. A period of intensive geometric practice and work with Buckminster Fuller led him to recognize that the universal principles of geometry are revealed and confirmed both by the area of design where art and mathematics meet and in the study of nature and ancient and medieval sacred cosmological architecture of temples, cathedrals, and mosques. He has been a senior lecturer at the Architectural Association in London and taught Islamic Art at the Royal College of Art. He has also participated as geometer in various sacred architectural projects, and is a cofounder of Temenos, a journal devoted to the arts and imagination, and Kairos, a society that investigates, studies, and promotes traditional

values of art and science. ARTHUR ZAJONC is Professor of Physics at Amherst College, where his research has concerned the nature of light and the experimental foundations of quantum mechanics. He has also taught and written extensively on interdisciplinary aspects of science, the history of science, culture, and spirituality, especially the works of Goethe and Rudolf Steiner. He is the author *Catching the Light* and *The New Physics and Cosmology*, featuring dialogues with the Dalai Lama. He has been a visiting scientist at many laboratories and was a Fulbright professor. ANNE MACAULAY lives in Scotland where she has, for many years, studied the origins of the alphabet, the history of the guitar, the figure of Apollo, and other mysteries surrounding Pythagorean thought. She has lectured at Research into Lost Knowledge Organization (RILKO) and was a trustee of the Salisbury Center in Edinburgh. KATHLEEN RAINE was a British poet with an international reputation as a scholar of the imagination. A renowned student of William Blake, a penetrating critic, and a profound autobiographer, she wrote numerous books and articles. Kathleen Raine was a cofounder and the editor of *Temenos*.

## Pythagoras of Samos

An "immensely accessible tour (which tells) how the physics lab became another Vatican with a no-girls-allowed sign on its door" (Susan Faludi) this spirited look at the relationship between physics and religion argues that gender inequity in physics is a result of the religious origins of the enterprise.

## The Pythagorean Theorem

For this first English edition of his distinguished study of Pythagoreanism, *Weisheit und Wissenschaft: Studien zu Pythagoras, Philolaos, und Platon*, Walter Burkert has carefully revised text and notes, taking account of additional literature on the subject which appeared between 1962 and 1969. By a thorough critical sifting of all the available evidence, the author lays a new foundation for the understanding of ancient Pythagoreanism and in particular of the relationship within it of "lore" and "science." He shows that in the twilight zone when the Greeks were discovering the rational interpretation of the world and quantitative natural science, Pythagoras represented not the origin of the new, but the survival or revival of ancient, pre-scientific lore or wisdom, based on superhuman authority and expressed in ritual obligation.

## Pythagoras Selections

This is intended as a textbook on the history, philosophy and foundations of mathematics, primarily for students specializing in mathematics, but we also wish to welcome interested students from the sciences, humanities and education. We have attempted to give approximately equal treatment to the three subjects: history, philosophy and mathematics. History We must emphasize that this is not a scholarly account of the history of mathematics, but rather an attempt to teach some good mathematics in a historical context. Since neither of the authors is a professional historian, we have made liberal use of secondary sources. We have tried to give ref cited facts and opinions. However, considering that this text erences for developed by repeated revisions from lecture notes of two courses given by one of us over a 25 year period, some attributions may have been lost. We could not resist retelling some amusing anecdotes, even when we suspect that they have no proven historical basis. As to the mathematicians listed in our account, we admit to being colour and gender blind; we have not attempted a balanced distribution of the mathematicians listed to meet today's standards of political correctness. Philosophy Both authors having wide philosophical interests, this text contains perhaps more philosophical asides than other books on the history of mathematics. For example, we discuss the relevance to mathematics of the pre-Socratic philosophers and of Plato, Aristotle, Leibniz and Russell. We also have vi Preface presented some original insights.

## Homage to Pythagoras

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Sidebar 2: The Pythagorean Theorem in Art, Poetry, and Prose --4. Archimedes --5. Translators and Commentators, 500-1500 CE --6. François Viète Makes History --7. From the Infinite to the Infinitesimal --  
 Sidebar 3: A Remarkable Formula by Euler --8. 371 Proofs, and Then Some --Sidebar 4: The Folding Bag --  
 Sidebar 5: Einstein Meets Pythagoras --Sidebar 6: A Most Unusual Proof --9. A Theme and Variations --  
 Sidebar 7: A Pythagorean Curiosity --Sidebar 8: A Case of Overuse --10. Strange Coordinates --11. Notation, Notation, Notation --12. From Flat Space to Curved Spacetime --Sidebar 9: A Case of Misuse --13. Prelude to Relativity --14. From Bern to Berlin, 1905-1915 --Sidebar 10: Four Pythagorean Brainteasers --15. But Is It Universal? --16. Afterthoughts --Epilogue: Samos, 2005 --Appendixes --Chronology --Bibliography --  
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## Pythagoras' Trousers

Pythagoras and the Pythagoreans of the fifth century are cast by historians of philosophy in four important roles. Professor Philip here examines the evidence for these assertions. As a result, it is argued that substantial modifications must be made of generally accepted views of the role of Pythagoras and early Pythagoreans.

## Lore and Science in Ancient Pythagoreanism

The Heritage of Thales

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