The Persians

- Modern-day Iran.
- Grew under Cyrus the Great, founded the Achaemenid Empire.
- Added N. Mesopotamia, Greek city-states, and Phoenicia.
- His son conquers Egypt.
Empire contained 35 Million+. (Nile to Indus Valley)

Efficient ruler: Darius the Great.

Organized empire into 23 provinces.

Each province was ruled by a governor (satrap).
Persians very tolerant as rulers.

Conquered enjoyed freedom of religion, language, laws.

City of Persepolis = Grandest city in the empire.
- Large network of roads.
- Trade possible between numerous cultures in the empire.
- Easy movement of soldiers.
- Royal Road = Longest in empire.
- Stations along path for food, water, horses.
c. 480 BCE, Darius’ son, Xerxes, tried to conquer Greece.

Failed, and now we have the 300 movies.

Also the birth of democracy and Western civilization.