

# SOURCES: THE STORY OF THE TROJAN WAR

(Chart below adapted from Richmond Lattimore's 1961 "Introduction," in *The Iliad of Homer* Chicago: Chicago UP, page 26.)

Section of the "Epic Cycle" narrative covered	Work:	Name of Author	Approximate or Traditional Date	Total Books
Decision of the gods to cause the Trojan war.	<i>Cypria</i>	Stasinus of Cyprus (also attributed to Hegesias and the Pseudo-Homer)	Unknown	11
The anger of Achilles and the burial of Hector	<i>The Iliad</i>	Ionian "Homer" of Chios or of Asia Minor	c. 1200-800 BCE	24 (over 10,000 lines)
Coming of the Amazons and the suicide of Ajax.	<i>Aithiopsis</i>	Arktinos of Miletos	744 BCE	5
The death of Achilles and the fall of Iliion	<i>The Little Iliad</i>	Lesches of Lesbos (also attributed to Thestorides, or Kinaithon, or Diodoros of Syracuse, or the Pseudo-Homer)	Conflicting evidence	4
The building of the wooden horse, the fall of Iliion, and the departure of the Achaians	<i>Sack of Iliion</i>	Arktinos of Miletos	776 BCE	2
Returns of various heroes.	<i>Nostoi</i> (the Returns)	Agais of Troizen (or Kolophonian, or the Pseudo-Homer)	774 BCE	5
Odysseus' return to Ithaca	<i>The Odyssey</i>	Ionian "Homer" of Chios or of Asia Minor	c. 1200-800 BCE	24 (over 12,000 lines)
Events after Odysseus's return until his death.	<i>Telegony</i>	Eugammon of Kyrene (or Kinaithos of Lakedaimon)	568 BCE	2

## ARCHEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE: THE "REAL" TROY AT HISARLIK

- **Troy I**--City settled by Western Anatolian sea-merchants, 3000-2600 BCE. Controlled access to Dardanelles.
- **Troy II**--City rebuilt and re-settled 2600-2250 BCE by Western Anatolians, including a water tunnel.
- **Troy III**--2250 BCE-2100 BCE
- **Troy IV**--2100-1950 BCE
- **Troy V**--1950-1700 BCE
- **Troy VI**--1700-1400 BCE
- **Troy VI-H**--Bronze Age culture inhabited area around 1350-1300 BCE. City destroyed in earthquake around 1300 BCE. Only a single arrow found in this strata, and no human remains. Probably had about 5,000 to 10,000 inhabitants.
- **Troy VII-A**--1300-1190 BCE, most likely candidate for "Homer's Troy." Had walls of nine meters high, distinctive pottery. Destroyed by warfare and fire. In Hittite texts, the city is referred to as *Wilusa (Ilium?)* and *Taruisa (Troiae?)*, led by a king Alaksandus (Alexandros?).
- **Troy VII-B1**--12th century BCE. Also destroyed by fire and resettled. Bronze arrows found in archeological ruins.
- **Troy VII-B2**--11th century BCE. Also destroyed by fire and resettled--possibly by natural disaster rather than warfare.
- **Troy VII-B3**--until c. 950 BCE. Depopulated after the Dorian invasions?
- **Troy VIII**: until c. 700 BCE
- **Troy IX**: Hellenistic Ilium, 1st century BCE. It was a Roman colony-town built during the reign of Augustus. It declined gradually and become depopulated by Byzantine period of the medieval ages.