



The Pre-Socratic Philosophers

Philosopher	<i>archē</i> , <i>αρχη</i>	<i>kinēsis</i> , <i>κινησις</i>	<i>kosmos</i> , <i>κοσμος</i>	<i>psychē</i> , <i>ψυχη</i>
Thales of Miletus, 624-546 BC	Water		The Earth a flat disc floating on an infinite ocean	All things are full of gods
Anaximander of Miletus, 610-546	The Unlimited	<i>dikē</i> - penalty and retribution	The Earth suspended like a drum in the middle of a spherical cosmos	
Anaximenes of Miletus, 570-510	Air	Rarefaction and condensation	The Earth flat and thin like a tabletop atop infinite air	
Pythagoras of Samos-Croton, 582-497	Number		A spherical Earth, one of ten orbs revolving around a central fire	The soul imprisoned in a body—reincarnation
Heraclitus of Ephesus, 535-475	The Fire	<i>logos</i> - kindling and exhuming		The dry and wet soul—reincarnation
Xenophanes of Colophon-Elea, 570-475	God		The Earth stretches infinitely in all directions—many suns and moons	
Parmenides of Elea, 515-445	The One	Is not	The Earth a sphere, in the center of the cosmos	Soul and mind are identical
Empedocles of Akragas (Agrigentum), 495-435	The Four Elements	Love and strife	Evolution of living forms	Balance the key virtue of the soul—reincarnation
Anaxagoras of Clazomenae-Athens, 500-428	Seeds	<i>nous</i> - the mind	Heavenly bodies, fiery stones borne about by the revolving movement of the aether	
Democritus of Abdera, 460-370	Atoms	Combine in the void		The soul simply consists of atoms
Blue = Ionia and the Aegean; Red = the West and Magna Graecia; Green = Athens				