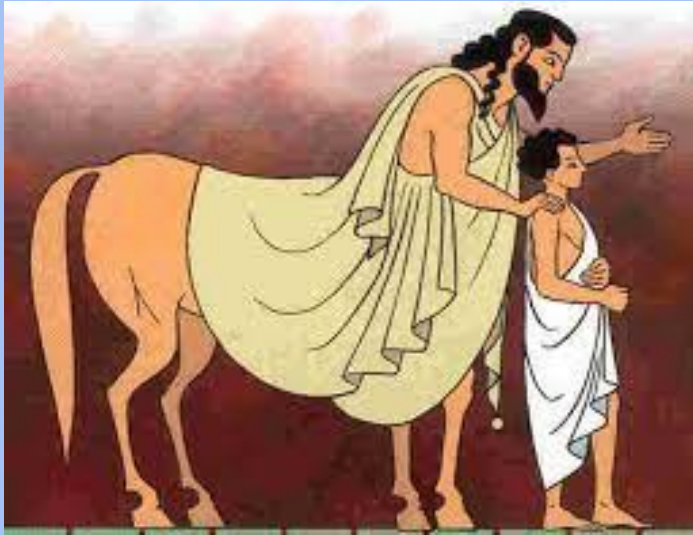


Jason and the argonauts myth



Once upon a time in the land of Iolcus, the modern city of Volos, lived Pelias. Pelias took the throne from his brother Aeson, the rightful heir. His plan was to murder all of his relatives, including his nephew, Jason.





Jason was sent away to Mount Pelion, to live with the Centaur Cheiron, to escape his uncle's rage. When Jason grew up he went back to challenge his uncle.

Pelias agreed to give the throne back only if Jason brought him the Golden Fleece from the faraway land of Colchis (The Black Sea), thought to be an impossible task.



Jason understood that the journey to Colchis would be long and hard. He knew that he would need a strong and fast boat. Only one man in the land could build him such a craft, Argos.



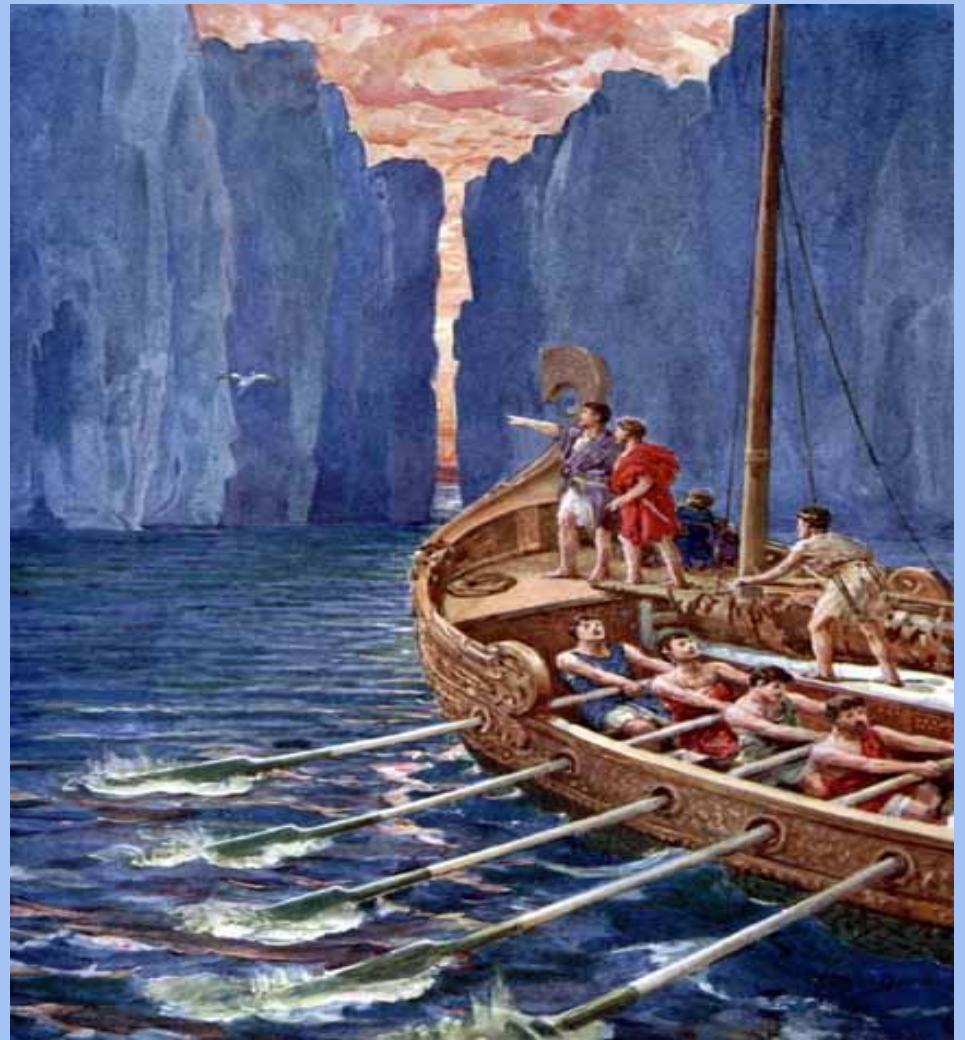
Argos , with the help of Goddess Athena , built the largest and strongest ship the ancient Greeks had ever seen. The ship was made with trees from Mt Pelion and was equipped with 50 oars. It was named after Argos, the man who built it.

When the ship was ready, Jason asked the strongest and bravest Greek men to go with him on this journey. The Argonauts started their trip with feelings of joy and enthusiasm. They had no idea about the adventures and horrible things to come.

Their first stop was the island of Lemnos inhabited only by women who had murdered every male on the island. Jason and his crew, however, were welcomed and stayed there for quite some time.



On their way to Colchis the Argonauts had to go through two gigantic rocks which constantly clashed against each other, seldom letting anything pass between them. Jason let loose a white dove to show him a safe passage. The Argo just about managed to go through. They were now safe in the calm waters of Euxinos Pontos.



But their misfortunes were not over. Next, they lost their navigator and almost had a fight with the Amazons. But Zeus sent favorable winds which took them away from the land of the warrior women.



As they were sailing ,the Argonauts were suddenly attacked by the Stymphalian Birds, the lethal, sacred birds of Ares, the God of War. The Argonauts took out their swords and started beating their shields. All this noise made the birds fly away and leave the travellers alone.

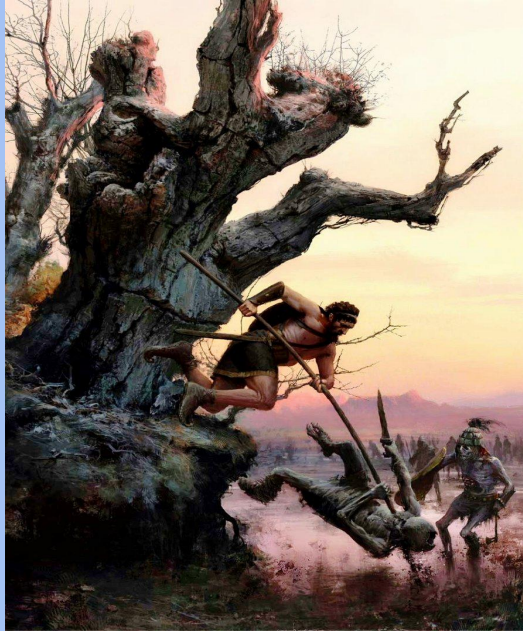




Finally the Argonauts arrived at Colchis. When King Aeetes heard that Jason wanted to take the Golden Fleece he was furious. He agreed only if Jason accomplished three impossible feats.

First to beat the fire-breathing bulls guarding the Golden Fleece.

Then to make them plough a field in which he had to sow the dragon's teeth. Finally, these seeds would turn into warriors that he would have to defeat.



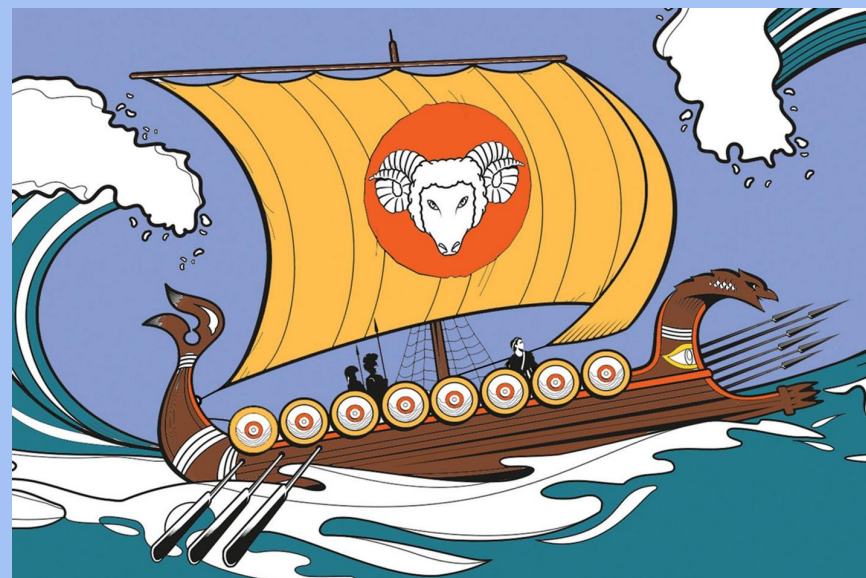
Medea, king Aeetes daughter, was a skilled witch. She fell in love with Jason and decided to help him. She prepared a lotion which would protect him from fire, so he could face the bulls. She also told him how to defeat the warriors of the earth.





Medea decided to help Jason steal the Golden Fleece, only if he took her away with him. Jason agreed to take her away from her father and also to marry her. The Golden Fleece was nailed to a tree and guarded by the Sleepless Dragon. Orpheus, the great music player, who was one of the Argonauts, put the beast to sleep. Jason quietly took the Golden Fleece. They rushed back to the Argo and immediately sailed away.

King Aetes and his son, chased them across the seas. Medea distracted her father with sorcery, killed her brother, cut him into pieces and threw the pieces of his body in the sea. Aetes, in his despair, gave up the chase. Jason and the Argonauts had managed to take the Golden Fleece and after many adventures bring it back to ancient Iolkos.



Argo is the symbol of the city of Volos



ΔΗΜΟΣ ΒΟΛΟΥ

THIS PUBLICATION
WAS CREATED AS
PART OF THE
“SEA IN SIGHT” PROJECT.

Project co-financed by the EU programme Erasmus+.
The publication reflects only the views of its authors.
The European Commission and the National Agency of the
Erasmus+ Programme are not responsible for its content.



2019-2021

Presentation
Eirini Mokka & Christina Chlempou

Thank you for your attention

