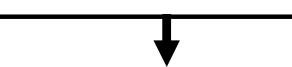
# CONNECTING THE ROMAN AND BYZANTINE TIMES WITH MODERN CITY LIFE:

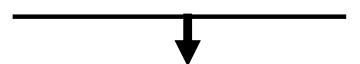
A TOOL AGAINST THE GLOBALISATION OF THE CITY OF ATHENS

At the end of the 20th century, the image of the cities was largely influenced by the phenomenon of globalization through the economic conditions on our planet.

- Substructures
- Lifestyle
- Architecture
- etc.

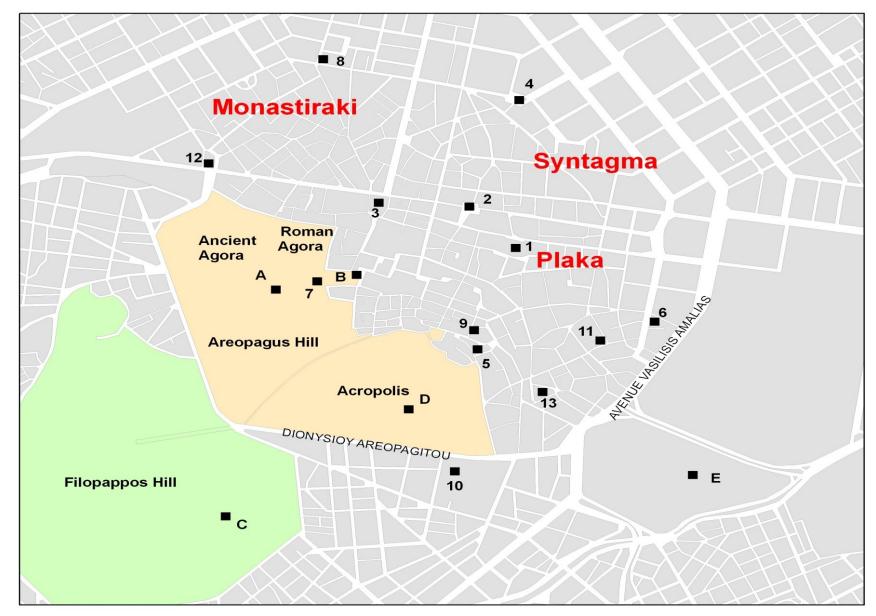


Cities are in greater need to preserve their physiognomy, especially by promoting their special characteristics and what makes them different



This plan should incorporate a continuous search for the definition of the physiognomy of city in such a way that no aspects of its past or present will be overlooked

- **A.** The Roman Agora, **B.** The clock of Kuristou, **C.** Filopapou Monument, **D.** He Panathenian Stadioum
- 1. The old Metropolis of Athens, 2. Kapnuikarea, 3. Pantanassas Church of the Death of Virgin Mary,
- 4. Church of Saint Theodoroi, 5. Church of Saint Nicolas of Rangavas, 6. Church of Our Savior of Lycodimous,
- 7. Curch of Saint Apostles of Solakis, 8. Church of Saint John the Column, 9. Church of Saint John the Theologian,
- 10. The Office of the Holly Tomb, 11. Church of Saint Sotiria of Coatis, 12. Church of Saints Asomaton,
- 13. Church of Saint Catherine



#### THE CITY OF ATHENS

Even today, the remaining monuments of Athens' classical era (5<sup>th</sup> BC century) emerges its brilliant history

Yet, the history of Athens is not solely the glorious times of the classic era

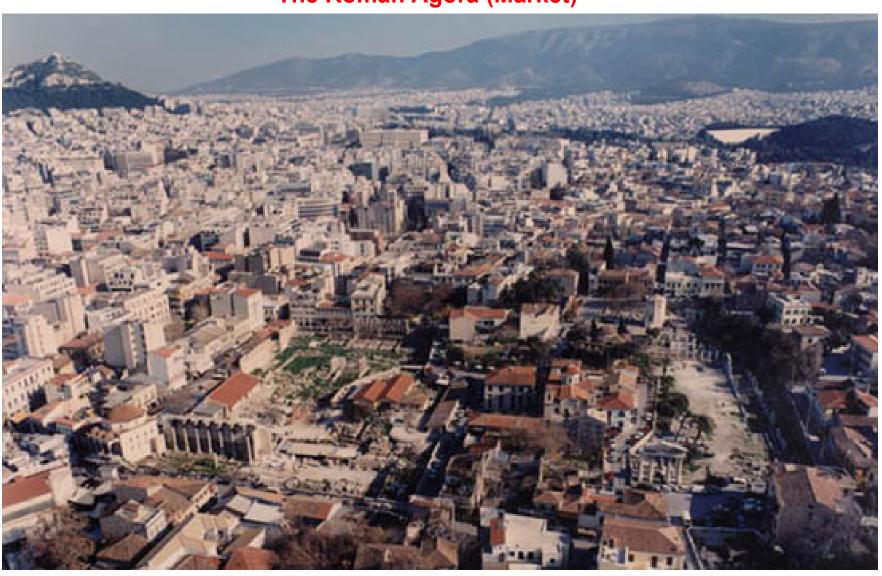
During the period of the Roman occupation, especially the later part, Athens had very little achievements to be proud of.

In a way, Athens was a kind of tourist attraction for the world of antiquity

There are a lot of monuments from the **Roman period** remaining in Athens, which give us important evidence about the life and culture of the inhabitants during these ages

After the Roman period followed the **Byzantine period**. There are a lot of churches that have been preserved from that period, each of them documenting the transition from the old religion to the new.

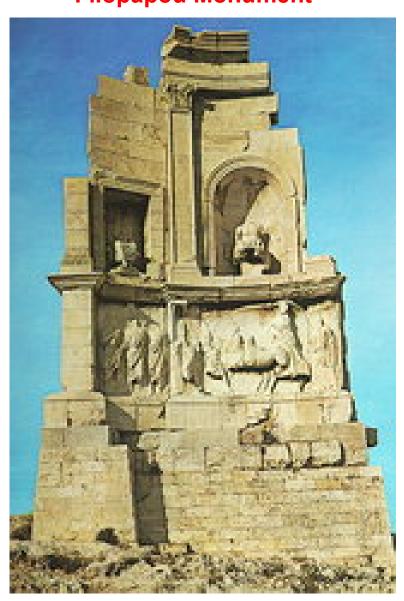
# The Roman Agora (Market)



**The Clock of Kuristou** 



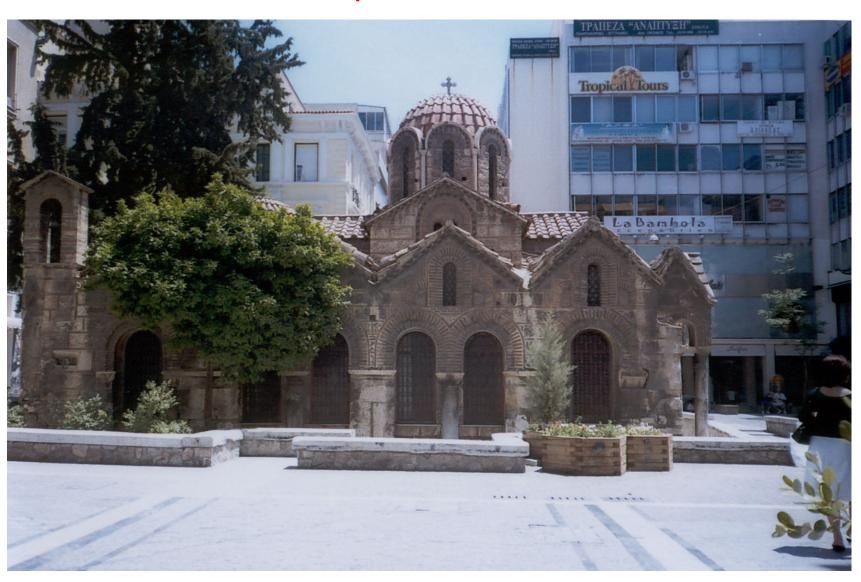
**Filopapou Monument** 



#### **The Panathenian Stadium**



# Kapnikarea Church



#### **Pantanassas Church of the Death of Virgin Mary**



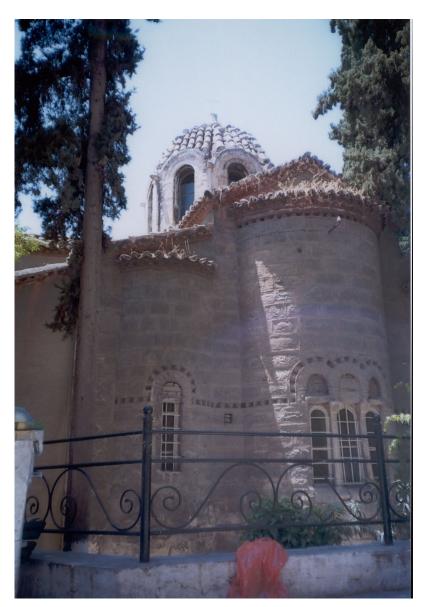
# **Church of Saint Nicholas of Rangavas**



**Church of St. John the Theologian** 



#### **Church of Saint Sotiria of Cotakis**



#### **Church of Saint Catherine**



#### With regard to the **ROMAN** period:

- The monuments that remain and are restored, represent even today unique cultural artifacts
- These monuments have as characteristics their large size, elaborate decoration and the fact that its creators had been influenced from novel artistic styles
- Though these artistic endeavors did not resurrect the spirit of ancient classical culture, they did represent a very significant contribution to art and culture even during those rather pathetic times for the city

#### The **BYZANTINE** Age:

- Is hand in hand with the rise of Christianity and, as demonstrated above, this resulted in the building of many churches
- The 11th and 12th century AD are considered the 'Golden Centuries' for Byzantine art, following the fact that the most famous and significant churches were built during that time
- Many of these churches remain standing and functioning to the present days; their usage is not just for addressing the prayers of the congregation, but are also universally admired cultural monuments of a live religion like Christianity

- Though these two ages have an integral part in the history of Athens, their position in the collective memory is not that prominent. Athens seem to inspire a kind of exaggerated devotion for anything Ancient
- The relation of these monuments to the progressive continuation of history that acts as the connecting link between the past with the contemporary times
- As it happens it is sometimes the case that some of the monuments of the Roman and Byzantine times have developed a relation to the everyday life of contemporary Athenians
  - Herod Atticus Odeon
  - Roman Agora
  - The churches

The Roman and Byzantine Athens is an integral part of the general appearance of the city and should not be ignored

The protection and integration of all relative monuments in the current urban landscape can be a strong defence mechanism for Athens and its citizens to the wave of urban globalization