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Homer's most important contribution to mankind

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Generally, an oral story keeps spreading continuously. The more people talk about it, the more inaccuracy happen. In someday, those stories are forgotten and faded away. Wonderfully, the oral epics or the oral traditions, Iliad and Odyssey were still be told from one to another generation for long periods before they were composed by written version and evolved into the greatest ancient Greek epics.¹ The talent and excellence of a poet had reflected in them. Hence, it is more surprising to say that the great epics were attributed to an ordinary ancient Greek blind man named Homer. His biography is indistinct, and consequently endlessly complained by historians and scholars throughout the world without the certain conclusion, while the Iliad and the Odyssey are distinct and well known over the world.² They are similar to the butterfly effect, the small things, the Iliad and the Odyssey, that homer contribute to great value from ancient Greek to the art, culture and literature of the west and mankind.³

Iliad is the oldest western epic, describing about the Trojan War and showing

¹ Wiki contributors. "Iliad." *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 3 Feb. 2012.
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iliad>>

² Wiki contributors. "Homer" *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 3 Feb. 2012.
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homer>>

³ Tricia Ellis-Christensen. "what is the butterfly effect?" *wiseGEEK*. 10 Feb. 2012
<<http://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-the-butterfly-effect.htm>>

Greek and Troy civilization including, forces, the brave warriors, the great palaces, the belief in god and particularly the heroes.⁴ Another one is Odyssey which is the story about the god responded to the arrogance of Odysseus during the end of Trojan War while he was on the way back to his homeland. He was one of heroes in the Trojan War. It also describes Greek mythology and shows the origin of happening that not derived only from what man-made, but the role of the divinity also was one of the causes. These entirely were the relationship between human and god.⁵ By the Homer's writing style, with the clear and luminous expression, the audiences are able to imagine along the story.⁶ Thus, both of epics have substantially influenced in the western art and culture. Artwork in the variations whether it is sculpture or painting about Greek god can be commonly found at the various places around the world.⁷ It is not the belief in divinity like in the tales that keep people preserving the sculptures and drawings of the ancient Greek gods, but it is the beauty in each of artwork which is the individual portray unique beauty that cannot be found anywhere else. There are also many artworks about the heroes in the poems such as the education of Achilles painted by James Barry, the painting regarding the poems emerging in different Greek's periods in the term of Greek art which are valuable antique at this time.⁸ Additionally, his poetries are used in celebration of religion.¹⁰

⁴ "Introduction." *Epics for Students*. Vol. 1. Gale Cengage, . *eNotes.com*. 5 Feb, 2012
<<http://www.enotes.com/iliad/>>

⁵ "Introduction." *Epics for Students*. Vol. 1. Gale Cengage, . *eNotes.com*. 5 Feb, 2012
<<http://www.enotes.com/odyssey/>>

⁶ Wiki contributors. "Homeric style" *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 4 Feb. 2012.
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homer#Homeric_style>

⁷ Wikipedia contributors. "Greek mythology" *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 6 Feb. 2012.
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greek_mythology>

⁸ Wikipedia contributors. "File:The Education of Achilles, by James Barry" *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 7 Feb. 2012.

Homer not only passed on Greek art and culture to the west, he also provided the great epical models which has a lot of influences on the western canon. In other words, Iliad and odyssey are the worthy heritage of the western writings.¹¹ By the large acceptance and honor, the two epics were translated into several languages around the world and built as famous movies which delighted to movie viewers and earned enormous income.¹²¹³ Furthermore, his works became more valuable than the normal poetries. They are the materials using in learning for young generation.¹⁴ Even more, Homer was taken to be reference in several writings by borrowed some phases, words or themes such as the best of the Achaeans as well as Troilus and Cressida by the great author of the world, William Shakespeare.¹⁵¹⁶ These did not occur only in the recent period but it had happened more than a thousand years ago in the Aeneid, written by the Roman poet named Vergil.¹⁷ It states that the Iliad and the Odyssey are immortal epics. Certainly, Homer and his works were well known among the authors. Hence, Homer is

⁹ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:The_Education_of_Achilles,_by_James_Barry.jpg>
Walter Englert. "Welcome to the Hum 110 *Iliad* Homepage" *academic*. 8 Feb. 2012.
<<http://academic.reed.edu/humanities/110Tech/Iliad.html#Art>>

¹⁰ Wikipedia contributors. "Iliad." *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 8 Feb. 2012.
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iliad>>

¹¹ Ledezma.Brownpride13. "The odyssey" *online-literature.com*. 9 Feb. 2012. <<http://www.online-literature.com/homer/odyssey/>>

¹² Wiki contributors. ". *Odyssey*" *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 6 Feb. 2012.
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Odyssey>>

¹³ IMDb contributors. "Troy" *IMDb.com, Inc*. 9 Feb. 2012. <<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0332452/>>

¹⁴ William Harris. "IX: Reading Greek and Teaching Methods" *middlebury.edu/~harris*. 8 Feb. 2012.
<<http://community.middlebury.edu/~harris/Humanities/homer.html>>

¹⁵ Wikipedia contributors. "Homer" *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 6 Feb. 2012.
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homer>>

¹⁶ Wikipedia contributors. "Influence on the arts and literature" *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 6 Feb. 2012. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iliad#Influence_on_the_arts_and_literature>

¹⁷ William Harris. "Homer in the roman tradition" *middlebury.edu/~harris*. 8 Feb. 2012.

like the master who influences to inspire the other authors to develop themselves as well as to innovate the field of literature.

In addition, The Iliad and The Odyssey allowed archeologists to learn more information about ancient Greek. The discovery of Troy is undeniable that it is not a by-product from these epics, especially Iliad because there is the line in the story which comes from what Homer described in the poems thoroughly. It implies that the occurrences of the poems are not only the folk tale anymore. The poems evolved into the semi-historical. At the present time, the wreckage of Troy as the UNESCO World Heritage list is the important tourist attraction of the Turkey which is so attractive to the person who fascinated in Iliad.¹⁸

The Iliad and the Odyssey are compared as the light shine of the western art. Other than creating the very fascinating poems, this blind man has created invaluable things that the most people who have normal eyes cannot do. Although he had died for more than two millenniums ago and there were almost no evidence on him, as a result of his talent the legend of Homer is well-known world-wide and will be lasting forever.¹⁹ In spite of the fact that, no one even knows the real face of Homer. All the above attests that the beauty or wealth that commonly people seek is not deathless because one day it will perish, but the value of making that will persist for eternity.

<<http://community.middlebury.edu/~harris/Humanities/homer.html>>

¹⁸ Wikipedia contributors. "Troy" *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 10 Feb. 2012.

<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Troy>>

¹⁹ Wikipedia contributors. "Homer" *Wikipedia, The free Encyclopedia*. 6 Feb. 2012.

<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homer>>