

Analysis of Rituals:

In Fantham 83-93, and in L&F 383-5, 391, 397-400, and 402-3, a number of religious ceremonies are mentioned. Chose 3-5 of them. (Some are more complex than others, or there is a lot more information about them.) For discussion (first group then class) make notes on the following aspects of your chosen rituals:

1. Deity: In honor of what god or goddess? Significance of that god or goddess to the culture, including that deity's provinces (i.e. what s/he is the god/dess "of")

2. Where is it held: In the city, in the country, indoors, outdoors, in a particular landscape, in different landscapes, and the possible significance of the location(s)

3. Participant : Who was participating in the ritual?

- What age were the participants (a particular age or time of life, or mixed ages/times of life)
- What was the social status of the participant (citizen. free woman, slave, unmarried girl, aristocrat, etc.)

4. Activity/ activities: What did the women/girls do in the religious ritual?

- Was their action related closely to what women did in their daily life (e.g. carry water)?
- Was it "special but related" kinds of action?
- Was it an inversion (i.e. the opposite of what they would normally do)?

5. Significance: what did/could this ritual mean to the women who did it, to the city, to the family, to the way the world works ...