

Kostis Palamas ([Greek](#): Κωστής Παλαμάς; 13 January [[O.S.](#) 8 January] 1859 – 27 February 1943) was a [Greek](#) poet who wrote the words to the [Olympic Hymn](#). He was a central figure of the [Greek literary](#) generation of the 1880s and one of the cofounders of the so-called [New Athenian School](#) (or Palamian School, or Second Athenian School) along with [Georgios Drosinis](#), [Nikos Kampas](#), and [Ioannis Polemis](#).



The Olympic Hymn

Ancient immortal spirit, honorable father
Of the Beautiful, the Great and the True,
Come down, reveal yourself and shine
In the glory of your earth and heaven.
In racing, in wrestling and stone-throwing
Shine in the heat of noble contest,
Crown youth with the undying branch
And make their bodies strong and worthy.
Fields and mountains and seas shine with you
Like a great purple and white temple
And to this temple they come as pilgrims,
Ancient immortal spirit, all the races of the earth.