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## Chapter 1 : The Roman Empire: A Brief History | Milwaukee Public Museum

*The history of the Roman Empire covers the history of ancient Rome from the fall of the Roman Republic in 27 BC until the abdication of the last Western emperor in AD. Rome had begun expanding shortly after the founding of the Republic in the 6th century BC, though it did not expand outside of the Italian Peninsula until the 3rd century BC. [6].*

Octavian subsequently annexed Egypt to the empire. The Senate granted him power over appointing its membership and over the gov lic, and as such he operated within the existing constitutional machinery. He thus rejected titles that Romans associated with monarchy, such as rex "king". The dictatorship , a military office in the early Republic typically lasting only for the six-month military campaigning season, had been resurrected first by Sulla in the late 80s BC and then by Julius Caesar in the mids; the title dictator was never again used. As the adopted heir of Julius Caesar, Augustus had taken Caesar as a component of his name, and handed down the name to his heirs of the Julio-Claudian dynasty. With Vespasian , one of the first emperors outside the dynasty, Caesar evolved from a family name to a formal title. Augustus created his novel and historically unique position by consolidating the constitutional powers of several Republican offices. He renounced his consulship in 23 BC, but retained his consular imperium , leading to a second compromise between Augustus and the Senate known as the Second Settlement. Augustus was granted the authority of a tribune tribunicia potestas , though not the title, which allowed him to call together the Senate and people at will and lay business before it, veto the actions of either the Assembly or the Senate, preside over elections, and it gave him the right to speak first at any meeting. No tribune of Rome ever had these powers, and there was no precedent within the Roman system for consolidating the powers of the tribune and the censor into a single position, nor was Augustus ever elected to the office of Censor. Whether censorial powers were granted to Augustus as part of his tribunician authority, or he simply assumed those, is a matter of debate. In addition to those powers, Augustus was granted sole imperium within the city of Rome itself; all armed forces in the city, formerly under the control of the prefects , were now under the sole authority of Augustus. Additionally, Augustus was granted imperium proconsulare maius power over all proconsuls , the right to interfere in any province and override the decisions of any governor. With maius imperium, Augustus was the only individual able to grant a triumph to a successful general as he was ostensibly the leader of the entire Roman army. The Senate re-classified the provinces at the frontiers where the vast majority of the legions were stationed as imperial provinces , and gave control of those to Augustus. The peaceful provinces were re-classified as senatorial provinces , governed as they had been during the Republic by members of the Senate sent out annually by the central government. Taxes from the Imperial provinces went into the fiscus , the fund administrated by persons chosen by and answerable to Augustus. The revenue from senatorial provinces continued to be sent to the state treasury aerarium , under the supervision of the Senate. The Augustus of Prima Porta The Roman legions , which had reached an unprecedented 50 in number because of the civil wars, were reduced to Several legions, particularly those with members of doubtful loyalties, were simply demobilised. Other legions were united, a fact hinted by the title Gemina Twin. Control of the fiscus enabled Augustus to ensure the loyalty of the legions through their pay. Augustus completed the conquest of Hispania , while subordinate generals expanded Roman possessions in Africa and Asia Minor. His stepson Tiberius had conquered Pannonia , Dalmatia , Raetia , and temporarily Germania for the Empire, and was thus a prime candidate. At first everything went as planned, but then disaster struck. The Illyrian tribes revolted and had to be crushed, and three full legions under the command of Publius Quinctilius Varus were ambushed and destroyed at the Battle of the Teutoburg Forest in AD 9 by Germanic tribes led by Arminius. Being cautious, Augustus secured all territories west of Rhine and contented himself with retaliatory raids. The rivers Rhine and Danube became the permanent borders of the Roman empire in the North. Sources[ edit ] Left image: The Augustan Age is not as well documented as the age of Caesar and Cicero. Important primary sources for the Augustan period include: Archaeology, including maritime archaeology , aerial surveys , epigraphic

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inscriptions on buildings, and Augustan coinage , has also provided valuable evidence about economic, social and military conditions. Julio-Claudian Dynasty[ edit ].

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## Chapter 2 : The History of Rome - From the Roman Empire up to the present day

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Visit Website Did you know? One of the most extraordinary aspects of the Byzantine Empire was its longevity: It was the only organized state west of China to survive without interruption from ancient times until the beginning of the modern age. Visit Website Though Constantine ruled over a unified Roman Empire, this unity proved illusory after his death in 337. In 395, Emperor Valentinian I again divided the empire into western and eastern sections, putting himself in power in the west and his brother Valens in the east. The fate of the two regions diverged greatly over the next several centuries. In the west, constant attacks from German invaders such as the Visigoths broke the struggling empire down piece by piece until Italy was the only territory left under Roman control. In 476, the barbarian Odoacer overthrew the last Roman emperor, Romulus Augustus, and Rome had fallen. Byzantine Empire Flourishes The eastern half of the Roman Empire proved less vulnerable to external attack, thanks in part to its geographic location. It also benefited greatly from a stronger administrative center and internal political stability, as well as great wealth compared with other states of the early medieval period. Eastern Roman Empire As a result of these advantages, the Eastern Roman Empire, variously known as the Byzantine Empire or Byzantium, was able to survive for centuries after the fall of Rome. Though Byzantium was ruled by Roman law and Roman political institutions, and its official language was Latin, Greek was also widely spoken, and students received education in Greek history, literature and culture. In terms of religion, the Council of Chalcedon in 451 officially established the division of the Christian world into five patriarchates, each ruled by a patriarch: Rome where the patriarch would later call himself pope, Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch and Jerusalem. The Byzantine emperor was the patriarch of Constantinople, and the head of both church and state. Even after the Islamic empire absorbed Alexandria, Antioch and Jerusalem in the seventh century, the Byzantine emperor would remain the spiritual leader of most eastern Christians. Justinian I Justinian I, who took power in 527 and would rule until his death in 565, was the first great ruler of the Byzantine Empire. Many great monuments of the empire would be built under Justinian, including the spectacular domed Church of Holy Wisdom, or Hagia Sophia. Justinian also reformed and codified Roman law, establishing a Byzantine legal code that would endure for centuries and help shape the modern concept of the state. Debts incurred through war had left the empire in dire financial straits, however, and his successors were forced to heavily tax Byzantine citizens in order to keep the empire afloat. During the seventh and eighth centuries, attacks from the Persian Empire and from Slavs, combined with internal political instability and economic regression, threatened the stability of the empire. A new, even more serious threat arose in the form of Islam, founded by the prophet Muhammad in Mecca in 610. In 634, Muslim armies began their assault on the Byzantine Empire by storming into Syria. Iconoclasm During the eighth and early ninth centuries, Byzantine emperors beginning with Leo III spearheaded a movement that denied the holiness of icons, or religious images, and prohibited their worship or veneration. Though it stretched over less territory, Byzantium had more control over trade, more wealth and more international prestige than under Justinian. The strong imperial government patronized Byzantine art, including now-cherished Byzantine mosaics. Rulers also began restoring churches, palaces and other cultural institutions and promoting the study of ancient Greek history and literature. Greek became the official language of the state, and a flourishing culture of monasticism centered on Mount Athos in northeastern Greece. Monks administered many institutions orphanages, schools, hospitals in everyday life, and Byzantine missionaries won many converts to Christianity among the Slavic peoples of the central and eastern Balkans including Bulgaria and Serbia and Russia. The Crusades The end of the 11th century saw the beginning of the Crusades, the series of holy wars waged by European Christians against Muslims in the Near East from 1095 to 1291. As armies from France, Germany and Italy poured into Byzantium, Alexius tried to force their leaders to swear an oath of loyalty to him in order

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to guarantee that land regained from the Turks would be restored to his empire. After Western and Byzantine forces recaptured Nicaea in Asia Minor from the Turks, Alexius and his army retreated, drawing accusations of betrayal from the Crusaders. During the subsequent Crusades, animosity continued to build between Byzantium and the West, culminating in the conquest and looting of Constantinople during the Fourth Crusade in 1204. Many refugees from Constantinople fled to Nicaea, site of a Byzantine government-in-exile that would retake the capital and overthrow Latin rule in 1261. Fall of the Byzantine Empire During the rule of the Palaiologan emperors, beginning with Michael VIII in 1259, the economy of the once-mighty Byzantine state was crippled, and never regained its former stature. In 1204, Emperor John V unsuccessfully sought financial help from the West to confront the growing Turkish threat, but he was arrested as an insolvent debtor in Venice. Four years later, he was forced to become a vassal of the mighty Turks. As a vassal state, Byzantium paid tribute to the sultan and provided him with military support. Murad revoked all privileges given to the Byzantines and laid siege to Constantinople; his successor, Mehmed II, completed this process when he launched the final attack on the city. The fall of Constantinople marked the end of a glorious era for the Byzantine Empire. Legacy of the Byzantine Empire In the centuries leading up to the final Ottoman conquest in 1453, the culture of the Byzantine Empire—including literature, art and theology—flourished even as the empire itself faltered. Byzantine culture would exert a great influence on the Western intellectual tradition, as scholars of the Italian Renaissance sought help from Byzantine scholars in translating Greek pagan and Christian writings. This process would continue after 1453, when many of these scholars fled from Constantinople to Italy. Long after its end, Byzantine culture and civilization continued to exercise an influence on countries that practiced its Orthodox religion, including Russia, Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia and Greece, among others. Start your free trial today.

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## Chapter 3 : Roman Republic | History, Government, Map, & Facts | calendrierdelascience.com

*During the Punic Wars between Rome and the great Mediterranean empire of Carthage ( to BC), Rome's stature increased further as it became the capital of an overseas empire for the first time.*

Although Greek coins under the Roman Empire were nearly all of bronze and intended for local circulation, exceptional coinages in silver were allowed by Rome as a continuation, for wider regional use, of important pre-conquest currencies. The largest of these, running from Augustus's Imperial Rome A period of unrest and civil wars in the 1st century bc marked the transition of Rome from a republic to an empire. This period encompassed the career of Julius Caesar , who eventually took full power over Rome as its dictator. His reign, from 27 bce to 14 ce, was distinguished by stability and peace. The Senate still functioned, though Augustus, as princeps , or first citizen, remained in control of the government. Under Augustus, Rome began to prosper once again, and the emperor came to be looked upon as a god. Thereafter, all good emperors were worshiped as gods after death. Decadent , cruel men also rose to power: Caligula 37â€”41 and Nero 54â€”68 were so loathed that their reigns were struck from the official Roman records. Statue of the Roman emperor Augustus, 1st century ad. Thereafter, Christians were tolerated at bestâ€”but often tortured or killedâ€”until the reign of Constantine I â€” In an edict of toleration for all religions was issued, and from about Christianity was favoured by the Roman state rather than persecuted by it. But the empire was dying. The Western Empire, suffering from repeated invasions and the flight of the peasants into the cities, had grown weak compared with the East, where spices and other exports virtually guaranteed wealth and stability. When Theodosius died, in , Rome split into Eastern and Western empires. The West was severely shaken in , when the city of Rome was sacked by the Visigoths , a wandering nation of Germanic peoples from the northeast. The fall of Rome was completed in , when the German chieftain Odoacer deposed the last Roman emperor of the West, Romulus Augustulus. The fall of Rome Explore the possible origins of the fall of the Roman Empire in this video. The Romans possessed a powerful army and were gifted in the applied arts of law, government, city planning , and statecraft, but they also acknowledged and adopted contributions of other ancient peoplesâ€”most notably, those of the Greeks , much of whose culture was thereby preserved. Roman law , for example, was a considered and complex body of precedents and comments, which were all finally codified in the 6th century see Justinian, Code of. Roman city planners achieved unprecedented standards of hygiene with their plumbing, sewage disposal, dams, and aqueducts. Roman architecture, though often imitative of Greek styles, was boldly planned and lavishly executed. Triumphal arches commemorated important state occasions, and the famous Roman baths were built to stir the senses as well as to cleanse the body. Interior of the Colosseum in Rome. Learn More in these related Britannica articles:

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## Chapter 4 : History of Rome and the Roman People, From Its Origin to the Establishment of the Christian E

*During this period, the basis of Roman law, the legal system of ancient Rome, were established. Roman Empire The Roman Empire is one of the greatest civilizations of all time, starting with the fall of the Roman Republic in 27 BC and ending with the abdication of the last Emperor in AD.*

Visit Website Did you know? The magistrates, though elected by the people, were drawn largely from the Senate, which was dominated by the patricians, or the descendants of the original senators from the time of Romulus. Politics in the early republic was marked by the long struggle between patricians and plebeians the common people , who eventually attained some political power through years of concessions from patricians, including their own political bodies, the tribunes, which could initiate or veto legislation. The Roman forum was more than just home to their Senate. These laws included issues of legal procedure, civil rights and property rights and provided the basis for all future Roman civil law. By around B. Military Expansion During the early republic, the Roman state grew exponentially in both size and power. Though the Gauls sacked and burned Rome in B. Rome then fought a series of wars known as the Punic Wars with Carthage, a powerful city-state in northern Africa. In the Third Punic War â€” B. At the same time, Rome also spread its influence east, defeating King Philip V of Macedonia in the Macedonian Wars and turning his kingdom into another Roman province. The first Roman literature appeared around B. The gap between rich and poor widened as wealthy landowners drove small farmers from public land, while access to government was increasingly limited to the more privileged classes. Attempts to address these social problems, such as the reform movements of Tiberius and Gaius Gracchus in B. Gaius Marius, a commoner whose military prowess elevated him to the position of consul for the first of six terms in B. After Sulla retired, one of his former supporters, Pompey, briefly served as consul before waging successful military campaigns against pirates in the Mediterranean and the forces of Mithridates in Asia. During this same period, Marcus Tullius Cicero , elected consul in 63 B. After earning military glory in Spain, Caesar returned to Rome to vie for the consulship in 59 B. From his alliance with Pompey and Crassus, Caesar received the governorship of three wealthy provinces in Gaul beginning in 58 B. With old-style Roman politics in disorder, Pompey stepped in as sole consul in 53 B. With Octavian leading the western provinces, Antony the east, and Lepidus Africa, tensions developed by 36 B. In the wake of this devastating defeat, Antony and Cleopatra committed suicide. He instituted various social reforms, won numerous military victories and allowed Roman literature, art, architecture and religion to flourish. Augustus ruled for 56 years, supported by his great army and by a growing cult of devotion to the emperor. When he died, the Senate elevated Augustus to the status of a god, beginning a long-running tradition of deification for popular emperors. The line ended with Nero , whose excesses drained the Roman treasury and led to his downfall and eventual suicide. The reign of Nerva , who was selected by the Senate to succeed Domitian, began another golden age in Roman history, during which four emperorsâ€”Trajan, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius, and Marcus Aureliusâ€”took the throne peacefully, succeeding one another by adoption, as opposed to hereditary succession. Under Antoninus Pius , Rome continued in peace and prosperity, but the reign of Marcus Aurelius â€” was dominated by conflict, including war against Parthia and Armenia and the invasion of Germanic tribes from the north. When Marcus fell ill and died near the battlefield at Vindobona Vienna , he broke with the tradition of non-hereditary succession and named his year-old son Commodus as his successor. Decline and Disintegration The decadence and incompetence of Commodus brought the golden age of the Roman emperors to a disappointing end. His death at the hands of his own ministers sparked another period of civil war , from which Lucius Septimius Severus emerged victorious. During the third century Rome suffered from a cycle of near-constant conflict. A total of 22 emperors took the throne, many of them meeting violent ends at the hands of the same soldiers who had propelled them to power. Meanwhile, threats from outside plagued the empire and depleted its riches, including continuing aggression from Germans and Parthians and raids by the Goths over the Aegean Sea. The reign of Diocletian

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temporarily restored peace and prosperity in Rome, but at a high cost to the unity of the empire. Diocletian divided power into the so-called tetrarchy rule of four, sharing his title of Augustus emperor with Maximian. A pair of generals, Galerius and Constantius, were appointed as the assistants and chosen successors of Diocletian and Maximian; Diocletian and Galerius ruled the eastern Roman Empire, while Maximian and Constantius took power in the west. The stability of this system suffered greatly after Diocletian and Maximian retired from office. Constantine the son of Constantius emerged from the ensuing power struggles as sole emperor of a reunified Rome in 311. He moved the Roman capital to the Greek city of Byzantium, which he renamed Constantinople. Roman unity under Constantine proved illusory, and 30 years after his death the eastern and western empires were again divided. Despite its continuing battle against Persian forces, the eastern Roman Empire—later known as the Byzantine Empire—would remain largely intact for centuries to come. Rome eventually collapsed under the weight of its own bloated empire, losing its provinces one by one: Britain around 410; Spain and northern Africa by 455; Gaul and Italy around 476, further shaking the foundations of the empire. Start your free trial today.

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## Chapter 5 : History of the Roman Empire - Wikipedia

*History of Rome and the Roman people from its origin to the establishment of the Christian empire.*

Enjoy the Famous Daily Trajan: AD When Trajan is selected by Nerva as his heir, in October 97, he is in command of the province of upper Germany. Less than three months later, Nerva is dead. But this time there is no crisis. The Roman empire has acquired a new maturity. Thirty years earlier, after the death of Nero, the succession was decided by armies marching on Rome. Now Trajan is able to spend the first year of his rule on a tour of inspection of the Roman legions on the Rhine and the Danube. It is an area in which he plans an important campaign. Trajan is in his element among soldiers. Born in Spain he is the first Roman emperor of non-Italian descent, his career has been spent with legions in Syria, Spain and Germany. But he proves himself a brilliant politician as well. When Trajan returns to Rome, in 99, he enters the city without pomp, on foot, and immediately establishes an excellent relationship with the senate. He makes his imperial intentions and requirements perfectly plain, but at least he consults the senators. Characteristically, he refuses to adopt this description officially until many years later, in AD 111. In Trajan is ready for the campaign which he was plotting before his return to Rome. He marches north and east, towards the region known to the Romans as Dacia - north of the Danube, bordering the Black Sea. One is revenge; the Dacians, led by a powerful ruler, Decebalus, inflicted a major defeat on a Roman army sent out by Domitian in AD 89. The other is greed; the territory includes some famous gold mines. The forum is dedicated by Trajan in AD 106. It turns out to be his last full year in Rome. News comes that the Parthians, violating a treaty, have interfered in the affairs of Armenia. In AD 114, at the age of sixty, the soldier emperor heads east again. Early in Armenia, until now a vassal kingdom of Rome, is annexed as a Roman province. Like Armenia, the territories along the Euphrates are kingdoms, but these are undeniably vassals of Parthia. The region is annexed as another new Roman province, Mesopotamia. The following year, AD 115, he is tempted to go even further. This is the furthest that the empire has ever extended, and it is a province too far. An uprising in his rear, in support of Parthia, causes Trajan to withdraw - leaving his cousin Hadrian in command of Mesopotamia. Trajan is on his way back to Rome in AD 117 when he dies, in southern Turkey. He names Hadrian as his successor. It is almost a year before Hadrian returns to Rome, where he buys popularity by cancelling all personal debts to the state. But his real interest remains in the distant provinces of the empire. He is not involved in any major wars, but he is away from Rome for no less than twelve of his twenty years in power. He orders its construction when visiting Britain in AD 122. He also commissions another great defensive work, a fortified palisade stretching more than 100 miles to link the two great natural barriers of central Europe, the Rhine and the Danube. In the Middle East, in AD 130, he gives orders for a strong new Roman city, Aelia Capitolina, to be built on the site of Jerusalem, which was devastated sixty years earlier when captured by Titus. On the ruined Temple mount there is to be a shrine to Jupiter, in which Hadrian himself will be honoured. Jewish opposition to this sacrilege is led by Simon Bar-Cochba, calling himself the prince of Israel. In AD 132 Jewish forces defeat a Roman legion and capture Jerusalem. Not till AD 135, after a large army has been sent to regain control, is Jerusalem recovered by the Romans. In a bitter campaign, fought village by village throughout the region, half a million lives are lost. The whole area of Palestine is devastated. Aelia Capitolina becomes, for the moment, an unimportant provincial town. Three great architectural monuments, in and around Rome, are connected with him. The magnificent domed Pantheon derives entirely, in its present form, from his rebuilding of an earlier temple on the site. Northeast of Rome, near Tivoli, are the remains of the complex of buildings, vistas and gardens which Hadrian spends ten years constructing. It is the outstanding example of one of the characteristic architectural delights of the empire, the Roman villa. Antoninus Pius and Marcus Aurelius: Hadrian has no children. He selects as his successor a respected senator, Antoninus Pius, insisting at the same time that Antoninus designate Marcus Aurelius, a talented young member of the ruling class who is as yet only 17, as next in line of succession. Both men assume power without unrest, in AD 161. The equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius on the Capitol, one of the first of its kind, has a confident air of quiet

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authority. But his rule is interrupted by constant warfare on the northern and eastern borders, and in a Roman army brings back from Mesopotamia a devastating plague. Almost as damaging, Marcus Aurelius - unlike his predecessors - has a young son. Commodus and the lapse into anarchy: When he succeeds Marcus Aurelius, in AD 180, he is eighteen years old. The recent years of plague and warfare including even a brief invasion of northern Italy by barbarian tribes have left the empire in an unsettled state. The reign of Commodus would anyway have been difficult. It is made more so by his own behaviour, which scandalizes Rome as nothing has done since the rather similar habits of Nero. The death of the emperor is in keeping with his life. During the last night of AD 192 Commodus is strangled in his sleep by a wrestler. His violent end is not surprising, since the emperor has recently been spending much of his time in the company of gladiators and he likes to dress as Hercules. Indeed on the very next day Commodus was intending to proclaim himself consul, wearing the outfit of a gladiator. Everyone recognizes that the man is mad - even his mistress, Marcia, who arranges access for the assassin. The senate is standing by to proclaim a new emperor, a veteran soldier by the name of Pertinax, before the praetorian guards wake at dawn. Domitian was then the victim, and his death introduced the century of stability which the present murder ends. This time it is only three months before the unfortunate Pertinax is himself killed, in March. The pattern is set for the rapid decline of the Roman empire into anarchy in the 3rd century AD. During a spell of fifty years in the middle of that century there are more than twenty emperors. All but one of them die by violence. The weakness of Rome: This brings certain benefits to the provinces in AD 212 Caracalla drastically reduces the special prestige of Italy by granting Roman citizenship to all freeborn inhabitants of the empire, but it also exposes the frontier regions of the empire to ever-increasing incursions from barbarian neighbours. Even where the barbarians are kept at bay, there is a loss of central authority. Commanders in the more remote provinces begin to behave almost as independent rulers, paying scant attention to Rome. One response to this decline is an attempt to reinvigorate the empire by a return to traditional Roman values. In AD 234 the emperor Decius decrees that every citizen is to perform a religious sacrifice to the Roman gods in the presence of a commissioner, who will issue an appropriate certificate of compliance. Christians, refusing on principle to comply, find themselves in a direct clash with the state and suffer accordingly. The emperor Valerian maintains the same religious policy but also introduces, in AD 237, an administrative reform which will have lasting effects. He splits the empire into two zones of responsibility, east and west. Valerian appoints his son Gallienus as co-emperor. Gallienus is put in charge of the western empire, with responsibility for holding the frontiers on the Rhine and Danube. Valerian marches east to tackle the permanent threat from Persia. Valerian has little success in he is captured by the Persians and dies a prisoner, and his solution of shared rule is not followed by his immediate successors. But it is adopted by Diocletian, the man who restores the Roman empire to stability. Thereafter it becomes the normal arrangement for the best part of two centuries. The reforms of Diocletian: AD 284 Diocletian, commanding an army near the Bosphorus, is proclaimed emperor by his own troops when news comes in AD 284 that his predecessor has been murdered. He marches west, killing a rival claimant in battle in AD 285. The sequence of events reflects many previous occasions in this century, when usurpers, supported by their own armies, have laid claim to the throne. But Diocletian breaks this pattern of anarchy. He is fortunate in that the frontiers of empire have recently been pushed back to their well established lines in the north and the east. He uses an unusual period of stability to introduce a bold and but highly schematic reform in the administration of the empire. He not only divides the empire geographically into east and west following the example of Valerian. He even divides the traditional imperial title, Augustus Caesar, into two ranks - a senior one, Augustus, and a junior Caesar. He appoints his friend Maximian as co-emperor, giving him the western empire and the title Augustus. Officially Diocletian and Maximian are to be equal, but a subtle addition to the title makes plain who is in charge. Diocletian in the east is now Augustus Jovius, representing Jupiter on earth. Maximian in the west is Augustus Herculius, standing in for Hercules. As any Roman knows, Hercules is a muscular hero; but the supreme god is Jupiter.

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## Chapter 6 : Byzantine Empire - HISTORY

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See Article History Roman Republic, the ancient state that centred on the city of Rome , from the time of the events leading up to the founding of the republic in bce, through the establishment of the Roman Empire in 27 bce. A brief treatment of the Roman Republic follows. For full treatment, see ancient Rome. The early historical record The early Roman Republic â€” bce and the preceding regal period â€” bce are the most poorly documented periods of Roman history. Historical writing in Rome did not begin until the late 3rd century bce, when Rome had already completed its conquest of Italy , established itself as a major power of the ancient world, and become involved in a gigantic struggle with Carthage for control of the western Mediterranean. Consequently, over time, historical facts about early Rome suffered from patriotic reinterpretation involving exaggerations of the truth, the suppression of embarrassing facts, and invention. According to tradition, the first six kings had been benevolent rulers, but the last was a cruel tyrant who was overthrown by a popular uprising. The prevalent modern view is that the monarchy at Rome was incidentally terminated through military defeat and foreign intervention. This theory sees Rome as a site highly prized by the Etruscans the people of the central Italian region of Etruria in the 6th century bce. Yet before Porsenna could establish himself as monarch, he was forced to withdraw, leaving Rome without a king. Rather than restoring their king, the Romans replaced the kingship with two annually elected magistrates called consuls. During the early Roman Republic, important new political offices and institutions were created, and old ones were adapted to cope with the changing needs of the state. According to the ancient historians, these changes and innovations resulted from a political struggle between two social orders, the patricians and the plebeians , that began during the first years of the republic and lasted for more than years. In times of military emergency, when unity of command was sometimes necessary, Rome appointed a dictator in place of the consuls, who, however, could not hold supreme military command for longer than six months. The Senate , which may have existed under the monarchy and served as an advisory council for the king, now advised both magistrates and the Roman people. Although in theory the people were sovereign and the Senate only offered advice, in actual practice the Senate wielded enormous power because of the collective prestige of its members. During the republic there were two different popular assemblies, the centuriate assembly and the tribal assembly. The centuriate assembly was military in nature; it voted on war and peace and elected all those magistrates who exercised imperium military power. The tribal assembly was a nonmilitary civilian assembly that elected those magistrates who did not exercise imperium. It did most of the legislating and sat as a court for serious public offenses. In bce Rome received its first written law code , inscribed upon 12 bronze tablets and publicly displayed in the forum. Its provisions concerned such matters as legal procedure , debt foreclosure, paternal authority over children, property rights , inheritance , and funerary regulations. This so-called Law of the Twelve Tables was to form the basis of all subsequent Roman private law. The expansion of Rome During the 6th century bce, Rome became one of the more-important states in Latium â€” owing to the achievements of its Etruscan overlordsâ€”but Tibur Tivoli , Praeneste , and Tusculum were equally important Latin states. Although the Latins dwelled in politically independent towns, their common language and culture produced cooperation in religion, law, and warfare. This cooperation has come to be known as the Latin League. The Latin states occasionally waged war among themselves, but in times of common danger they banded together for mutual defense. Toward the end of the 5th century bce, the Romans began to expand at the expense of the Etruscan states, possibly propelled by population growth. Before Roman strength increased further, a marauding Gallic tribe swept down the Po River valley and sacked Rome in bce; the invaders departed, however, after they received a ransom in gold. When Rome became increasingly dominant in the Latin League, the Latins took up arms against Rome to maintain their independence. Rome was now the master of

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central Italy and spent the next decade pushing forward its frontier through conquest and colonization. After three wars against the Samnites in the north the third in 297 bce and the Pyrrhic War 279 bce against Greek towns in the south, Rome was the unquestioned master of Italy. The ensuing battles, known as the Punic Wars, spanned the years 264 bce. Two great military geniuses were among the leaders in these wars. Hannibal led the Carthaginian forces from about 218 to 201 bce, when he was defeated by the Roman commander Scipio Africanus the Elder. The Romans occupied Carthage and eventually destroyed it completely in 146 bce. The western Mediterranean during the Punic Wars. To the east, the Romans defeated Syria, Macedonia, Greece, and Egypt, all of which had until then been part of the decaying Hellenistic empire. The Romans also destroyed the Achaean League and burned Corinth in 146 bce. Won through massive effort and with inevitable losses, the newly acquired lands and diverse peoples populating them proved a challenge to govern effectively. The Romans organized the conquered peoples into provinces under the control of appointed governors with absolute power over all non-Roman citizens and stationed troops in each, ready to exercise appropriate force if necessary. In Rome proper, the majority of citizens suffered the consequences of living in a nation that had its eyes invariably trained on the far horizon. Roman farmers were unable to raise crops to compete economically with produce from the provinces, and many migrated to the city. For a time the common people were placated with bread and circuses, as the authorities attempted to divert their attention from the gap between their standard of living and that of the aristocracy. Slavery fueled the Roman economy, and its rewards for the wealthy turned out to be disastrous for the working classes. Tensions grew and civil wars erupted. The ensuing period of unrest and revolution marked the transition of Rome from a republic to an empire. Notable figures in the civil wars included Gaius Marius, a military leader who was elected consul seven times, and Sulla, an army officer. The later stages of the civil wars encompassed the careers of Pompey, the orator Cicero, and Julius Caesar, who eventually took full power over Rome as its dictator. Cicero Denounces Catiline, painting by Cesare Maccari, depicting the Roman consul Cicero charging the aristocrat Catiline with plotting to overthrow the government.

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## Chapter 7 : History of the Papacy in Rome - History of Rome after the fall of the Roman Empire

*Title: History of Rome and the Roman People: From Its Origin to the Establishment of the Christian Empire, Volume 4, Issue 1 Volume 4, Part 1 of History of Rome and the Roman People, Victor Duruy.*

The Roman Empire was one of the greatest civilizations in history. It began in Rome in BC. Rome controlled over two million square miles stretching from the Rhine River to Egypt and from Britain to Asia Minor. This timeline highlights the major events in the history of Ancient Rome. Romulus was the first of the seven Roman kings. The original name of Rome was Roma. There is a constitution with laws and Rome becomes a complex republican government. This becomes part of the Second Punic War. He becomes the supreme ruler of Rome. This is the end of the Roman Republic. He hires Sosigenes, an Egyptian astronomer, to work out a new 12 month calendar. They hope to bring back the republic, but civil war breaks out instead. The completion of the Colosseum was celebrated with days of games. The Romans invade Scotland. It was a long wall built across northern England in an effort to keep the barbarians out. Before this, Rome persecuted the Christians. His son Constantine is the new vice-emperor of Galerius. Each side had a ruler in charge of it. The Roman Empire was split by Theodosius. It was a huge uproar. This is the start of the Dark Ages in Europe. The Ottoman Turks capture Constantinople in A. It is renamed Istanbul in

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## Chapter 8 : Roman Empire Timeline

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Building of the Colosseum. Building of the Baths of Caracalla and the Aurelian Walls. Building of the first Christian basilicas. Battle of Milvian Bridge. Rome is replaced by Constantinople as the capital of the Empire. The Goths cut off the aqueducts in the siege of , an act which historians traditionally regard as the beginning of the Middle Ages in Italy [38] Emperor Phocas donates the Pantheon to Pope Boniface IV , converting it into a Christian church. Column of Phocas the last addition made to the Forum Romanum is erected. He strips buildings of their ornaments and bronze to be carried back to Constantinople. Establishment of the Papal States. Early Empire[ edit ] By the end of the Republic, the city of Rome had achieved a grandeur befitting the capital of an empire dominating the whole of the Mediterranean. It was, at the time, the largest city in the world. Estimates of its peak population range from , to over 3. He is said to have remarked that he found Rome a city of brick and left it a city of marble *Urbem latericium invenit, marmoream reliquit*. In AD 64, during the reign of Nero , the Great Fire of Rome left much of the city destroyed, but in many ways it was used as an excuse for new development. Commerce and industry played a smaller role compared to that of other cities like Alexandria. This meant that Rome had to depend upon goods and production from other parts of the Empire to sustain such a large population. This was mostly paid by taxes that were levied by the Roman government. If it had not been subsidised, Rome would have been significantly smaller. Two side gates were destroyed in At the end of that century, during the reign of Marcus Aurelius , the Antonine Plague killed 2, people a day. His son Commodus , who had been co-emperor since AD , assumed full imperial power, which is most generally associated with the gradual decline of the Western Roman Empire. Crisis of the Third Century[ edit ] Starting in the early 3rd century, matters changed. The " Crisis of the third century " defines the disasters and political troubles for the Empire, which nearly collapsed. Rome formally remained capital of the empire , but emperors spent less and less time there. Later, western emperors ruled from Milan or Ravenna , or cities in Gaul. In , Constantine I established a second capital at Constantinople. At this time, part of the Roman aristocratic class moved to this new centre, followed by many of the artists and craftsmen who were living in the city. For the first two centuries of the Christian era , Imperial authorities largely viewed Christianity simply as a Jewish sect rather than a distinct religion. No emperor issued general laws against the faith or its Church, and persecutions, such as they were, were carried out under the authority of local government officials. Diocletian undertook what was to be the most severe and last major persecution of Christians , lasting from to Christianity had become too widespread to suppress, and in , the Edict of Milan made tolerance the official policy. Under Theodosius , visits to the pagan temples were forbidden, [48] the eternal fire in the Temple of Vesta in the Roman Forum extinguished, the Vestal Virgins disbanded, auspices and witchcrafting punished. Theodosius refused to restore the Altar of Victory in the Senate House, as asked by remaining pagan Senators. In spite of its increasingly marginal role in the Empire, Rome retained its historic prestige, and this period saw the last wave of construction activity: Constantine was also the first patron of official Christian buildings in the city. He donated the Lateran Palace to the Pope, and built the first great basilica, the old St. Germanic invasions and collapse of the Western Empire[ edit ] The ancient basilica of St. The sacking of is seen as a major landmark in the decline and fall of the Western Roman Empire. Jerome , living in Bethlehem at the time, wrote that "The City which had taken the whole world was itself taken. In any case, the damage caused by the sackings may have been overestimated. The population already started to decline from the late 4th century onward, although around the middle of the fifth century it seems that Rome continued to be the most populous city of the two parts of the Empire, with a population of not less than , inhabitants. Many inhabitants now fled as the city no longer could be supplied with grain from Africa from the mid-5th century onward. Many monuments were being destroyed by the citizens themselves, who

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stripped stones from closed temples and other precious buildings, and even burned statues to make lime for their personal use. In addition, most of the increasing number of churches were built in this way. From the 4th century, imperial edicts against stripping of stones and especially marble were common, but the need for their repetition shows that they were ineffective. Sometimes new churches were created by simply taking advantage of early Pagan temples, while sometimes changing the Pagan god or hero to a corresponding Christian saint or martyr. In this way, the Temple of Romulus and Remus became the basilica of the twin saints Cosmas and Damian. In 476, the last Western Roman emperor, Julius Nepos, was murdered and a Roman general of barbarian origin, Odoacer, declared allegiance to Eastern Roman emperor Zeno. Meanwhile, the Senate, even though long since stripped of wider powers, continued to administer Rome itself, with the Pope usually coming from a senatorial family. This situation continued until Theodahad murdered Amalasantha, a pro-imperial Gothic queen, and usurped the power in 476. The Eastern Roman emperor, Justinian I reigned 527–565, used this as a pretext to send forces to Italy under his famed general Belisarius, recapturing the city next year. The Byzantines successfully defended the city in a year-long siege, and eventually took Ravenna. Belisarius was replaced by Narses, who captured Rome from the Ostrogoths for good in 552, ending the so-called Gothic Wars which had devastated much of Italy. The aqueducts were never repaired, leading to a shrinking population of less than 50,000, concentrated near the Tiber and around the Campus Martius, abandoning those districts without water supply. There is a legend, significant though untrue, that there was a moment where no one remained living in Rome. He also styled himself the patron of its remaining scholars, orators, physicians and lawyers in the stated hope that eventually more youths would seek a better education. After the wars, the Senate was theoretically restored, but under the supervision of the urban prefect and other officials appointed by, and responsible to, the Byzantine authorities in Ravenna. However, the Pope was now one of the leading religious figures in the entire Byzantine Empire and effectively more powerful locally than either the remaining senators or local Byzantine officials. In practice, local power in Rome devolved to the Pope and, over the next few decades, both much of the remaining possessions of the senatorial aristocracy and the local Byzantine administration in Rome were absorbed by the Church. In capturing the regions of Benevento, Lombardy, Piedmont, Spoleto and Tuscany, the invaders effectively restricted Imperial authority to small islands of land surrounding a number of coastal cities, including Ravenna, Naples, Rome and the area of the future Venice. The one inland city continuing under Byzantine control was Perugia, which provided a repeatedly threatened overland link between Rome and Ravenna. In 567 and again in 568, the Senate, in some of its last recorded acts, had to ask for the support of Tiberius II Constantine reigned 578–582 against the approaching Dukes, Faroald I of Spoleto and Zotto of Benevento. Maurice reigned 582–602 added a new factor in the continuing conflict by creating an alliance with Childebert II of Austrasia reigned 575–596. The armies of the Frankish King invaded the Lombard territories in 590, and Rome had suffered badly from a disastrous flood of the Tiber in 589, followed by a plague in 591. The city was safe from capture at least. Agilulf, however, the new Lombard King reigned to c. 601. With the Emperor preoccupied with wars in the eastern borders and the various succeeding Exarchs unable to secure Rome from invasion, Gregory took personal initiative in starting negotiations for a peace treaty. This was completed in the autumn of 598, later recognised by Maurice, lasting until the end of his reign. The position of the Bishop of Rome was further strengthened under the usurper Phocas reigned 602–610. Phocas recognised his primacy over that of the Patriarch of Constantinople and even decreed Pope Boniface III to be "the head of all the Churches". He also gave the Pope the Pantheon, at the time closed for centuries, and thus probably saved it from destruction. During the 7th century, an influx of both Byzantine officials and churchmen from elsewhere in the empire made both the local lay aristocracy and Church leadership largely Greek speaking. However, the strong Byzantine cultural influence did not always lead to political harmony between Rome and Constantinople. In 603, Pope Martin I was deported to Constantinople and, after a show trial, exiled to the Crimea, where he died.

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*Historians are in agreement that this is the point at which the history of Rome ends and the history of the Roman Empire begins. Editorial Review This Article has been reviewed for accuracy, reliability and adherence to academic standards prior to publication.*

Augustan reforms[ edit ] Augustus created a standing army, made up of 28 legions, each one consisting of roughly 6,000 men. Additional to these forces there was a similar number of auxiliary troops. Marius reformed the length of time a soldier served, increasing it from six to twenty years 20 years full service, possible 5 years evocati. The aquilifer was the man who carried the standard, he was almost as high in rank as a centurion. A legion on the march relied completely on its own resources for weeks. In addition to his weapons and armour, each man carried a marching pack that included a cooking pot, some rations, clothes and any personal possessions. Furthermore, to make camp each night every man carried tools for digging as well as two stakes for a palisade. Military uses and abuses under the principate[ edit ] The core of legionaries was composed of Roman citizens who served for about twenty years, more or less. The term varied with the times. Fame was not permitted to military professionals. Augustus tried to eliminate the loyalty of legions to their commanders, requiring an oath of allegiance directly to him. All emperors, good or bad, knew the importance to their stability of retaining the loyalty of the legions. Good emperors generally experienced no command problems. In the case of bad emperors, the legions were apt to mutiny and take power into their own hands. Sometimes they would provide candidates for emperor. At other times their support was for sale. Legionaries continued to move farther and farther to the outskirts of society, especially in the later phases of the empire. Ethnic composition[ edit ] There was a general realization by the principate that the empire was too extensive to be governed effectively from Rome. Efforts were made to limit expansion. Existing territory was walled in. Border states were kept in line by a combination of the stick and the carrot. Or, a cooperative state might win the equivalent to a modern most favored trading partner. A favored device for keeping neighboring states under control was to use their forces in the army against non-cooperative states. Eventually the empire was nearly entirely guarded by provincial troops. They did not feel loyalty to the emperor, but backed their own commanders. This system led in the 2nd and 3rd Centuries to a large number of military usurpers and civil wars. By the time of the military officer emperors that characterized the period following the Crisis of the Third Century the Roman army was just as likely to be attacking itself as an outside invader. Auxiliaries[ edit ] Both the pre- and post-Marian armies were greatly assisted by auxiliary troops. A typical Roman legion was accompanied by a matching auxiliary legion. In the pre-Marian army auxiliaries were Italians, and often Latins, from cities near Rome. The post-Marian army incorporated these Italian soldiers into its standard legions as all Italians were Roman citizens after the Social War. Auxiliaries were then made up of foreigners from provinces distant to Rome, who gained Roman citizenship after completing their term of service. This system of foreign auxiliaries allowed the post-Marian army to strengthen traditional weak points of the Roman system, such as light missile troops and cavalry, with foreign specialists, especially as the richer classes took less and less part of military affairs and the Roman army lost much of its domestic cavalry. Numbers[ edit ] At the beginning of the Imperial period the number of legions was 60, which Augustus more than halved to 28, numbering at approximately 150,000 men. As more territory was conquered throughout the Imperial period, this fluctuated into the mid-thirties. At the same time, at the beginning of the Imperial period the foreign auxiliaries made up a rather small portion of the military, but continued to rise, so that by the end of the period of the Five Good Emperors they probably equalled the legionaries in number, giving a combined total of between 150,000 and 200,000 men in the Army. Physiology[ edit ] There has been much debate regarding how much weight a legionary was required to carry. This figure presumes the lightest possible weights for each item. The actual weight would have been even higher. However, the reference may have been to a sixteen days ration of hard tack buccellatum , which was usually used to supplement the daily wheat ration frumentum. By using it as an

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iron ration , it might have sustained a soldier for about three days. Specialists[ edit ] The rank and file of the legion was composed of three basic classes of foot soldier. The *miletis* was the common soldier, enlisted in hard labor. The *discens* was the mid-level rank and file member, training in a specialized field, but not yet a specialist. The *immunes* was the highest level of foot soldier. Among them would be medical staff, surveyors, carpenters, veterinaries, hunters, armourers - even soothsayers and priests. An entire bureaucracy was necessary to keep the army running; *immunes* members of the legion were not only the engineers and the technicians, but also the scribes, supervisors, and police in charge of army pay, supplies and customs. Officers[ edit ] As a unit, a legion was made up of ten cohorts, each of which was further divided into six centuries of eighty men, commanded by a centurion. The commander of the legion, the *legatus*, usually held his command for three or four years, often as a preparation for a later term as provincial governor. The *legatus*, also referred to as general in much of modern literature, was surrounded by a staff of six officers. These were the military tribunes, who - if deemed capable by the *legatus* - might indeed command an entire section of a legion in battle. The tribunes, too, were political positions rather than purely military, the *tribunus laticlavus* being destined for the senate. This was the most senior of all the centurions, commanding the first century of the first cohort. In Latin, "*primus pilus*" means "first javelin". The *primus pilus* also oversaw the everyday operation of the forces. The horsemen attached to each legion were used as scouts and dispatch riders. They were ranked with staff and other non-combatants and allocated to specific centuries, rather than belonging to a squadron of their own. The senior professional soldiers in the legion were likely to be the camp prefect, *praefectus castrorum*. He was usually a man of some thirty years service, and was responsible for organization, training, and equipment. Centurions, when it came to marching, had one considerable privilege over their men. Whereas the soldiers moved on foot, they rode on horseback. Another significant power they possessed was that of beating their soldiers. For this they would carry a staff, perhaps two or three feet long. Apart from his distinctive armour, this staff was one of the means by which one could recognise a centurion. Centurions were posted from legion to legion and province to province. It appears they were not only highly sought after men, but the army was willing to transport them over considerable distances to reach a new assignment. Centurions were not normally discharged but died in service. Thus, to a centurion the army was truly his life. Each centurion had an *optio*, so called because originally he was nominated by the centurion. The *optiones* ranked with the standard bearers as *principales* receiving double the pay of an ordinary soldier. The title *optio ad spem ordinis* was given to an *optio* who had been accepted for promotion to the centurionate, but who was waiting for a vacancy. Another officer in the century was the *tesserarius*, who was mainly responsible for small sentry pickets and fatigue parties, and so had to receive and pass on the watchword of the day. Finally there was the *custos armorum* who was in charge of the weapons and equipment. So too the sixth cohort consisted of "the finest of the young men", the eighth contained "selected troops", the tenth cohort "good troops". The weakest cohorts were the 2nd, 4th, 7th and the 9th cohorts. It was in the 7th and 9th cohorts one would expect to find recruits in training. The last major reform of the Imperial Army came under the reign of Diocletian in the late 3rd Century. During the instability that had marked most of that century, the army had fallen in numbers and had lost much of its ability to effectively police and defend the empire. Diocletian quickly recruited a large number of men, increasing the number of legionaries from between ,, to ,, effectively doubling the number, a case of quantity over quality.