

From Republic to Empire

Expansion and the Rise of Dictators



Republic to Empire

- The Punic Wars
 - The First Punic War (264–241 B.C.E.)
 - Roman fear of Carthaginian expansion
 - Carthage cedes Sicily to Rome
 - Rome seizes Corsica and Sardinia
 - The Second Punic War (218–202 B.C.E.)
 - Carthaginian expansion in Spain
 - Rome declares war
 - Role of Hannibal (247–182 B.C.E.)

Republic to Empire

- The Punic Wars
 - The victory of Scipio Africanus
 - Carthage abandons all territory save Carthage
- The Third Punic War (149–146 B.C.E.)
 - “Carthage must be destroyed”
 - Romans massacre Carthaginians

Republic to Empire

- Territorial expansion
 - Increase in Roman territory (Sicily, North Africa, and Spain)
 - Policy of westward expansion
 - Greece and Macedon become Roman provinces (146 B.C.E.)

Consequences of Imperialism

- Transformations
 - New wealth poured into Rome
 - Increasing social and economic inequality
 - Small farmers left the land for the cities; difficult to manage careers as soldiers and farmers

Consequences of Imperialism

- Economic and social changes

- Slavery

- Increase in slave population
 - Two hundred thousand Greek and Carthaginian slaves by end of second century B.C.E.
 - Slaves used as agricultural laborers
 - Dependence on slave labor inhibits industrialization and technological initiative

Consequences of Imperialism

- Economic and social changes
 - Slave labor not just physical—includes technical and professional jobs
 - Almost no reason for paid labor at all
 - Notion of “bread and circuses” to keep people entertained

Consequences of Imperialism

- Economic and social changes
 - Equestrians made contact with Eastern markets
 - Operated mines, built roads, collected taxes, principal moneylenders
 - Enormous appetite for foreign luxury goods
- Change in values
 - Introduction of “free marriage”
 - New rules for divorce

Consequences of Imperialism

- Change in values
 - Wives gained greater legal independence
 - Upper-class Romans adopted Greek customs
 - Emergence of bilingualism: Latin and Greek language
 - Greek was the literary language; Latin the language of trade and commerce

“Restoring the Republic:” The Struggle for Power (146–30 B.C.E.)

- Period of turbulence, disorder, war, assassinations, and insurrections
- Spartacus slave uprising (73–71 B.C.E.)
- Reforms of the Gracchi
 - Tiberius Graachus (168–133 B.C.E.)
 - Redistribution of land to landless
 - Invoked old laws restricting size of estate to be owned by each citizen

“Restoring the Republic:” The Struggle for Power (146–30 B.C.E.)

- Reforms of the Gracchi

- The murder of Tiberius

- Gaius Graachus (159–123 B.C.E.)

- Empowered equestrian class; checked abuses of the senatorial class
- Stabilized price of grain in Rome
- Suggested full citizenship to Italian allies
- The murder of Gaius

“Restoring the Republic:” The Struggle for Power (146–30 B.C.E.)

- The aristocratic reaction
 - Marius (157–86 B.C.E.)
 - Elected consul in 107 B.C.E., reelected six times
 - Abolished property qualification for the army
 - Army became more loyal to him than to the Republic
 - Specter of potential civil war

“Restoring the Republic:” The Struggle for Power (146–30 B.C.E.)

- The aristocratic reaction

- Sulla (138–78 B.C.E.)

- Appointed dictator (82 B.C.E.)
- Extended Roman citizenship throughout peninsula
- Led his troops in march on Rome
- Exterminated his opponents
- Extended the power of the Senate
- After three years as dictator retired in luxury

Caesar's Triumph— and His Downfall

- Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus, Gaius Julius Caesar, and Marcus Junius Crassus (Pompey) conspire to gain control of the government
- Enter into *triumvirate*; soon dissolved into open rivalry

Caesar's Triumph— and His Downfall

- Pompey (106–48 B.C.E.) orchestrates his election as consul
 - Declared Caesar (while away in Gaul) an enemy of the republic
 - Has ambition to become king

Caesar's Triumph— and His Downfall

- Julius Caesar's Return to Rome (c. 100–44 B.C.E.)
 - Crosses the Rubicon River; intends to take Rome by force
 - Destroys the forces of Pompey at Pharselus (48 B.C.E.)

Caesar's Triumph— and His Downfall

- Julius Caesar's Return to Rome (c. 100–44 B.C.E.)
 - Dictator for ten years, then declares himself dictator for life (46 B.C.E.)
 - Had full authority to make war and peace
 - Controlled the revenue of the state
 - Expanded citizenship to Hispania and Gaul
 - Relieved economic inequalities; expanded colonization
 -

Caesar's Triumph— and His Downfall

- Julius Caesar's Return to Rome (c. 100–44 B.C.E.)
 - Develops Julian calendar
 - Contemporaries feared he intended to make himself king
 - Assassinated on the Ides (15th) of March (44 B.C.E.) on the Senate floor