

Ancient Rome

(The Empire Across Three Continents)

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Principal

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Some Interesting Facts

- ◆ Purple clothing was a status symbol and reserved only for emperors or senators. To achieve the colour, a dye was made from murex seashells. It was treason for anyone other than the emperor to dress completely in purple.

Some Interesting Facts

- ◆ Left-handed people were considered unlucky.
- ◆ Emperor Caligula often appeared in public dressed in women's clothing.
- ◆ People would socialize at communal toilets. Rome had over 140 public toilets.



Some Interesting Facts

- ◆ Gladiator blood was recommended by Roman physicians to aid various ailments, including epilepsy and infertility.
- ◆ Urine (because of the ammonia it contains) was used to clean clothes. The urine was collected by fullones (the Ancient Roman version of dry cleaners) from around the city.

Some Interesting Facts

- ◆ Romans thought the early Christians were practicing cannibalism when they heard about them eating bread and wine as symbolic representations of the body and blood of Christ.
- ◆ Wealthy Romans would have extravagant and decadent banquets that lasted for hours; in order to continue eating, they would induce vomiting.

Early Roman Civilization

- ◆ Three historical periods:
 - The Roman Monarchy (753 BCE to 509 BCE)
 - The Roman Republic (509 BCE to 27 BCE)
 - The Roman Empire (27 BCE to 248 AD)
 - Capital-Rome
 - Third Century Crisis(233-280 AD)
 - Western Roman Empire-(330-476 AD)
 - Capital-Mediolanum / Ravenna
 - Eastern Roman Empire-(330-1453 AD)
 - Capital-Constantinople

In the Beginning...

- ◆ Ancient Rome begin as a group of villages along the Tiber River in what is now Italy.
- ◆ Around 750 B.C. these villages united to form the city of Rome.



Founding of the Roman Republic

- ◆ Legend says Romulus and Remus, twin sons of Mars, god of War, founded the city where they were rescued from the Tiber River and cared for by the she-wolf. (753 B.C.E.)



From Kingdom to Republic

509 B.C.E.

- ◆ 509 B.C.E., the powerful citizens of Rome, all veterans of military service, drove out the Etruscan kings-Tarqueen.
- ◆ They declared Rome a republic, a government in which power resides in a body of citizens and consists of representatives elected by them.
- ◆ Only men with wealth and property could command and rise in the ranks.
- ◆ At the heart of the city, they built the Roman forum, a political and civic center with temples and public buildings where leading citizens tended to government business.



The Roman Republic

- ◆ Consuls (at the highest level) held power that extended over the lands Rome ruled.
- ◆ At the end of their one-year term, they entered the Senate of Rome, the highest legislative and consultative body of the government.
- ◆ Because the consuls and Senate both represented the interests of the patricians (aristocratic, wealthy classes), there was always tension between the wealthy classes and the plebeians, or common people.



Formation of Roman Republic

- ◆ A republic is a form of government where people elect representatives.
- ◆ For more than 200 years, kings ruled Rome.
- ◆ In 509 B.C. Rome became a **republic**.
- ◆ The Roman Senate was an assembly of elected representatives. It was the single most powerful ruling body of the Roman Republic.

Patricians & Plebeians

- ◆ In the beginning most of the people elected to the Senate were **patricians**.
- ◆ Patricians controlled the law since they were the only citizens allowed to be judges.
- ◆ **Plebeians** had the right to vote, but could not hold public office until 287 B.C, when they gained equality with patricians.



Roman Expansion

- ◆ Under the leadership of ambitious generals, Rome's highly trained soldiers took over most of the land surrounding the Mediterranean.
- ◆ The ancient Romans called the Mediterranean '*mare nostrum*', meaning "our sea".

The End of the Roman Republic


- ◆ A successful Roman general and famous speaker, Julius Caesar, was a governor of the territory of Gaul and managed to take control of many nearby territories.
- ◆ Fearing him the Roman Senate ordered him to resign...but he had other ideas.
- ◆ Caesar fought for control and won, becoming the dictator of the Roman world, ending the Roman Republic.



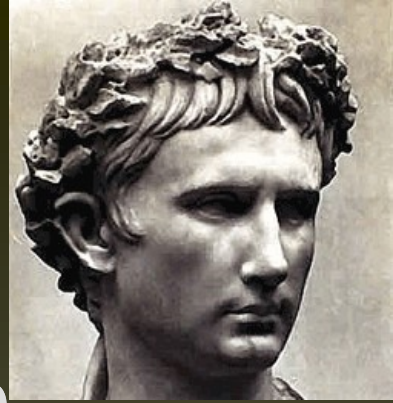
From Republic to Empire



The Roman Empire

- ◆ Less than a year after gaining power a group of angered Senators stabbed Caesar to death on the floor of the Roman Senate. (March 15, 44 B.C.)
 - ◆ This caused a civil war that lasted several years.
 - ◆ In 27 B.C., Caesar's adopted son, Octavian was named the first emperor of Rome.
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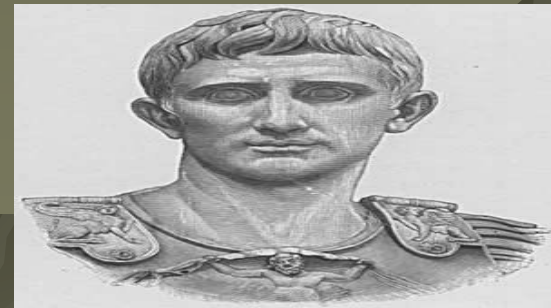
The Roman Empire




- ◆ An **empire** is a nation or group of territories ruled by a single powerful leader, or emperor.
- ◆ As emperor Octavian took the name Augustus.
- ◆ Augustus ruled the Roman Empire for more than 40 years, known as the Augustan Age.

The Augustan Age


- ◆ During the rule of Augustus the Roman empire continued to expand.
- ◆ Augustus kept soldiers along all the borders to keep peace in the Roman world.
- ◆ During this time architects and engineers built many new public buildings.




The Augustan Age

- ◆ During this time trade increased with olive oil, wine, pottery, marble, and grains being shipped all across the Mediterranean.
 - ◆ Lighthouses were constructed to guide ships into port.
 - ◆ This was also a time of great Roman literature.
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The Rise of Christianity

- ◆ After the death of Augustus in 14 A.D. a new religion begin to spread: Christianity.
 - ◆ At first it took hold in the eastern half of the Roman Empire.
 - ◆ By 200 A.D. this religion had spread throughout the empire.
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The Rise of Christianity

- ◆ Christians were viewed with suspicion and suffered persecution and many were punished or killed for their beliefs.
 - ◆ Things changed when Constantine became emperor of Rome in 306 A.D. During his reign Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire.
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The Empire Flourishes

- ◆ When Roman soldiers, diplomats, governors, and merchants arrived in sparsely populated sites like Gaul, Germany, Britain, and Spain, they stimulated the development of states.
 - ◆ They accessed resources like tin and encouraged inhabitants to cultivate wheat, olives, and grapes.
 - ◆ Local ruling elites joined with Roman representatives and used wealth to control natural resources and build states larger than ever.
 - ◆ Cities emerged where administrators and merchants conducted their business.
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Pax Romana

- ◆ Rome lived in peace for 200 years.
- ◆ It was called the Pax Romana, the Peace of Rome. Unfortunately for Rome, the peace would not last.


The Roman Empire



Intellectual Development

- ◆ Around 450 BCE, Roman jurists (judges, attorneys) adopted the *Twelve Tables* as a basic law code for citizens of the early republic.
- ◆ During the late republic, jurists worked to create a body of law that would work for the diverse people of the Empire.
- ◆ They established the principle of “innocent until proven guilty” and defendants could challenge accusers before a judge in a court of law.
- ◆ Romans adopted many of the cultural aspects of Greek life, i.e. philosophy, mathematics, theatre, etc.

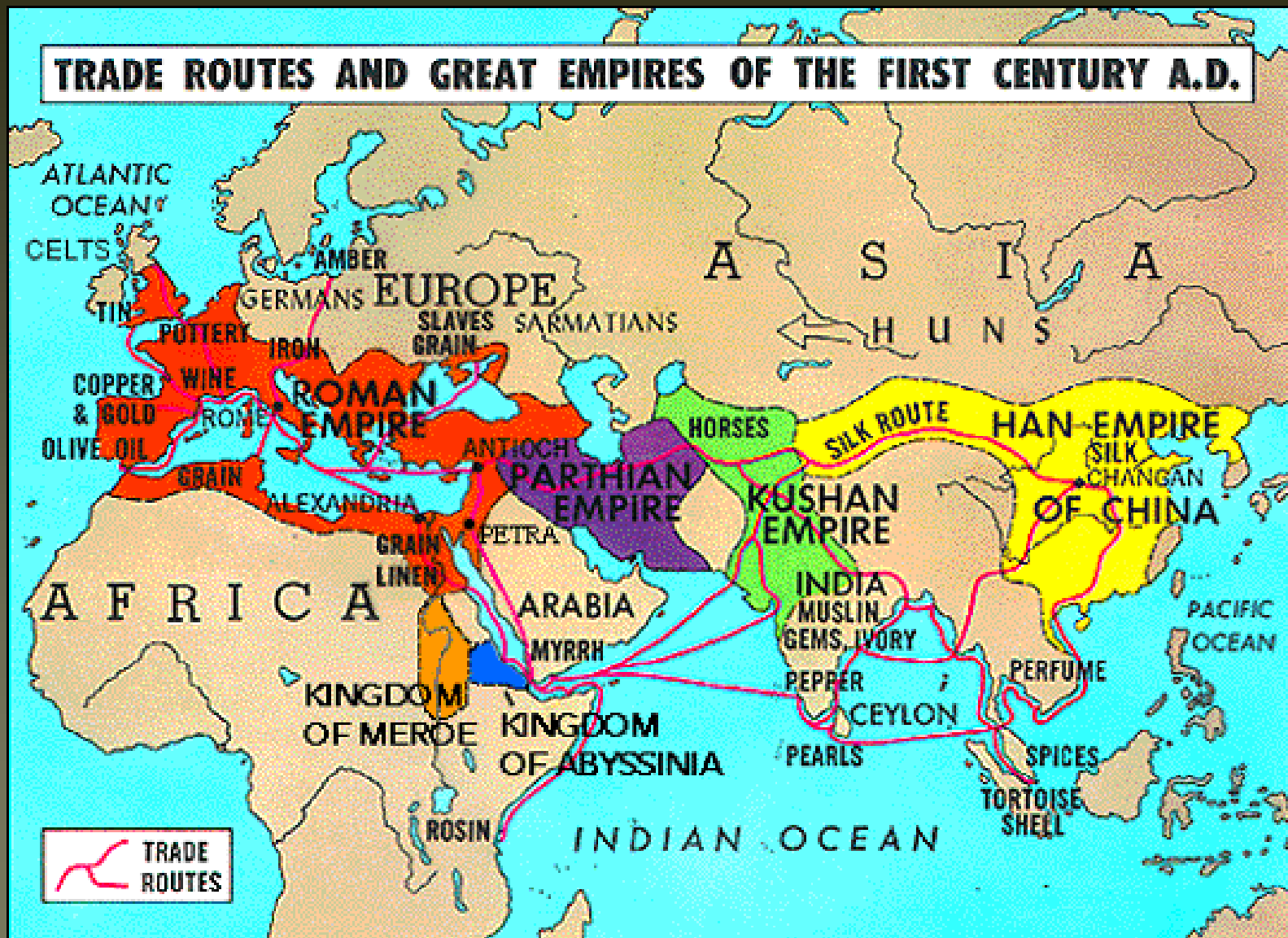
Technological Development

- ◆ Roman engineers prepared deep beds for roads, edged them with curbs, provided drainage and used large, flat paving stones. They developed wide roads for two lanes.
 - ◆ Temples, bath houses, public buildings, stadiums, and aqueducts.
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Economic Development

- ◆ In the early days of the Roman kingdom and republic, agriculture was the foundation of Rome.
- ◆ Later, it concentrated on production for export.
- ◆ Because it was possible to import grains at good prices from lands that produced surpluses, other regions could concentrate on cultivation of fruits and vegetables or production of manufactured items, i.e. olives from Greece, wine and olive oil from Spain, etc.
- ◆ The Roman military kept the seas free from pirates.

Trade Routes



Sources of Roman History

- ◆ Texts :-Histories written by contemporaries called 'Annals'.
letters, speeches, sermons, laws, and so on.
- ◆ Documents :-Inscriptions, papyri,
- ◆ Material remains :-pottery, coins, buildings, monuments, jewelary, etc.




Geography

- ◆ Roman empire was extended over most of Europe, North Africa & The Middle East.
- ◆ Most of Roman population lived within reach of Mediterranean
 - Romans worked to keep sea clear of pirates for they realized the Mediterranean was dependent on it's unity.
 - Romans called it *Mare nostrum* or "Our Sea"
- ◆ Outlying reaches of the Empire were connected by rivers and streams that flowed into it.
 - Romans actively were dredging ship channels and building in river ports
 - Channels and water systems used for thousands of years even after fall of the Roman Empire

Geography

- ◆ Complex water routes were knit together by system of roads and bridges that are even used today.
 - These were built not by technology alone, but by extensive organization.
- ◆ Romans were aware that the expensive army would not be in combat more than 10% of the time, so the government came up with ways to use their force effectively.
 - The roads were used by the military and was even able to reduce the armies size without reducing it's effectiveness.
- ◆ The great network of land routes that helped to unify the empire was a byproduct of this “policy of cost containment”

Geography

- ◆ Roman dominated the Mediterranean & all the regions around the sea in both directions north & the south.
 - ◆ To the north the boundaries of the empire were formed by two great rivers, the rhine & the danube; to the south by the huge expanse of desert Sahara
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Difference between Roman & Parthian/Sasanian Empire

Roman Empire

- ◆ Culturally diverse empire.
- ◆ Governed by various territories & cultural people but adopted a common system of administration.
- ◆ Many languages were spoken, but latin & greek were official languages.

Parthian Empire

- ◆ Culturally similar empire.
- ◆ Governed by similar cultural people under monarchy.
- ◆ Parsian was the only language of administration.

Difference between Roman & Parthian/Sasanian Empire

Roman Empire

- ◆ Regime was called 'Principate' & emporor-Princeps(leading citizen)
- ◆ Empire had paid professional army.
- ◆ Empire was controlled by urban centres called 'City-States'.

Parthian Empire

- ◆ Parthian rulers had no democratic tradition of administration & were autocratic.
- ◆ Occasional untrained unpaid army.
- ◆ Empire was controlled by provincial units.

Difference between Roman & Parthian/Sasanian Empire

Roman Empire

- ◆ A roman city comprised a city magistrate, city council & allied rural territory.
- ◆ Public bath was popular.
- ◆ Urban population enjoyed a much higher level of entertainment throughout the year (176 days)


Parthian Empire

- ◆ Provinces were ruled by governors.
- ◆ Public bath was not considered good.
- ◆ There was not such arrangement in empire.

The Third-Century Crisis

- ◆ Internal Strain :-wars for succession.
 - incompetent successors
 - economic problems
- ◆ External threat :-Sasanian expansion
 - attack by Germanic tribes

Gender ,Literacy, Culture

- ◆ Prevalence of nuclear family.
 - ◆ Adult sons didn't live with their families.
 - ◆ Slaves were part of the family & base of the economy.
 - ◆ Women enjoyed considerable legal rights in owning & managing property. They retained full rights in the property of her natal family.
 - ◆ Marriages were generally arranged.
 - ◆ There was an age-gap between husband & wife hence women were often dominated by their husbands.
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Conttd....

- ◆ Divorce was relatively easy & needed a notice only of intent to dissolve the marriage by either husband or wife.
- ◆ Rome might have had representative government, but not all people were represented.
- ◆ Roman women were not allowed to vote.
- ◆ Fathers had substantial legal control over their children.
- ◆ There was casual literacy varied greatly between different parts of the empire.
- ◆ Literacy was certainly more widespread among certain categories such as soldiers, army officers and estate managers.

Conttd....

- ◆ Cultural diversity could be seen in socio-cultural spheres- vast diversity in religious cults & local deities; plurality of languages spoken in the regions; styles of dress & costume; the food people ate; their forms of social organisation; even in their patterns of livings and settlements.

Economic Expansion

- ◆ Geographical condition of Italy, vast empire, powerful rulers & compact administration, role of slaves etc. mainly helped in economic expansion of roman empire.
- ◆ Empire had substantial economic infrastructure of harbours, mines, quarries, brickyards, olive-oil factories etc.
- ◆ Wheat, wine & olive-oil were the main traded commodities. Climatic conditions were best for these crops.

Conttd....

- ◆ Liquids like wine & olive-oil were transported in containers called 'amphorae', 'aretine' & 'dressel-20'.
- ◆ Big landowners from different regions competed with each other for control of the main markets for the goods they produced, hence centres of production sifted time to time.
- ◆ The empire was unequally developed.
- ◆ Diversified applications of water power around the Mediterranean as well as advances in water-powered milling technology & the use of hydraulic mining techniques were at the top.

Conttd....

- ◆ Widespread use of money.
- ◆ Existence of well-organised commercial and banking networks helped the roman economy.



Controlling Workers

- ◆ Slavery was a deeply rooted institution in Roman economy, which needed regulations in this regard.
- ◆ Economy was performed by slaves which were around 40 % of the total population.
- ◆ Roman upper classes were often brutal towards their slaves whereas ordinary people showed much more compassion.
- ◆ Slaves were an investment & their prices were based on their amount of supply & warfare.

Conttd....

- ◆ As warfare became less widespread the users of slaves tended to slave-breeding or cheaper substitute as wage-labour.
- ◆ Sometimes slaves were set free by their masters & used as business managers.
- ◆ **Collumella** recommended that landowners should keep a reserve stock of implements & tools twice as many as they required.
- ◆ Supervision was paramount for both free workers and slaves.
- ◆ To make supervision easier, workers were sometimes grouped into gangs or smaller teams of ten.



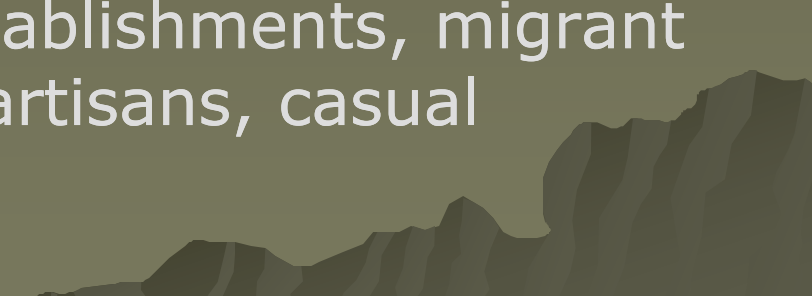
Conttd....

- ◆ **Pliny** condemned the use of slave gangs, because slaves were chained together by their feet.
- ◆ A seal was put upon the worker's aprons,
- ◆ They have to wear a mask or a net with a close mesh on their heads.
- ◆ And before they are allowed to leave the premises, they have to take off all their clothes.

Conttd....

- ◆ Workers were branded so that they could be recognised if and when they run away & try to hide.
- ◆ Many private employers cast their agreements with workers in the form of debt-contracts to be able to claim that their employees were in debt of them & thus ensure tighter control over them.
- ◆ Parents sometimes sold their children into servitude for periods of 25 years.
- ◆ Rural indebtedness was even more widespread. A lot of the poorer families went into debt-bondage in order to survive.

Social Hierarchies

- ◆ Senators
 - ◆ Leading members of the equestrian class (the equites).
 - ◆ The respectable section of the people attached to the great houses.
 - ◆ Middle class-bureaucracy & army, prosperous merchants & farmers
 - ◆ The unkempt lower class (plebs sordida) (humiliores)-rural labour force & workers in industrial and mining establishments, migrant workers, self-employed artisans, casual labourers.
 - ◆ The slaves
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Landless Roman Peasants

- Served in the armies that had won an empire
- Wanted farmland and a minimum standard of living

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Italian Allies

- Served in the armies that had won an empire
- Wanted citizenship and equal Treatment

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Senate

- Intense rivalries
- Jealously protected privileges and power
- Did not address needs for reform

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5 Roman Plebs

- Laborers and poor of the capital
- Access to grain and bread at affordable prices

Equites


- Wealthy and distinguished non-senators
- Wanted honors and recognition and did not want senators to look down on them

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Late Antiquity

- ◆ LA is used to describe fascinating period of evolution and break-up of roman empire, cultural & economic development during 4th -7th century.
- ◆ The ruling class was more wealthier & powerful than ever before.
- ◆ Most romans were polytheist. They build thousands greek & roman temples.
- ◆ Eastern roman provinces were prosperous than western and lasted till 15th century.
- ◆ Achievements of Diocletian (284-305 AD).
- ◆ Achievements of Constantine (306-337 AD).

Achievements of Diocletian (284-305 AD).

- ◆ Cut short the Roman territory & consolidated it.
 - ◆ Fortified the frontiers & reorganised provincial boundaries.
 - ◆ Separated civil affairs from military functions.
 - ◆ Granted greater autonomy to the military commanders.
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Achievements of Constantine (306-337 AD).

- ◆ Roman empire regained its honour & prestige.
 - ◆ He consolidated roman territories.
 - ◆ Changed his capital- Constantinople.
 - ◆ Made the christianity official religion.
 - ◆ Started a brand new gold coin of 4.5 grain called 'solidus'.
 - ◆ His rule was very strict & government regulated nearly every activity of the merchants and traders.
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Western Rome grew weak

- ◆ Rome grew weak because it had grown too large.
- ◆ Another reason Rome grew weak is that they had tax problems and couldn't raise enough money to keep the roads from crumbling.
- ◆ Slavery was also a problem in the empire. With so many slaves, the people did not need to work.
- ◆ Internal problems that helped Rome's downfall were corrupt generals, civil wars, and economic problems.

The Fall of the Roman Empire

- ◆ Rome had quite a run...First a monarchy, then a republic, then an empire – all roads led to Rome for over 1200 years.
- ◆ In the Mediterranean, Rome was in charge.
- ◆ Rome had some wonderful emperors. Rome also suffered from a series of bad, corrupt and just plain crazy emperors.



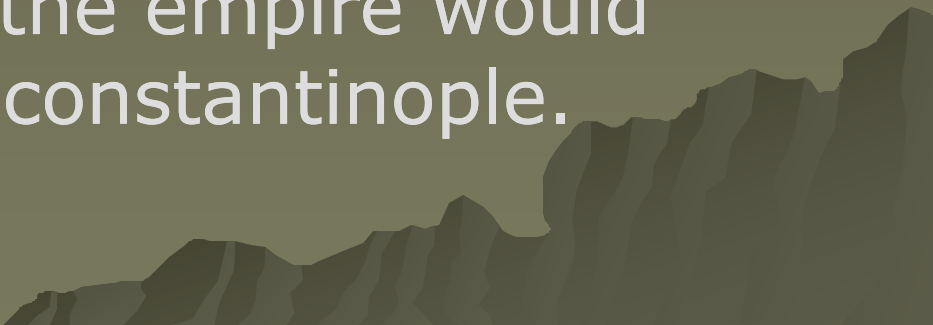
The Fall of the Roman Empire

- ◆ The ancient Romans tried to solve some of their problems by splitting the Roman Empire in half, hoping that would make the empire easier to manage.
- ◆ Each side had an emperor, but the emperor in charge was the emperor of the western half, the half that included the city of Rome.
- ◆ The Western Roman Empire did not do well. Instead of getting stronger, they became weaker. By 400 AD, it was pretty much over. The **Huns, Franks, Vandals, Saxons, Visigoths** – any of these barbarian tribes might have been the group that finally brought Rome down.
- ◆ They were all attacking various pieces of the Western Roman Empire. In 476 AD, the **Visigoths** sacked Rome. Europe entered the Dark Ages. The eastern half of the Roman Empire received a new name – the Byzantine Empire. The Byzantine Empire did fine. It lasted for another 1000 years!

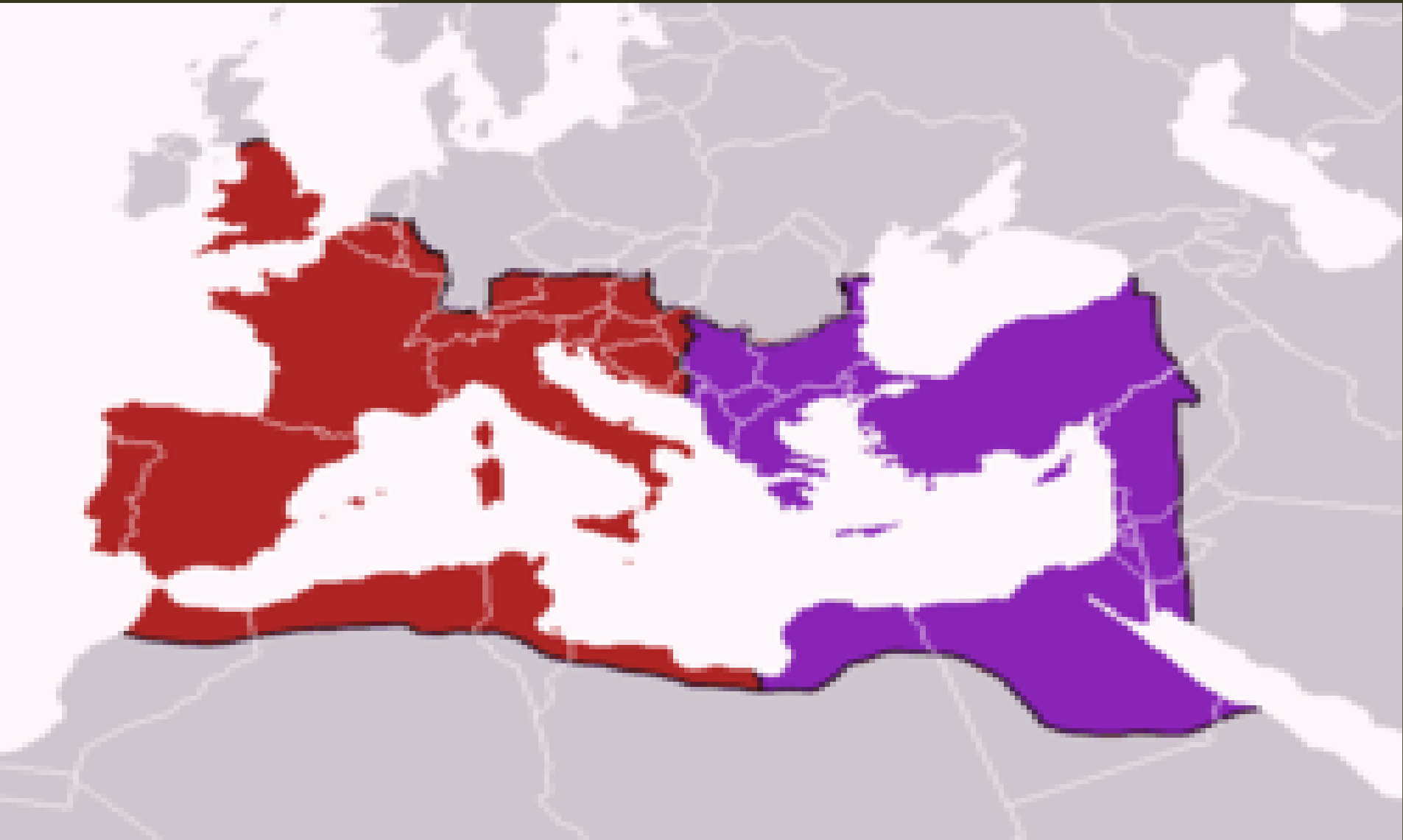
The Fall of the Roman Empire

- ◆ The army was not what it used to be. There was corruption in the military - dishonest generals and non-Roman soldiers.
- ◆ Civil wars broke out between different political groups.
- ◆ Emperors were often selected by violence, or by birth, so the head of government was not always a capable leader.
- ◆ The increased use of slaves put many Romans out of work
- ◆ The rich became lazy and showed little interest in trying to solve Rome problems.
- ◆ The poor were overtaxed and overworked. They were very unhappy.
- ◆ Prices increased, trade decreased.
- ◆ The population was shrinking due to starvation and disease. That made it difficult to manage farms and government effectively.
- ◆ The Empire starting shrinking. The Huns, Visigoths, Franks, Vandals, Saxons and other barbarian tribes overran the empire.

Barbarians at the gates

- ◆ Romans called the people who destroyed Rome Barbarians.
 - ◆ Romans called anyone who didn't speak Greek, even though the word barbarian actually means uncivilized, lacking in culture and violent.
 - ◆ The Roman Empire fell in 476 AD.
 - ◆ The eastern part of the empire would survive with capital constantinople.
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Eastern & Western Roman Empire



Byzantium/ Eastern Roman Empire

- ◆ The eastern part of the Roman Empire became known as the Byzantine Empire or Byzantium.



Constantinople

- ◆ Constantinople was named for emperor Constantine.
- ◆ Constantine was important because he legalized Christianity in the empire.
- ◆ Under Constantine's rule, Christianity spread greatly.
- ◆ He moved the capital of the empire from Rome to Constantinople.



Constantinople grows

- ◆ Constantinople became a leading center of trade & learning.
- ◆ Trade helped the Byzantine Empire grow rich.



Justinian

- ◆ Justinian was the greatest of the Byzantine emperors.
- ◆ Justinian made many changes in the laws.
- ◆ His laws were called The Code of Justinian.
- ◆ Justinian also built many churches throughout the empire.



Disagreements between east and west

- ◆ Most of the people in the Byzantine Empire were Christian, but the people in the west and the people in the east disagreed about how to worship God.
- ◆ This led to a split in the Catholic Church. It was called a schism.

Two churches

- ◆ The church in the east was called Eastern Orthodox.
- ◆ The church in the west was called Roman Catholic.


Constantinople is captured

- ◆ The split in the church weakened the Byzantine Empire.
- ◆ In 1453, the Ottoman Turks captured Constantinople and the Byzantine Empire came to an end.

The Byzantine Empire preserves great stuff

- ◆ The Byzantine Empire preserved the art and literature of the Greeks and Romans.
- ◆ Without the Byzantine, the world may have lost great treasures of the past.

The Legacy of Roman Empire

- ◆ Lasted over three continents & affected many cultures.
 - ◆ Where ever they went, they built roman arches, arquduents, amphitheatres etc.
 - ◆ Minerals, plants & animals have been given latin names.
 - ◆ Many countries use latin alphabets.
 - ◆ Roman law is very much alive in the legal system of many countries.
 - ◆ The organisation & rituals of Roman Chatholic Church owe much of the imperial structure & religious traditions.
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Fun Facts About Roman Empire



Fun Facts About Rome

- ◆ One of the things the Romans are most famous for is their architecture.
- ◆ The Romans brought a lot of new ideas to architecture, of which the three most important are the arch, the baked brick, and the use of cement and concrete.
- ◆ ***Roman architecture inspired the design of the U.S. Capitol building!***



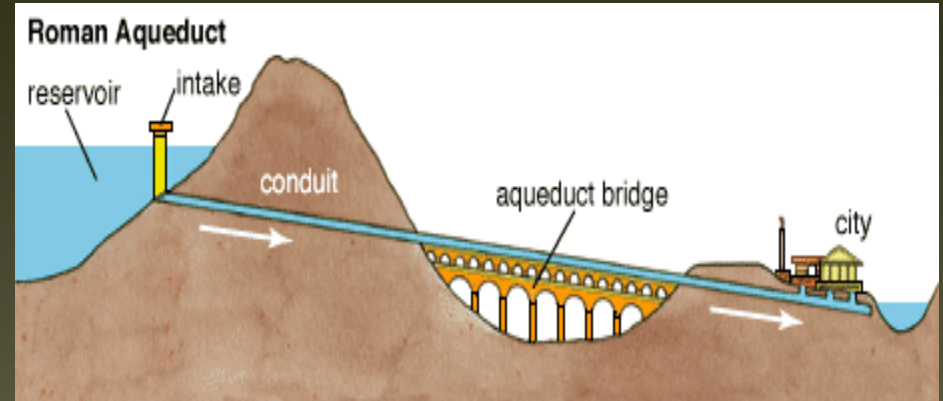
Fun Facts About Rome

- ◆ The Romans built thousands of miles of road to connect the entire empire.
- ◆ These roads were used up until about 100 years ago when technology advanced!



Fun Facts About Rome

- ◆ The Romans were the first to build aqueducts.
- ◆ The running water, indoor plumbing and sewer system carrying away disease from the population within the Empire wasn't surpassed in capability until very modern times.



Fun Facts About Rome

- ◆ In the times of Ancient Rome very few people had baths in their homes. Adults enjoyed going to the public bathhouse. Children were not allowed in. The bathhouse cost very little to get in, so people used them often. The men and the women both used the bathhouse, but at different times during the day. Each group had a scheduled time, although the women's scheduled time was shorter.
- ◆ Bath houses were huge and housed much more than pools.
- ◆ Exercise grounds, gymnastic apparatus, courts for games, libraries, rooms for reading and conversation--all these things could be found in the Roman bath house.
- ◆ The people made a point of going to the bath to meet their friends and associates.

Fun Facts About Rome

- ◆ The Romans didn't use soap. They cleaned themselves by covering their bodies with oil. Then they scraped the oil off with a special scraper called a strigil. Strigils were made from bone or metal. Next the Romans enjoyed several pools. Each of these pools had water heated to different temperatures. Bathers went from one bath to another.
- ◆ Caldarium, tepidarium, frigidarium
- ◆ Ancient Rome had as many as 900 public baths. Small baths held about 300 people. The largest bath held 1500 people. Bathhouses were built all over the Roman Empire. The most impressive ones were found in the city of Rome. They were decorated with marble and statues.

Thank You

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