

# CAESAR AUGUSTUS

## THE PAX ROMANA

### Did Caesar Destroy the Republic?

POPULARES & OPTIMARES struggle ⇒

- Assassination of Tiberius GRACCHUS in 132 BC
- Assassination of Gaius GRACCHUS in 121 BC.
- CIVIL WAR: MARIUS & SULLA from 88–83 BC
- Tyranny of SULLA, 83–80 BC
- CATILINE CONSPIRACY in 62 BC
- FIRST TRIUMVIRATE

# THE AFTERMATH

- **2nd TRIUMVIRATE**
  - M. Antony: consul and general
  - Octavian: wealth and legitimacy of Caesar
  - Lepidus: popular military man
- They:
  - Took control in Rome
  - Persecuted enemies, including CICERO
  - Battle of Philippi in 42 BC

## The End of the Republic

- In 40 BC, the triumvirs split the Roman dominion
  - Antony took the East
  - Octavian took Rome
  - Lepidus took Africa
- Antony began affair with CLEOPATRA
- 32–31 BC, Octavian vs Antony
  - Sea battle of ACTIUM in 31 BC
- Octavian became the sole master of the Roman world



# CAESAR AUGUSTUS



- Restores REPUBLIC in 28 BC
  - Refuses the title “Dictator”
  - AUGUSTUS and “PRINCEPS”
  - CONSUL with M. Agrippa
- Maintains FULL CONTROL
  - Vast wealth
  - Personal relationships
  - Support of the MOB and ARMY
  - The MYTH of the REPUBLIC

23 BC:

- Resigns the consulship
- Accepts powers of a PLEBEIAN TRIBUNE
  - Convene Senate at will
  - Propose measures to the Senate
  - Veto any Senate or Assembly business
  - Oversee elections
- Accepts the powers of a CENSOR
  - Oversees public morals
  - Right to hold CENSUS
- Retains Imperium
- Becomes officially head of all Roman armies

## Other Honors

- 19 BC Consular Powers
- 12 BC Pontifex Maximus
- 2 BC: PATER PATRIAE
- AD 14 DEIFIED

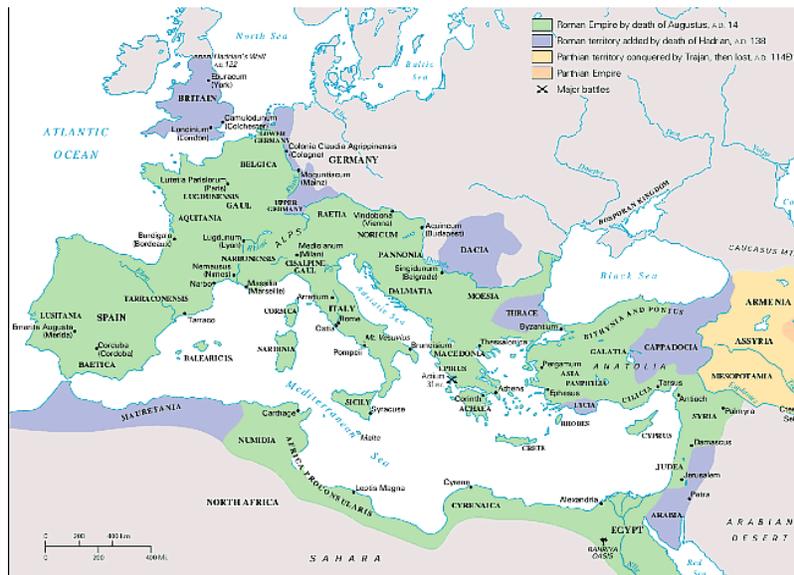


## THE DEEDS OF AUGUSTUS

- Reformed government
  - Appointed the best and brightest
  - Extended citizenship to all Italians
- Reformed TAXES
  - more consistent, less arbitrary
  - salaried CIVIL SERVICE → fairer
- Stabilized ECONOMY
- Reformed the supply of grain to Rome

# MILITARY CONQUEST

- Reformed the army
  - 28 legions, 170,000 soldiers
  - Provincial Auxiliaries
  - Praetorian Guard
- Conquered great swathes of territory
  - Gained vast wealth
  - Gained large amounts of land
- Allowed LAND REFORM



# The PAX ROMANA

- The spread of Roman culture throughout Europe and the Mediterranean
  - Latin language
  - Law codes
  - Administration
  - Economic and trading system
  - Arts, architecture, technology and philosophy



Pont du Gard, France

## A CITY OF MARBLE

- Augustus began BUILDING PROGRAM
- 600 million denarii (ca. \$100 billion)
- Also encouraged others to build and invest in new buildings
- “I found Rome built of bricks and left it in marble”





## A GOLDEN AGE

- Poetry
  - Virgil, *The Aeneid*
  - Horace, *Odes*
  - Ovid, *The Art of Love*, *Metamorphosis*
  - Juvenal – *Satires*
  - Catullus
- Histories
  - Sallust
  - Caesar's *Gallic Wars*
  - Livy



## Other Arts

- Visual arts: mixture of Etruscan / Greek
- Roman music:



## ROMAN RELIGION

- **PANTHEON** of Gods (Polytheism)
  - New gods added, e.g. MITHRAS
  - Greek Pantheon identified with Early Roman gods
- **SPIRITS** (Animism)
  - Spirits known as NUMINA
    - including spirits of **ancestors** (GENII)
- Ritualistic, **ORTHOPRAXIS**



## THE MORALITY OF EMPIRE

The FOUR PRIME VIRTUES:

- VIRTUS: Bravery, strength of character
- PIETAS: Loyalty, sense of duty
- CLEMENTIA: Compassion, calm, temperance
- IUSTITIA: Justice

# ROMAN STOICISM

- "When I see a man in a state of anxiety, I say, What can this man want? If he did not want something which is not in his power, how could he still be anxious?"
- "Freedom is secured not by the fulfilling of one's desires, but by the removal of desire."
- "That which Fortune has not given, she cannot take away."
  
- "Everywhere and at all times it is in your power to accept reverently your present condition, to behave justly to those about you, and to exert your skill to control your thoughts, that nothing shall steal into them without being well examined."
- "Virtue is nothing else than right reason."
- "The point is, not how long you live, but how nobly you live."

# Characteristics of Stoicism

- Duty to
  - to SERVE the STATE whatever the cost
  - to uphold the moral order
  - to endure the unfolding of events
  - Live frugally
  - Work hard
  - Respect the divine order
- Conservative
- Paternalistic

