

Lecture 6: *The Rise of Rome: From Monarchy to Republic, 753-100 BCE*

1. The Italian Peninsula and the Rise of Rome

- A. Crafting Rome's Origins: Legend and Myths
 - Romulus and Remus
 - Aeneas and the founding of Rome
 - Rape of the Sabine Women
- B. The Archeological Record and Rome's Expansion

2. The Roman Republic: Government and Class Tensions

- A. From Monarchy to Republic
 - Rape of Lucretia
 - Brutus and the creation of Republican Rule 509 BCE
- B. Republic at Work: Government Offices
- C. The Patricians and Plebeians

3. Roman Imperialism under the Republic

- A. Roman Expansion within the Peninsula of Italy
- B. The Punic Wars

Conclusion – Rome: A Mediterranean Power

Important Stages of Roman Political History

1. Monarchy (753-509 B.C.E.)

509 B.C.E. -- The Rape of Lucretia and the Defeat of King Tarquin the Proud.

2. The Republic (509-44 B.C.E.)

44 B.C.E. -- Death of Julius Caesar and Ascent of Octavian Augustus.

3. The Empire or Principate (44 B.C.E.-294 C.E..)

Crafting Rome's Origins: Legend and Myth

- 1) Romulus and Remus – Legend ca. 4th century; twin brothers who found the city of Rome
- 2) Aeneas and the founding of Rome – Story related by Virgil, writing in the 1st century BCE under Augustus; links Rome's origins to the Trojans

3) Rape of the Sabine Women – Captures the idea of the expansion of Rome through incorporating or seizing outside territory

Rapio, rapere, to seize and carry off, to take and assume

-- The Rape of the Sabine Women and the Rape of Lucretia – metaphors for Rome's early expansion.

2. The Roman Republic: Government and Class Tensions

Government Offices:

CONSULS – highest officials, elected annually, previous military service, leaders of the army

PRAETORS – judicial officials

QUAESTOR – financial officials, collected taxes and revenues

AEDILES – responsible for the maintenance of Rome, food supply, public buildings, streets, games, and entertainment.

CENSORS – set the census and legislate public morality

SENATE – (from *Senex* = wise old men) – to advise those that rule on public matters.

Patricians – those who are well-fathered: “*pater*” = father; 130 elite families made up the class of patricians

The Patricians and Plebeians: Expansion of Government

1) Twelve Tables of Law (451-449 BCE);

2) TRIBUNES = 10 annually elected officials, had to be plebeians;

3) After 367 BCE – at least one consul had to be a plebeian.

3. Roman Imperialism under the Republic

Roman Expansion within the Peninsula of Italy

The Punic Wars:

First Punic War – 264-241 B.C.E., a Roman Victory, Sicily a new province.

Second Punic War – 218-201 B.C.E., Carthaginian general Hannibal leads troop and 37 elephants over the Alps. Terrible losses for Rome, 30,000 men dead. Roman general Scipio takes Carthage on its own soil, finally a Roman victory. Spain becomes a Roman province.

Third Punic War – 149-146 B.C.E., in the end Rome finally destroys Carthage, razes it to the ground and makes it another Roman province.

Conclusion: Rome as a Mediterranean Power