

Lecture 7: *From Republic to Empire – or the First Among Equals*

1. *The End of the Republic*

- A. The Growth of the Rome: Ambitions Unbound
- B. Factional Politics Inside Rome – *optimates* and *populares*
- C. New Men, Client Armies and Civil War

2. *Rule by Threes: Unending Strife*

- A. The First Triumvirate: Pompey, Caesar, Crassus
- B. Second Triumvirate: Mark Anthony, Lepidus, and Octavian Augustus

3. *The Rise of the Roman Empire – The Principate*

- A. *Princeps* = First Among Equals
 - B. The Making of an Emperor – the Image of Augustus
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Expansion of the Roman Republic during the Second Century

Punic War Additions:

- Sicily – after First War (241 BCE)
- Sardinia and Corsica – Second War (201 BCE)
- Spain and Carthage – after the Third War (146 BCE)

Further Expansion:

- 146 BCE -- Corinth and Greek Interests
 - 133 BCE -- gift of the Attalid Kingdom (Asia Minor)
 - 121 BCE -- Gaul north of the Alps
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Factional Politics and The End of the Republic

optimates (haves) and *populares* (have-nots)

Gracchi Brothers:

Tiberius (133 BCE) and Gaius (123 BCE) – land redistribution in favor of the poor and soldiers

Gaius Marius (157-86 BCE), a general, a “new man,” popular among *populares*

Sulla (138-78 BCE), a general, an *optimatus*

= Rise of Client Armies – loyal to commanders over the Republic

Civil War and the end of the Republic

The First Triumvirate (60 BCE):

Pompey (106-48 BCE) – Military leader

Julius Caesar (100-44 BCE) – old Roman family (*Julii*)

Crassus – man of wealth; real estate developer

59 BCE Julia m. Pompey:

54 BCE Julia dies in childbirth

49 BCE: Julius Caesar crosses the Rubicon and marches on Rome

Same year -- Julius Caesar defeats Pompey; becomes dictator

44 BCE: Senators led by Marcus Junius Brutus assassinate Caesar
(15 March = Ides of March)

The End the Roman Republic and the Rise of the Empire

Second Triumvirate (44-31 BCE)

Octavian = Caesar's nephew and adopted heir

Lepidus = commander with an army at his disposal

Mark Anthony = heir to Caesar's forces; lover of Cleopatra VII

Battle of Actium (31 BCE) – Octavian defeats Mark Anthony

“Restoration” of the Republic by Octavian Augustus the “Princeps” (31 BCE-14 AD)

27 BCE = Imperator Caesar Divi filius Augustus = Princeps