



The Expansion of the Roman Empire



Rome's Beginnings: Romulus and Remus



- Mythical Version
- Trojan Prince Aeneas discovers the Latins while looking for promised land
- Romulus and Remus, sons of Latin princess and god Mars, abandoned
- Romulus and Remus are cared for by a she wolf
- Romulus kills Remus, becomes first king of Rome

Rome's Beginnings: Romulus and Remus - continued



- ▣ Historical Version
- ▣ Latins settled on Palantine, a fertile area with pleasant climate around 1200 BC
- ▣ Etruscans of Etruria ruled Rome for 200 years
- ▣ Romans overthrew Etruscan leaders and set up a Republic in 509 BC

Rome in 264 BC





Expansion: The Battle of Zama



- ❑ Romans conquered all of Italy by 275 BC
- ❑ Carthage ruled North Africa, Spain and Sicily
- ❑ Roman conflict with Carthage started the Punic Wars
- ❑ Romans fought Carthaginians for control of the Mediterranean Sea

The Battle of Zama continued



- Hannibal defeated at Zama; Carthage lost all of its territories to Rome
- By 146 BC, Rome was the leading power of the Mediterranean

Rome in 146 BC





End of the Republic: Julius Caesar



- Rome's conquests caused changes in the economy and government
 - Large estates replaced small family farms
 - Gap between rich and poor grew
- • Attempts made to improve conditions
 - - Gracchi brothers gave land and wheat to the poor

End of the Republic: Julius Caesar continued



■ More Reforms

- General Marius gave power to the army
- General Sulla gave power to the Senate
- • Julius Caesar built up an army and took power
 - - Conquered Britain, Libya, Egypt, Cyrenaica, Numidia, Syria, Asia Minor
 - - Caesar was assassinated by those who opposed his dictatorship

Rome in 44 BC





Cleopatra's Death

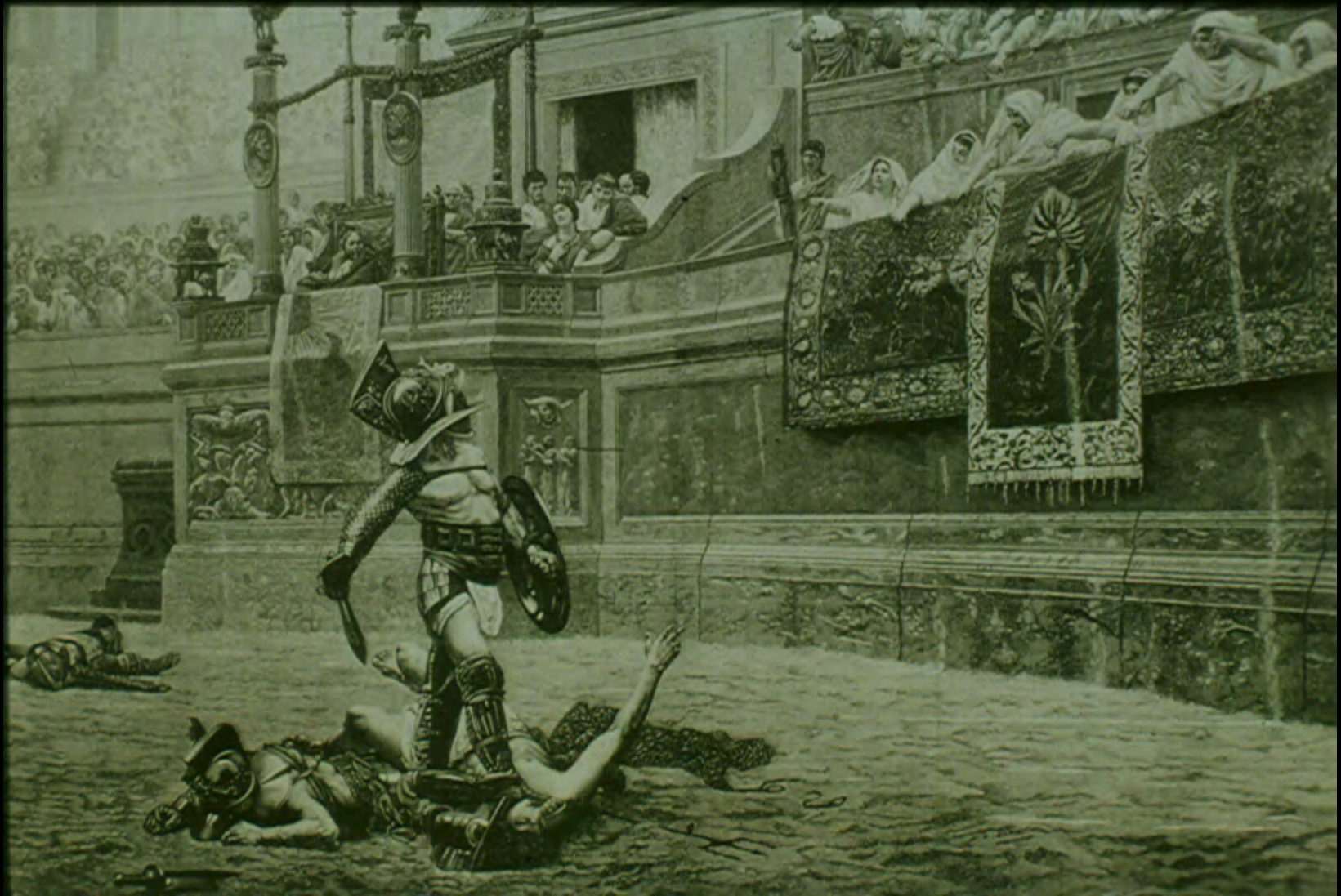


- After Caesar's death, power shared by Marc Antony, Lepidus and Octavian
- Civil War broke out between Antony/Cleopatra and Octavian
- Octavian won a naval victory at Actium in 31 BC
- When Antony was defeated, Egypt was made a province of Rome. Antony and Cleopatra committed suicide

Cleopatra's Death



- Octavian became the absolute ruler of Rome, given title “Augustus” (honored)
- As Rome’s “First Citizen” Augustus expanded the Empire to defensible boundaries: English Ch, Rhine, Danube and Euphrates R, Sahara Desert
- Augustus introduced the Pax Romana; a time of peace and unity for the empire



Gladitorial Games



- Augustus' successors accepted his defensive foreign policies
- Trajan, Rome's last great conqueror, established new provinces in Dacia, Armenia, Assyria and Mesopotamia
- Empire reached its largest size in 117 AD
- Five "Good Emperors" ruled from 96 AD to 186 AD

Gladitorial Games continued



- ❑ Rome's size was difficult to manage; Diocletian divided it in two
- ❑ Barbarians attacked the Empire from many sides
- ❑ Internally, gladiatorial games were one sign of Rome's decline

Rome in 117 AD

