

Early Rome

Civilizations of the Ancient World | Meeting #21

1

Four things today

- Carthage
- Early Italy
- Roman names
- Kings of Rome

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Quiz #1: Ancient Goddesses and Gods

1. All of the following are true about Carthage EXCEPT:
   a. In accordance with tradition, its rulers were always female
   b. It was founded as a colony of a Phoenician city (Tyre)
   c. It developed a great sea-trading empire
   d. It was located on the North African coast in what is now Tunisia

2. According to Roman stories, the city's first king, Romulus, was believed to have
   a. been suckled by a wolf
   b. killed his brother
   c. established the senate
   d. all of the above

3. The term *paterfamilias* refers to
   a. "the ways of our ancestors": traditional Roman behavior and customs
   b. "the father of the family": the elder male with life and death authority over the household
   c. "the high priest": the senior priest in charge of the Vestal Virgins and other priests
   d. "the crunchy frog": the small honeyed amphibians wealthy Romans ate as a delicacy

4. Early Italy was inhabited by all of the following ancient peoples EXCEPT:
   a. Etruscans
   b. Egyptians
   c. Samnites
   d. Greeks

5. According to patriotic legend, the Romans kicked out their kings, ended the monarchy, and established a Republic after
   a. a queen slapped a peasant
   b. a senator killed a priest
   c. a prince raped a noblewoman
   d. a general slew a god

Extra Credit

EC. What's one way that early Rome was influenced by the Etruscan civilization to the north?

4

Questions about whatever



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Ancient North Africa

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North Africa

- Coastline is part of the Mediterranean world
- Interior
  - Nomadic tribes
  - Trade routes across the Sahara
  - Marketplace cities linking coastal, Saharan, and sub-Saharan cultures

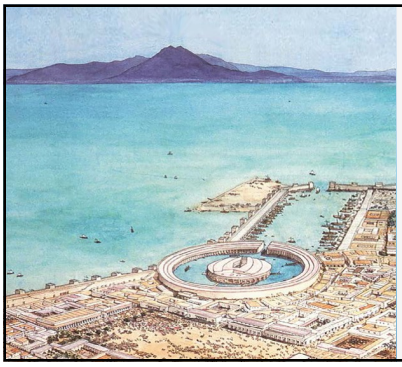
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Phoenician traders

- Trade routes connect cultures of Mediterranean coasts
- Foundation of Phoenician colonies

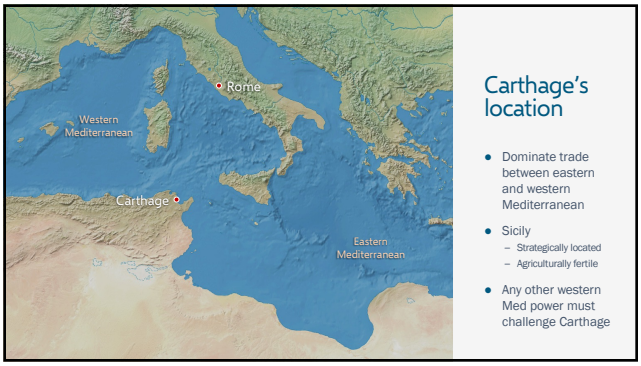
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Carthage

- Phoenician colony founded in 8th century BCE
- Huge advantages of location
  - Natural harbors for wharfs and shipbuilding
  - Commands the strait between Africa and Sicily

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Carthage's location

- Dominate trade between eastern and western Mediterranean
- Sicily
  - Strategically located
  - Agriculturally fertile
- Any other western Med power must challenge Carthage

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Carthage's trade empire

- Increasingly wealthy, powerful and influential city
- Dominion spreads over north Africa
- Trade ships spread through western Mediterranean
- Superior navy

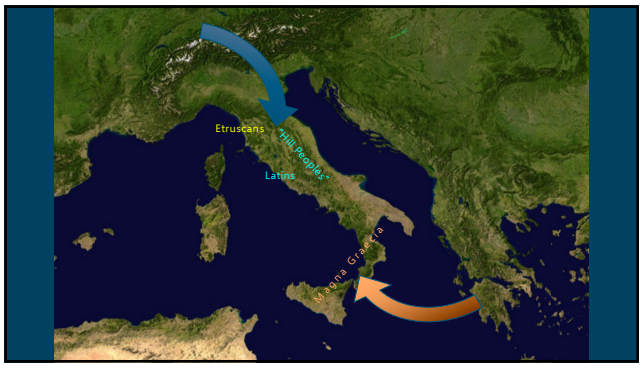
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Early Italy

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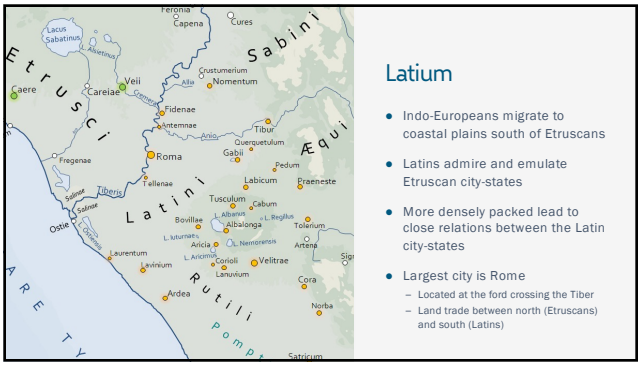
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Etruscans

- Indigenous city-state culture of north Italy
- Language unrelated to any other
- Wealthy, isolated cities widely separated from each other
- Trade with the Greeks and the Phoenicians

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Latium

- Indo-Europeans migrate to coastal plains south of Etruscans
- Latins admire and emulate Etruscan city-states
- More densely packed lead to close relations between the Latin city-states
- Largest city is Rome
  - Located at the ford crossing the Tiber
  - Land trade between north (Etruscans) and south (Latins)

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Etruscan influence on the Latins

- Trade practices
- Architecture
- Alphabet
- Regalia of kingship
- The triumph
- Etruscan religious rituals

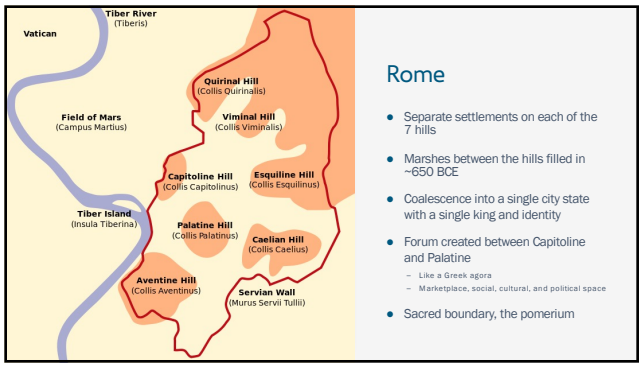
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Etruscan religion

- Etruscan priests consult the gods by sacrificing animals and examining their livers
- Etruscans believe the gods must be consulted before any action of the state
- This belief is absorbed and intensified by the Romans

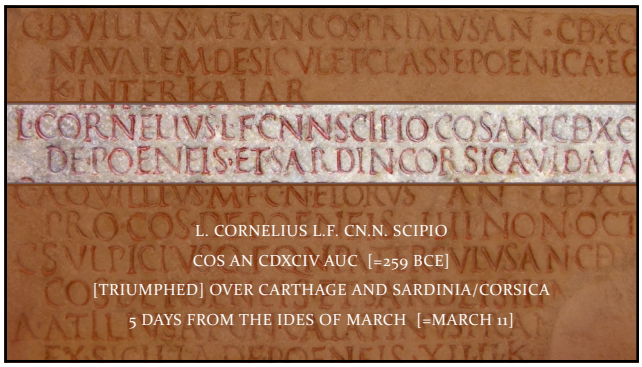
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Tiber River
(Tiberis)
Vatican
Quirinal Hill
(Collis Quirinalis)
Viminal Hill
(Collis Viminalis)
Field of Mars
(Campus Martius)
Capitoline Hill
(Collis Capitolinus)
Esquiline Hill
(Collis Esquilinus)
Tiber Island
(Insula Tiberina)
Palatine Hill
(Collis Palatinus)
Caelian Hill
(Collis Caelius)
Aventine Hill
(Collis Aventinus)
Servian Wall
(Murus Servii Tullii)
Rome
Separate settlements on each of the 7 hills
Marshes between the hills filled in ~650 BCE
Coalescence into a single city state with a single king and identity
Forum created between Capitoline and Palatine
Like a Greek agora
Marketplace, social, cultural, and political space
Sacred boundary, the pomerium

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Roman Names

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L. CORNELIUS L.F. CN.N. SCIPIO
COS AN CDXCIV AUC [=259 BCE]
[TRIUMPHED] OVER CARTHAGE AND SARDINIA/CORSICA
5 DAYS FROM THE IDES OF MARCH [=MARCH 11]

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L. CORNELIVS L.F. CN.N. SCIPIO

praenomen — nomen — filiation — cognomen

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Preserving the name

- Importance of having an heir to continue the clan and clan name
- Arranged marriage can result in fewer (legitimate) children

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C. OCTAVIVS C.F.

⬇

C. IVLIVS C.F. CAESAR OCTAVIANVS

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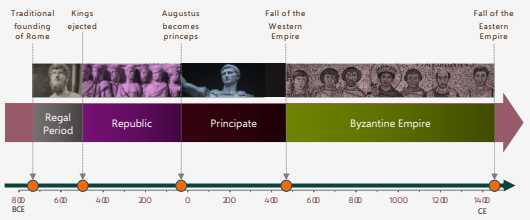
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Rome under the Kings

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Periods of Roman history



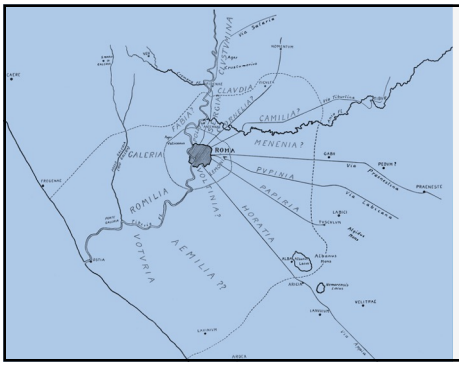
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The Roman king

- Both executive ruler and high priest
- Elected by the nobility

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Family and clan

- Families are all-important
- Individuals act on behalf of clan or Rome, not self

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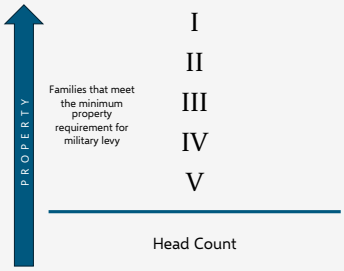


Census and class

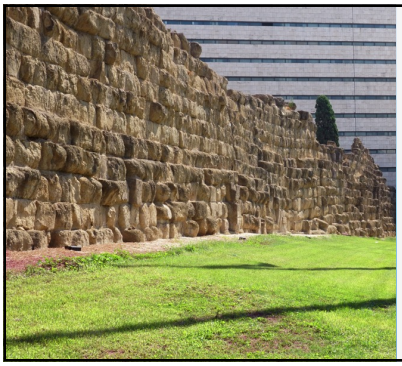
- Census used to list those eligible for military service
- Organized according to levels of property ownership
- As Rome militarizes, census shapes the organization of Rome's citizen body

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Census



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Origins of later institutions

- Census and class
- Walls of Rome
- Assemblies
- Senate
- Pomerium

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Early Roman values

- Virtus
- Pietas
- Fides, Gravitas, Constantia
- Auctoritas

- Later described as the mos maiorum ("the ways of our ancestors")

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Kings of Rome

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(I) Romulus

- Legendary founder
  - Cast out as a baby and left to die by the banks of the Tiber
  - Suckled by a she-wolf
  - Returns to the same place as an adult to found a new city
  - Twin brother Remus
- Stories describe him as strong, effective, and ruthless

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(II) Numa Pompilius

- Election from the nobles described in the annals
- Credited with foundation of religious rules and institutions
- Relations with the gods second in importance to founding of Rome itself

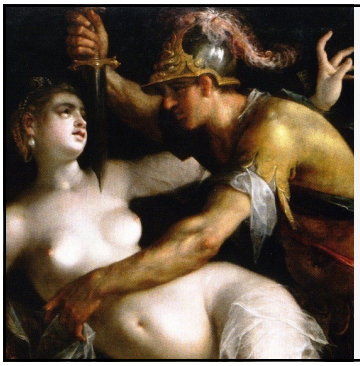
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(VII) L. Tarquinius Superbus

- Tarquin “the Proud”
- Usurps throne
- Arrogant and expansionist
- Despotic repression of nobles and other Latins
- Sybilline books

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The Rape of Lucretia

- Tarquin’s son wants to demonstrate his power
- Choses most honorable of the noble wives and rapes her
- Romans respond in anger
  - Cast out the Tarquin clan
  - Abolish monarchy
  - Vow that Romans will never be enslaved by kings again
- Foundation of the Roman Republic

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