

PERSIAN Chart for Classical Civilizations

<p>ERA: 600 B.C.E. – 600 C.E.</p> <p><u>POLITICAL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders/groups • Forms of government • Empires • State building/expansion • Political structures • Courts/laws • Nationalism/nations • Revolts/revolutions 	<p style="text-align: center;">Rome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built upon the previous Latin, Greek, and Etruscan civilizations • Started as a Republic in 509 B.C.E. and extended its influence through much of the Italian Peninsula. • Civil Wars between generals under the Republic contributed to downfall and rise of the Roman Empire. • Augustus Caesar (previously named Octavian), first Emperor 28 B.C.E. • Generals in the army wielded great political power. • Roman law helped hold the large empire together; the Twelve Tables was the first code of laws and included the concept of innocent until proven guilty and the right to challenge his accuser before a judge; later extended to an international code that Rome applied to its conquered territories. • Citizenship, civic duty key concepts in society. • Extensive colonization and military conquest during both eras <p>Republic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative body (senate) was composed of aristocrats who held executive offices in Rome as well as a tribune of plebeians (commoners). • Two Consuls shared primary executive power over military and senate; in crisis a dictator would be chosen; had veto power over the Assembly • Instead of the Greek direct democracies where citizens were expected to participate in a regular basis, Romans used a republic where the people had representatives where they didn't have to vote on every issue; U.S. system of government is modeled after this concept. • Republic fell due to high unemployment, displaced farmers, devalued Roman currency (causing high inflation), and political unrest. <p>Civil War</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power transferred to the 1st triumvirate: Pompey, Crassus, and Julius Caesar; Caesar became emperor for life but was assassinated by senators in 44 BCE • 2nd triumvirate: Octavian, Marc Antony, and Lepidus; Octavian rose to power as the first emperor called August Caesar <p>Empire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserved the senate, but no real political power (autocracy) • Non-hereditary emperor; technically chosen by Senate, but generally chosen by predecessor <p>Splitting of the Empire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diocletian split the Roman Empire into two regions in 285 C.E. and brought the military back under imperial control, tried to strengthen the currency, adopt a budget for the government, and tried to control inflation. • Constantine built the city of Constantinople at the site of the Greek city of Byzantium, which became the new capital of the Roman Empire. • The eastern half thrived from its center at Constantinople, utilizing the wealth and resources funneled its direction, while the western half continued its downfall. <p>Fall of the Roman Empire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal decay (high taxes, inflation, weak rulers, mercenaries rather
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	<p>than trained soldiers, increasing gap between the rich and poor, plagues)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External pressures (Attila the Hun and other Germanic invaders) • Western Rome fell around 476 C.E. and the Eastern Portion later became known as the Byzantine Empire and survived until 1453 when it was defeated by the Ottoman Turks.
<p><u>ECONOMIC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural, pastoral • Economic systems • Labor systems/ organizations • Industrialization • Technology/industry • Capital/money • Business organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities such as Rome served as centers of trade • The Silk Road and Mediterranean Sea were routes used for trade with other civilizations. • Largest % of the population was farmers. • Commercial agriculture helped lead to establishment of the Empire. • Merchants have somewhat higher status because of the reliance on trade; Latin was the language of politics and Romans but Greek was the language of trade on the Mediterranean. • Established a common currency during the empire.
<p><u>RELIGIOUS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belief systems/ teachings • Philosophy • Holy books • Conversion • Key figures • Deities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polytheism, derivative from Greeks, but religion not particularly important to the average Roman; public ceremonies to honor gods and goddesses, religious festivals • Christianity developed during the Empire period and was tolerated by the Romans as long as it didn't interfere with Roman affairs. As the apostles of Jesus and missionaries extended the influence of Christianity throughout the empire, the Romans began to see the new religion and its leaders as threats to their power. Christian persecution resulted but acts of violence did not stop its spread. • Emperor Constantine would end persecution of Christians in the Roman Empire when he issued the Edict of Milan and later, Christianity would be adopted as the official religion of the Roman Empire by Theodosius in 380 C.E. • Christianity would ultimately be influenced by Greek and Roman culture, but was not a product of the cultures.
<p><u>SOCIAL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family/ kinship • Gender roles/relations • Social and economic classes • Racial/ ethnic factors • Entertainment • Lifestyles • "Haves" & "have nots" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patricians (landowning noblemen), plebeians (all other free men), and slaves (as much as 1/3 of the population) • Emperor would assume absolute control under empire. • Patriarchal society; women did have considerable influence within the family and could own property, but were still considered inferior to men just as with the Greeks. • Pax Romana – period of Roman peace and prosperity; began with the rule of Augustus and ended with the death of the philosopher emperor Marcus Aurelius (all during the Roman Empire)
<p><u>INTERACTIONS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • War/conflict • Diplomacy/treaties • Alliances • Exchanges between individuals, groups, & empires/nations • Trade/commerce • Globalization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Punic Wars (series of 3 wars) against Carthage were launched from 264 to 146 B.C.E. (Rome won all three times) and contributed to Rome's expansion once Carthage was no longer in the picture. Rome went on to obtain Greece by defeating the Macedonians, fought the Gauls (later France) to the north and the Spaniards to the west. • Germanic invasions contributed to the fall of Rome. • Perfection of military techniques: conquer but don't oppress; division of army into legions, emphasizing organization and rewarding military talent • Many conquered people became slaves; others were allowed to remain practically free as long as they paid taxes, provided soldiers for the

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	<p>military, and honored Roman laws.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinct groups, such as the Hebrews and the Egyptians were able to maintain their identities and cultures.
<p><u>ARTS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art / Music • Writing/ Literature • Philosophy • Math / Science • Education • Architecture • Technology/ Innovations • Transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive public works programs and infrastructure such as roads and harbors for trade, to enlarge their navy and military, and to maintain their vast empire, public baths for relaxation, and stadiums (such as the Colosseum) to entertain the masses • “Bread and Circuses” (feed the people bread and entertain them to distract them from problems) • Art, literature (Virgil’s <i>Aeneid</i>), philosophy, science (Ptolemy’s view of the heavens and earth’s location in relation) were derived from Greece. • Superb engineering and architecture (marked by the building of the Pantheon, Colossuem, and the Forum); sanitation systems; aqueducts (to bring water into the cities from the country), and bridges were also built; concrete was used as a new building material.
<p><u>ENVIRONMENTAL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location • Physical • Human/environment • Migration/movement • Region • Demography • Neighborhood • Settlement patterns • Disease • Urbanization/ cities (2 major) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Italian peninsula, a.k.a. “the boot” • Included parts of Western Europe, Eastern Europe, North Africa and the Middle East; served as a crossroad to easily access other parts of the world • City of Rome (buildings, arenas, design) copied in smaller cities; served as an economic center for the empire; capital of the Western world during the empire • Med Sea is often called the Roman Lake because the Roman Empire surrounded the sea; sea trade flowed from Syria to Spain to North Africa and was kept safe and free from pirates which allowed the trade to thrive and grow and transport goods from one part to another.