

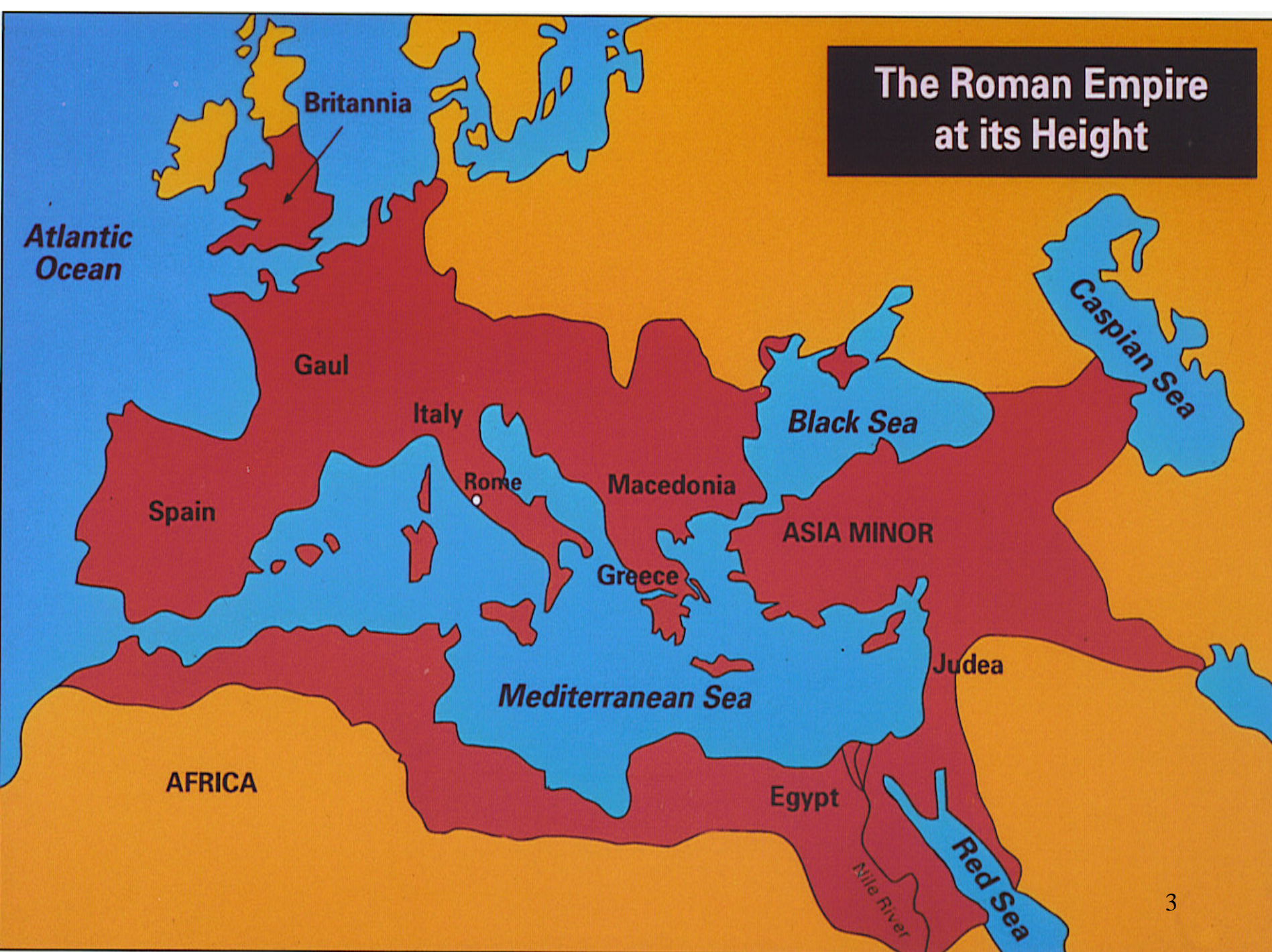


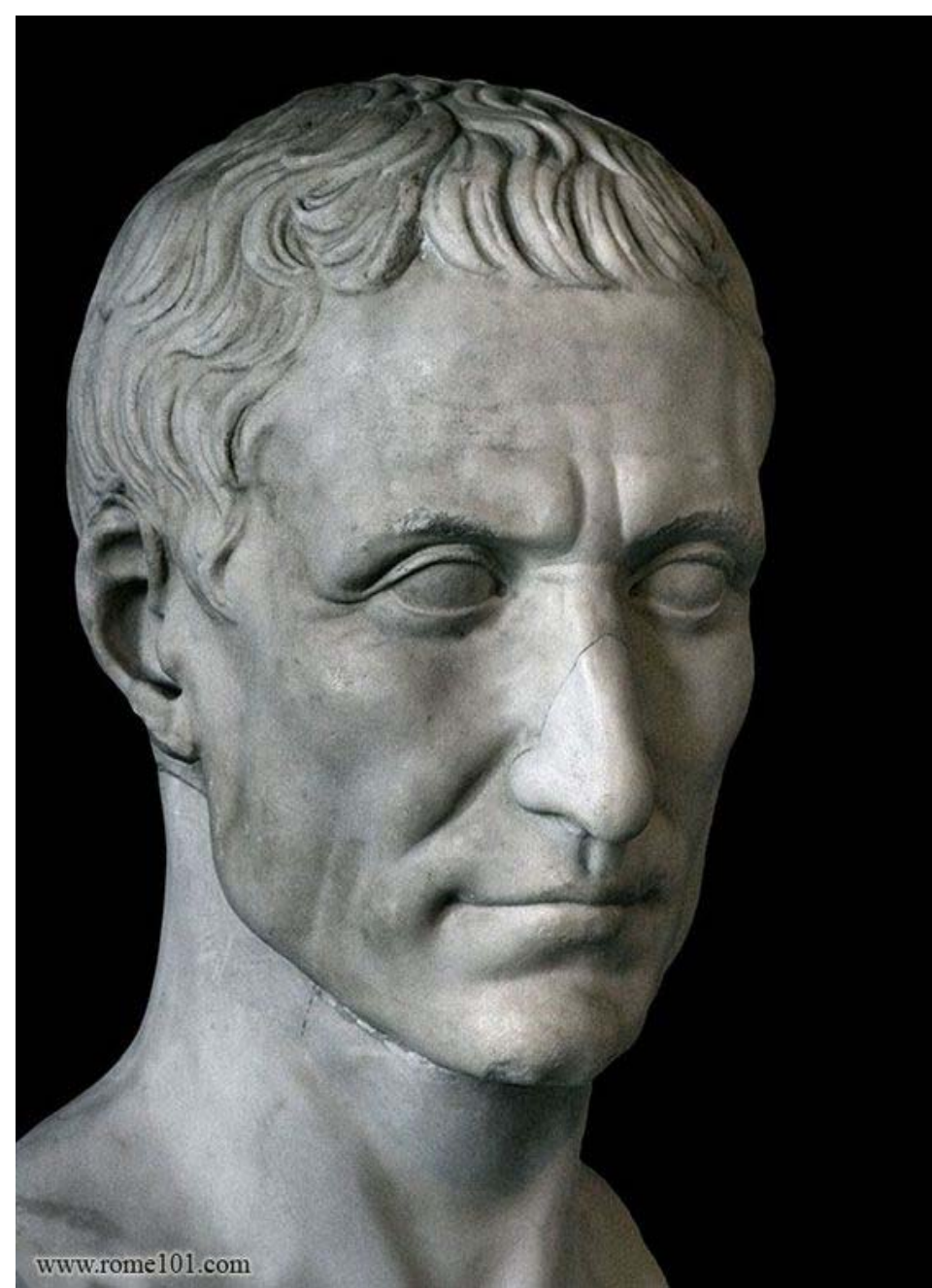
T17: Ancient Rome: from Republic to Empire

Timeline

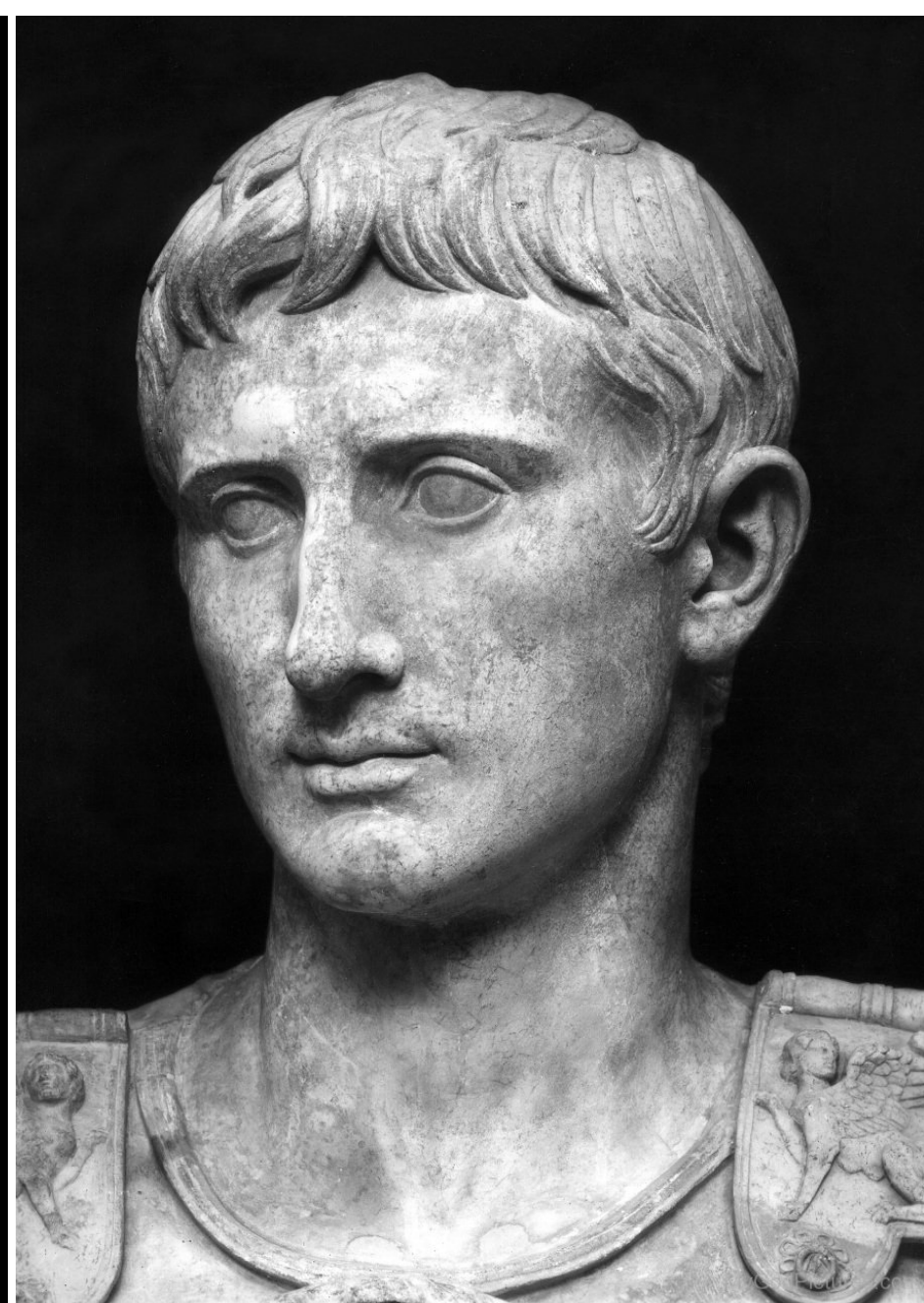
- Three periods of Rome's political development:
- **Monarchy** – since the foundation of Rome in 753 BCE
- **Republic** – 509 BCE
- **Empire** – 27 BCE
- **Julius Caesar** - Occupied Rome in 49 BCE - Assassinated in 44 BCE – paved the way to Roman Empire
- **Gaius Octavius** - Caesar's grand-nephew - completed the process initiated by Caesar - became **Emperor** (*Imperator*) **Augustus** in 27 BCE

The Roman Empire at its Height





Julius Caesar



Augustus

Assassination of Julius Caesar



Roman Supremacy

- Main source of strength – huge, highly disciplined and well trained **army** – soldiers taught to keep on fighting and never to accept defeat
- Capable leadership and strong political institutions – two elected **Consuls** and a **Dictator** in emergency
- **Senate** comprising about 300 Patricians – the most powerful policy making body during the Republic period

Major Wars

- By 265 BCE occupation of entire Italian peninsula by Rome
- The next major challenge came from **Carthage** (Tunisia) led by **Hannibal Barca** – 3 Punic Wars
- **First Punic War** (264 – 241 BCE) – naval battle over Sicily
- **Second Punic War** (218-201 BCE) – failed Carthaginian attacks on Rome itself
- **Third Punic War** (149–146 BC) – extended siege and destruction of Carthage

Pax Romana

- Period of relative peace and uninterrupted prosperity of Rome over two centuries – from the reign of **Augustus** (27 BCE–14 CE) to the reign of **Marcus Aurelius** (161 –180 CE)
- Boosted trade, raised standards of living – constructions of new roads and cities
- Height of development of Roman Empire
- Peaceful development at the cost of one-man authoritarian rule

Society

- Free Romans divided into **Patricians** and **Plebeians**
- Long Struggle between the two – recognition of political and civil rights of Plebeians after 494 BCE – **Law of the Twelve Tablets** in 451 BCE – engraved on bronze tablets – free citizens came under the protection of law
- Slaves – nearly 40% of the population - treated as private property
- **Patriarchal** society – limited rights of women



Patricians



Slaves



Plebeians

Patrician dinner party



Roman Forum

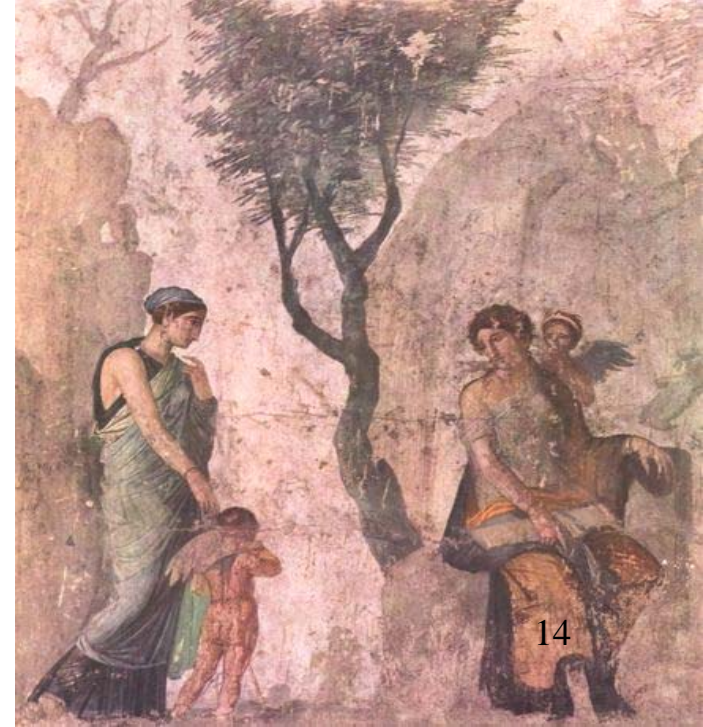
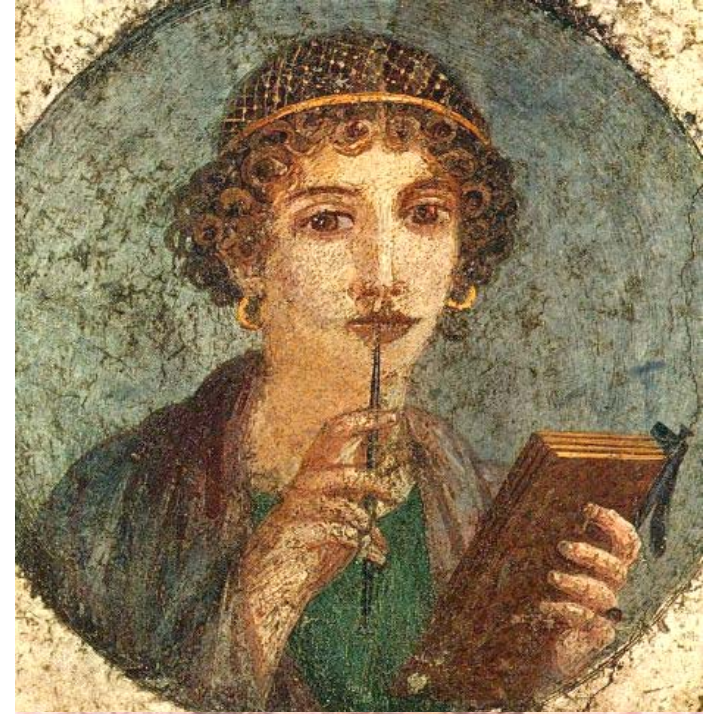


Roman Gladiator & Colosseum



Photo taken by M^A Kawser
Rome, Italy

Roman sculpture and Paintings



Decline and Fall

- Long process – Division of the empire into two parts by emperor **Diocletian** in 285 CE
- New capital in **Byzantium** – renamed **Constantinople** (now **Istanbul**) by emperor **Constantine** in 330 CE
- Conquest of Rome in 476 CE by various Germanic tribes – fall of the Western empire
- Eastern (**Byzantine**) Roman Empire continued for another millennium
- 1453 – occupation of Constantinople by the Ottoman Empire – end of the Byzantine Empire

Study Questions

- What were the three periods in the political development of Rome?
- What role did Julius Caesar play in converting Rome to an empire?
- Describe the factors behind Roman supremacy.
- What were the major wars fought by the Romans?
- Explain *Pax Romana*.
- What were the causes of conflict between Patricians and Plebeians?
- What was the outcome of the Patrician-Plebeian conflict?
- Outline the process of Rome's decline and fall.

Thank You