**Gaius Marius – War and Conflict**

***Winning the Jugurthine War***

The campaign against Jugurtha was a difficult one, and it lasted for several years. While Marius was able to achieve victory in a number of battles, Marius spent most of his time trying to convince Jugurtha’s allies to switch sides.

Finally, with the number of supporters running out, Jugurtha fled to the safety of the neighbouring kingdom of Mauretania, which was controlled by his father-in-law, King Bocchus.

Since he was hiding in a land that was not at war with Rome, Jugurtha was safely out of Rome's reach, which meant that the war could not be resolved.

However, Marius did eventually end the war, but not in the way he wanted. It was one of Marius' subordinates, called Lucius Cornelius Sulla, who finally brought an end to the war.

Sulla had persuaded Bocchus to capture Jugurtha and hand him over to Marius, which he did. With Jugurtha in chains, the war was declared over in 105 BC.

Although it was Sulla’s personal intervention that led to the capture of Jugurtha, since Marius was the overall commander, Marius was the one that was given the triumph in Rome.

At the culmination of the triumphal parade, the Numidian king was executed.

Having finally won the long and difficult Jugurthine War, Marius became a military legend among the people of Rome and Marius frequently boasted of his achievements.

However, Sulla remained resentful towards Marius for not giving him credit for the capture of Jugurtha.

***War against the Cimbri and Teutones***

While the Jugurthine War was happening, Rome faced another military crisis: this time in the north of Italy.

In 113 BC, two Germanic tribes, called the Cimbri and the Teutones, appeared at the east of the Alps.

These two groups were marching south, and Roman armies were sent to engage them.

However, these armies were defeated, and the Romans began to panic, fearing a conquest of Italy by foreign invaders.

Marius’s popularity increased even further when he was elected as consul for the second time for 104 BC and was given the command of the Roman forces against the Cimbri and Teutones.

This campaign was a long one and required a long-term military strategy. As a result, Marius was elected to the consulship for 103, 102 and 101 BC: something that had never been achieved in Roman politics before, let alone for a *novus homo*.

Finally, in 102 BC, Marius defeated the Cimbri in a great battle near Aquae Sextiae (modern-day Aix-en-Provence, France).

Then, in the following year, in 101 BC, he defeated the Teutones in a similarly decisive battle near Vercellae (modern-day Vercelli, Italy).