



Rome

Roman Civilization

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Society



Rome had been founded in 753 BC as a hill town on the Tiber river. Roman civilization started as a small settlement of farmers & later grew into one of the mightiest on the planet, which lasted for centuries.

The ancient Roman society was divided into two classes called patricians and plebeians. The aristocrats & big landlords constituted patricians class whereas workers, farmers and artisans formed plebian class.

There were lot of struggles among patricians & plebeians for control of power, which resulted in evolution of Rome as a Republic having the senate & the assembly.

Roman civilization was very developed . They devised a strong legal system for making a better society where people could have rights & regulations. The laws and ways we determine what to do with someone who is accused of breaking a law came originally from the Roman principles.

Army



The Romans built a huge empire and conquered new lands, thanks to their very strong army.

The Roman army could march up to 40km a day!

Laws, Slaves, Language



Roman laws were carved on twelve tablets. They were actually carved out on rocks so that every one could know what the laws were.



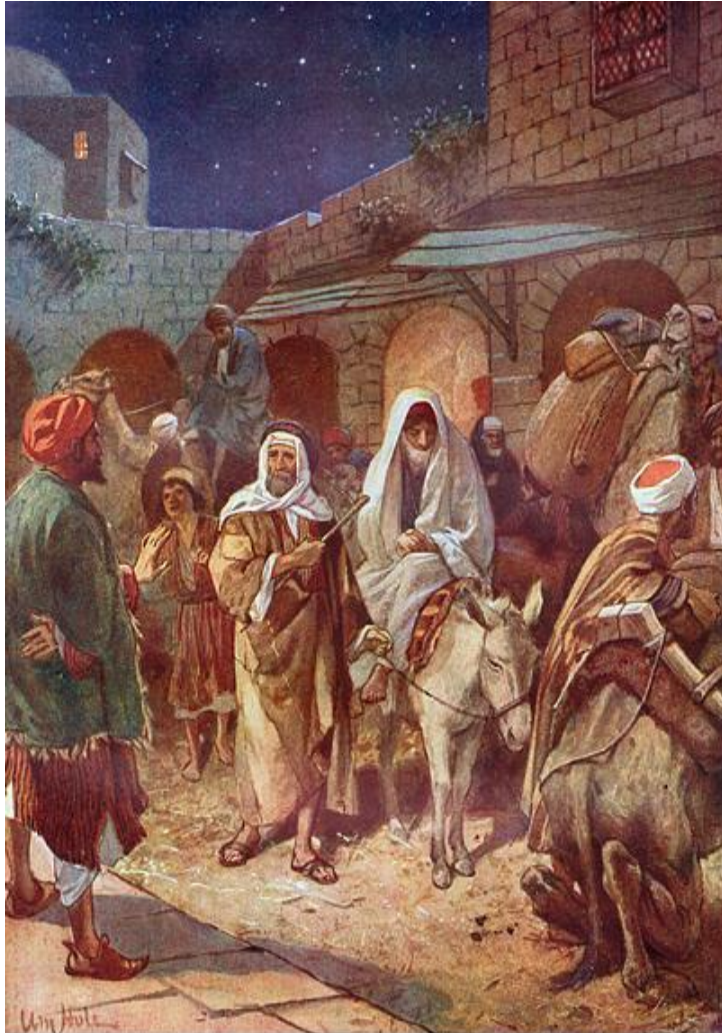
Slaves were very important in Roman lives. Romans thought that not owning slaves was a sign of poverty. Many people would take 2 to 3 slaves with them just to go to the baths. Funny, isn't it!

The early Romans spoke a Greek dialect known as 'Koine', from this dialect 'Latin' developed later. The language used in Western world especially in Europe today was developed from the Romans. Many of modern words are based on Latin words.

Classical Latin alphabet

Letter	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Name	ā	bē	cē	dē	ē	ef	gē	hā
Pronunciation (IPA)	/aː/	/bɛː/	/kɛː/	/dɛː/	/eː/	/ɛf/	/gɛː/	/hɑː/
Letter	I	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
Name	ī	kā	el	em	en	ō	pē	qū
Pronunciation (IPA)	/iː/	/kaː/	/ɛl/	/em/	/ɛn/	/oː/	/pɛː/	/kʷuː/
Letter	R	S	T	V	X	Y	Z	
Name	er	es	tē	ū	ex	ī Graeca	zēta	
Pronunciation (IPA)	/ɛr/	/ɛs/	/tɛː/	/uː/	/ɛks/	/iːˈgraika/	/zɛːta/	

Census

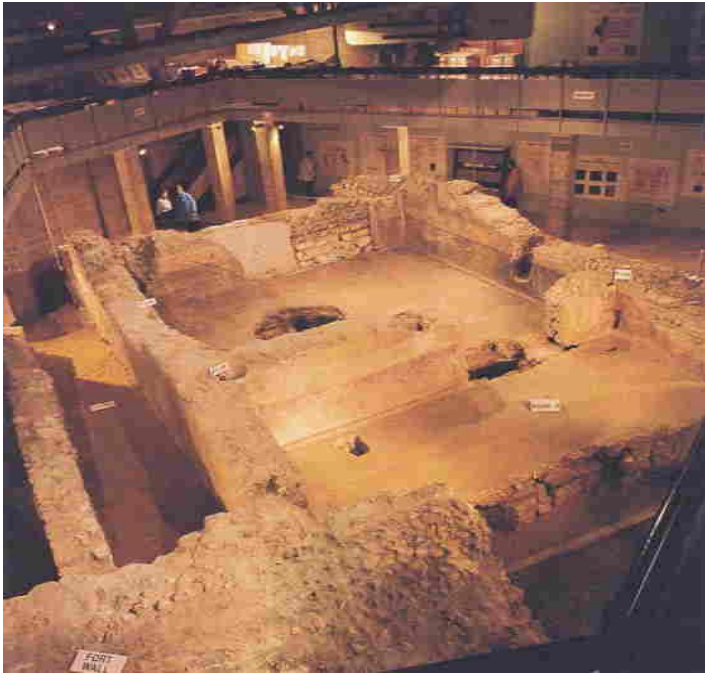


Joseph & Mary Travel To The Census by William Hole

Even the practice of census (counting people living in a country/boundary) was started by early Romans. The Roman Empire was huge and included millions of people living over a large area. How did they keep track of all these people? Easy! They counted them! The Roman Empire began the practice of taking a census, or a 'count,' of all the people within its boundaries every so often.

Heating Systems Shopping Malls

The Romans also invented central heating. Rich people's homes had heating. The warmth came from an under floor wood-burning fire, looked after by the slaves.



The first-ever shopping mall was built by the Emperor Trajan in Rome. It consisted of several levels and more than 150 outlets that sold everything ranging from food and spices to clothes



In absence of any newspaper ,TV or any other mass media ,Roman coins were used to publicize the emperor, his achievements, and his family .

Romans were highly superstitious .One of the example is their fear for anything to do with the left, which is why their words for ‘left’ and ‘left-handed’ were *sinister* and *sinistra* , giving us the modern meaning of the word ‘sinister’ meaning bad or wicked.

Romans used powdered mouse brains as toothpaste! Yuck!

The Roman army didn't have toilet paper so they used a water soaked sponge on the end of a stick instead!

Romans wore wedding rings. And Roman brides wore veils and carried flowers too.

The bride and groom signed a contract to become man and wife, just like today

Roman schoolboys practised their writing on wax tablets, using a pointed stylus. They could melt the wax to reuse the tablet again and again!

Purple, the most expensive dye in those days, which was made from Murex seashells, was reserved for the emperors’ clothes or senators. It was considered to be a treason for anyone other than the emperor to dress completely in purple

The snake was a common image in Roman art and jewelry and it was believed to have powers over a family’s well-being.

The Romans liked to enjoy their food, often lying down on a couch while eating with their hands. They occasionally used a spoon, but they would never use a knife and fork.

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