

# The Roman Empire (44 BC to 54 AD)

44 BC - 43 BC

Ruler: Julius Caesar

but populist and authoritarian reforms angered the elites

appointed 'perpetual dictator'

to stop him becoming Emperor

assassinated in the Senate (44 BC)

in the Theatre of Pompey on the Ides of March (15 March)

43 BC - 27 BC

Brutus is defeated and killed in Gaul by Mark Antonius. (43 BC)

reconfirmation of the Second Triumvirate between Octavian, Antony and Lepidus. (43 BC)

Antonius marries Cleopatra at Antioch. (37 BC)

Octavian (Agrippa) defeats Antony and Cleopatra and takes control of the entire empire.

Battle of Actium. (31 BC)

Death of Antony and Cleopatra in Alexandria. (30 BC)

Octavian named Princeps Senatus. (27 BC)

27 BC - AD 14

(divine, devoted) ...awarded by the Senate

Previously: Octavian Augustus (Gaius Octavius)

First Emperor: Augustus

Absolute ruler (no-one could question his decisions)

conquered Spain and land in North Africa.

brought great prosperity to Rome in later years

14 AD - 37 AD

Second Emperor: Tiberius Julius Caesar

He felt he had enemies all around and trusted hardly anyone.

The many treason trials permanently damaged his image and reputation

Tiberius left Rome in AD26, and ran the Empire from Capri. The court descended into plots and treason trials.

He was able to accuse anyone he disliked of treason (punishable by death)

37 AD - 41 AD

Third Emperor: Caligula

Fell out with the Senate, ran out of money, and failed miserably to conquer Libya and Britain.

Waste and carnage during his four-year reign

He planned to appoint his horse to the high office of consul. However, he was assassinated before he could do so.

Has been portrayed him as an insane tyrant by Roman historians

"Remember that I have the right to do anything to anybody."

Drained the treasury quicker than it could be topped up again by taxes and extortion

Caligula was eventually stabbed to death by officers of the Praetorian Guard (January 41 AD)

The Senate had a lot to do with his death.

41 AD - 54 AD

Fourth Emperor: Claudius

First Roman Emperor to be born outside Italy

His family ridiculed his physical disabilities.

pursued his own passions and left the ruling up to three key advisers

The philosopher Seneca, the prefect Burrus and Agrippina (Nero's mother).

43 AD: Initiates the conquest of Britain

48 AD: Has his wife Valeria Messalina and her lover killed for plotting to murder him

Marries his niece Agrippina the Younger

Claudius died on 13 October 54 AD after being poisoned

Probably on the orders of Agrippina (his wife) who feared Claudius would appoint Britannicus his heir over her son Nero

The Senate subsequently declared him to be a God