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Julius Caesar



Have you wondered about the city Rome? The great city and its people you imagine would be different if not for the politician and general, Gaius Julius Caesar.

Julius Caesar was born in July, 100 BC, and came from a famous and rich family that supposedly was related to Lulus, son of the legendary Trojan prince Aeneas. Julius Caesar had a huge impact on Rome, both being a war general and a politician.

Bust of Julius Caesar.

In This Section, You Will Learn...

What Julius Caesar did as a Roman General?

As a Dictator, what changes he made to the roman society?

How he died and the significance he had even after his death?



Portrait of Julius Caesar

The Great Roman General,

Julius Caesar

Glossary.

Pursuing
follow
(someone or
something) in
order to catch
or attack them.
"the officer
pursued the
van"

Julius Caesar was a respected and powerful general in Rome. He led and won many battles to expand the territory of Rome.

The Gallic Wars

One of Julius's famous battles was with the Gaul, which lasted from 58 BC to 50 BC. The war killed around 250,000 people. The Romans won, and all of Gaul was affected, which in present day includes France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Switzerland, parts of Northern Italy, Netherlands and Germany. After the war, Rome controlled all of these countries.

The Battle of the Nile

Another war that affected Rome was the Battle of the Nile in 47 BC. While <u>pursuing</u> an old enemy, Julius was caught in an Egyptian civil war between Ptolemy XIII and his sister Cleopatra. Julius and his men sided with Cleopatra and won the war. He was rewarded many riches and was introduced to the Egyptian lifestyle.

These two great wars made Julius Caesar more powerful and became the sole ruler of the Roman Republic. They also gave romans more confidence in conquering other cities and countries.



Left. A famous painting that shows Julius's enemy surrendering in the Gallic wars

Right. Rome's expansion after winning the Gallic war.



DID YOU KNOW THAT....

Julius and Cleopatra were in love; but Roman law stated that a roman can only marry a roman.

GO FURTHER!!!

- 1. Work with a partner. Draw a map of the battle of the Nile.
- 2. If Julius Caesar did not attack the Gaul, how would it impact the romans?
- 3. Do you think these attacks were necessary? Why or why not?

The Politician,

Julius Caesar

Glossary.

Debt

noun something, typically money, that is owed or due.

"I paid off my debts"

Apart from being a war general, Julius Caesar also had a career in politics. He influenced people's rights and the Roman Empire later.

Debt

In 49 BC, when Julius Caesar rose to a higher political status, he made many changes to the Roman society. One of the changes was to help widespread <u>debt</u>. He tackled this problem by ordering that properties must be accepted for repayment at its pre-war value. He also changed a previous law that limited the amount of money per person could own. He helped renters by allowing not to pay rent for a year and eliminating debt from 49 BC and before. These decisions were both fair to the lenders and the borrowers of money.

Jobs

In Rome, lack of job opportunities was also a problem. Julius helped eliminate this by offering jobs in Rome's overseas colonies. He also built many public buildings like libraries and theaters to create jobs to those not willing to go overseas. These buildings not only provided job opportunities, but also improved Rome's general appearance, which was important to Julius Caesar.

Julius Caesar was both a great war general and an influential dictator. He changed Rome by helping to eliminate debt and job problems. All these acts gave him public support and earned him the title "dictator for life."

One of Roman temples

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Julius Caesar invented the Julius Calendar. It is very similar to a calendar nowadays, with 12 months.

GO FURTHER!!!

- 1. How would you tackle these problems if you were Julius Caesar?
- 2. If you were a citizen of Rome, would you be happy with Julius's decisions?
- 3. Would you change any of his decisions?

After His Death...



Augustus Caesar, Julius's heir and first emperor of Rome empire.

Julius Caesar was killed by rebels that were scared by his powerful influence in March 15th, 44 BC. Even after his death, Julius Caesar was a big character in the Roman society. He made Rome bigger and more powerful by winning many wars, but also tackled some problems from a political side, like debt and lack of jobs. His death sparked anger in many of his followers and his heir, Augustus Caesar. This led to the republic's collapse, and the age of the Roman Empire was born. Julius Caesar is now considered one of the most important people in Rome evolution. He inspired many to lead Rome to a fairer and better country. He truly was a great Roman.



Rome now.

Overview.

In this section, we answered these questions...

What did Julius Caesar do as a general that was historically significant?

What did Julius Caesar do that made him a politician and Dictator?

What were Julius's influence even after his death?

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Rome

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