

WORLD HISTORY notes

Ancient Roman Republic: Roman Expansion

Day 3

Roman Legion

Legion replaced the phalanx

- more mobile
- made up of “Legionaries”
 - were citizens – every adult male that owned land
 - mostly all infantry
- Legion contained about 5000 soldiers

Rome’s Expansion Goals:

1)control Italy

2)control Mediterranean Sea

493 BC **Latin League** formed to protect against enemies, like the Delian League

387 BC **Gauls** attack Rome

- Rome paid the Gauls to leave
- Rome’s “Helot Revolt”
- determined to strengthen military

First Step: Gain control of Italy

343 B.C. – 290 B.C. Defeated ITALIAN STATES opposed to Rome

- Samnite Wars
- Latin Revolt

282 B.C – 275 B.C. Defeated GREECE

Pyrrhic War

Greece had established “**TRADE**” communities in s. Italy

King Pyrrhus (Greece) was winning battles, but was losing to many men and supplies were not being replenished

275 B.C. **Battle of Benventum**

- Romans defeat Greeks
- King Pyrrhus suffers a “Pyrrhic Victory”
 - win battles, but lose the war

Rome requires the people it defeats to

1)pay taxes

2)serve in military

Loyal allies could earn “Full-Citizenship”

- right to vote

Second Step: Gain control of Mediterranean Sea

264 B.C. – 146 B.C.

PUNIC WARS

- Rome v. Carthage (N. Africa)
 - Carthage larger, wealthier, stronger navy
 - should win the war

FIRST PUNIC WAR (264 BC – 241 BC)

Messina (Sicily) – mercenary soldiers controlled Messina and asked Carthage to provide military support against Syracuse (Sicily)

King Heiro II of Sicily asked Rome for help against the mercenaries and Carthaginians

Carthage trying to gain influence in Sicily

- Sicily was important because it provided crops

Rome needed to protect its grain supply and feared Carthage's proximity to Italy if they controlled Sicily and might try and conquer Italy

- Carthage getting into Rome's "backyard"

Rome strengthened its navy by copying a Carthaginian warship, but added a **RAVEN**

- this could be dropped onto the deck of a passing ship
- the soldiers would then cross the plank, **turning a naval battle into a land battle**, which was Rome's strength
- not overly effective, would cause Roman ships to turn over

Results of 1st Punic War:

- Carthage paid **indemnity**
 - payment for war damages
 - to pay Rome for indemnity, Carthage expanded into Spain, which would be a cause for the 2nd Punic War
- Rome got **Sicily** (secured its "Backyard")
- Rome increased its control of W. Mediterranean Sea

Rome began to expand its influence into Spain

- made an alliance with Sanguntum
- Sanguntum began to encourage **Anti-Carthaginian** activities
- Hannibal saw this as Roman interference and attacked Sanguntum
- Rome tried to settle the dispute diplomatically by asking Carthage to send Hannibal to Rome
- Carthage refused

SECOND PUNIC WAR (218 BC – 201 BC)

Carthage led by **Hannibal**

218 B.C.

Hannibal drew "1st Blood" by attacking Rome across Alps mountains

- wanted **REVENGE**
- Hannibal began with around 40,000 soldiers and 6000 elephants / horses
 - lost about 24k
- Hannibal hoped to develop allies of other people who were enemies of Rome
 - Did not get as many to join as he hoped

Hannibal ravaged the countryside destroying farmland (caused economic problem later)

216 B.C.

Battle of Cannae

- Rome had around 90K soldiers
- Romans were very good at “frontal fighting”
 - Hannibal surrounded them and attacked from ALL sides
- 60 – 70K soldiers killed or injured
- Rome’s worst defeat
- Hannibal expected Rome to want peace treaty after defeat = WRONG

204 B.C.

Roman General, **Scipio**, took troops and went to **Carthage** to try and pull Hannibal out of Italy

202 B.C.

Battle of Zama

- Scipio defeated Hannibal
- ended 2nd Punic War
- Scipio given title “**Africanus**”
 - “conqueror of Africa”

Results of 2nd Punic War:

- Rome became an “international power”
- Carthage paid indemnity
- Rome gained Spain (silver mines)
- Carthage could not go to war without Rome’s consent
- Carthage gave up all possessions
- Navy reduced to 10 ships

195 B.C. Hannibal committed suicide (poison)

- “Let us relieve the Romans from the anxiety they have so long experienced, since they think it tries their patience too much to wait for an old man’s death”

THIRD PUNIC WAR (149 BC – 146 BC)

Carthage was recovering economically, but not militarily – THEY WERE NO THREAT TO ROME

- Romans still remembered the trauma caused by Hannibal ravaging Italy during the second Punic War
- “**Hawks**” had gained control of the Roman Senate
 - Cato ended each speech with “**Carthage must be destroyed**”

Tribes around Carthage knew that Rome would take any act of aggression against any area as an act of aggression against Rome

- Tribes took advantage of this to “pester” Carthage

Rome used a “technicality” to attack Carthage

- Carthage could no longer take “pestering” and attacked Numidia
- Rome declared war on the basis that Carthage broke the treaty

Roman attack led by Scipio Aemilianus (son of Scipio Africanus)

Results of 3rd Punic War:

- Destruction of Carthage
- **No treaty – no Carthage!**
- Survivors sold into slavery
- Salt plowed into fields

CATO's motto had been carried out!!! – **CARTHAGE WAS DESTROYED!**

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

148 B.C. Rome crushed a revolt by Greek states

133 B.C. King Attalus III of Pergamum in the eastern Mediterranean deeded his kingdom to Rome at his death wanted to prevent destruction of empire to Rome

Rome now controls Mediterranean Sea

- refers to it as "Our Sea"
 - **Mare Nostrum**