

# DAILY LIFE

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CLA1102  
January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Lecture #2

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## A day in the life of a Roman

### Roman Names

- Normally have 3 names known as the “tria nomina”
- Small group of names that could be used as a first name
- Gaius = abbreviation is a “C” because the name is Etruscan, and the “C” is the sound “G” in Etruscan
- Praenomen = 1<sup>st</sup> name
  - Small group of names that could be used as first names
- Nomen = comes in 2<sup>nd</sup>: family name
- Cognomen = 3<sup>rd</sup> name, sort of nicknames, became sub family names
  - Sub-subdivision of these family names
  - Given an honorific name if they have done smtg great
  - Can have up to 4 name, random guy has 37 names

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Lecture #3

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### Roman names

- Voting tribes
  - Starts of geographical
  - End up being when they should vote
- Women ONLY had family names (see page 12- 13)
  - If you had more than one daughter, you added the “the eldest” or the “youngest” to their name
  - If more than 2, we give them number
  - Women did not change their name if they get married

- Only thing that would change; would be known as “The wife of ... (husbands name)”
- Slaves and freedmen
  - Only have one name
  - Would take praenomen and nomen of their former master
  - Slave name becomes their cognomen
- Foreign people
  - Take the name of the person who gave them citizenship
- Rome is a very classes-based society
- 4 categories of people
  - Servi (slaves)
  - Liberti (Freedman, used to be slaves)
  - Ingenui (People who have never been slave)
  - Foreigners (separate group)
- Most prejudice comes from the classes
- Freedom (3 groups)
- Wealth (2 groups)
- Citizenship (2 groups)
  - Can only be a citizenship if you are an adult male
  - ONLY FOR MALE ADULTS
- All of Rome was divided into Patricians (RICH, elite 1%) or Plebeians(Plebs) (everybody else)
  - Hereditary (as time goes on)
    - You can have plebeian’s family that are rich
    - Patricians can be poor

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Lecture #4

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## Roman society

- **Barbarians:** a person who doesn’t speak either Latin or Greek
- Patricians and Plebeians start to mean nothing, its hereditary designation
  - Replace by political and military definitions
- After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Punic war starts to develop a middle class
  - They get money from business and companies and not land and farming
- People who have the most money want to show off: Join the cavalry

- o Buy all your own stuff: food, armor, horse (only rich ppl can't afford to keep horses)
  - o Referred as Cavalry Men (Latin: Equites/ Eques)
    - Term gets applied to the growing middle class
    - Middle class: stays out of politics/ not allowed
      - Only the people who gets money from land
    - Middle class gets involved into different thing (Trade, Banking, tax collecting, investment)
      - What happens: Middle class decides they want their own "club". Names it: Equestrian Order
        - o Still need to be rich to join the club (minimum of land 400 thousand[sesterce]to join)
  - o Senators
    - Have to have held the office of Quaestor, eligible to be in the Senatorial order (like a club)
    - Senatorial: 800 thousand Sesterce of Land, (20 million of Land in today's money)
      - Normal labor made 1000 sesterces a year
    - Being in Senate: taking part of the official stuff
- Senator were forbidden to have business

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 Lecture #5  
 Missed class  
 Notes from Kameela & Nikki

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- Each patron would be patron of people who are lower down on the class scale, but they would also be patrons of people above them
  - o Could provide legal and personal advice, particularly when you have a big gap in wealth patrons would give their clients' money and food
  - o Clients expected to act on behalf of their patrons, supported their patron during elections, election posters painted on lawns, hoping to be remembered in their will

- o Greeted his clients who lined up outside their house first thing in the morning
- Slaves
  - o Normally captured in foreign wars, cheap and plentiful
  - o No rights. At all. Nada. Nothing.
  - o Victims of kidnapping and crime
  - o Babies exposed (abandoned)
  - o Enslaved as a punishment, but not a lot of this
  - o Second biggest source is children of existing slaves (home born slaves)
  - o Slaves were property, sold and bought, treated better as time goes on
    - They were given an allowance (called a peculium), owner's decision if it was a little or a lot, some slaves get a big enough peculium to buy their own freedom, master's duty to look after it
  - o Slaves do everything that was menial and low-paying, beneath the dignity of everyone else
  - o People considered by the Romans to be barbarians did the work involving manual labor, especially the Latifundia (giant factory farms) tend to have grazing, grain, olives, grapes, needs lots of slave labor
    - Factories, mills, mines – less civilized people
    - Business, admin – more civilized people
  - o There are public slaves
  - o Slaves are often tattooed with their master's thing, also had collars or belts with dog tags
  - o Slaves could and did run away, slave hunters existed
    - Anyone who harbored a runaway slave is considered theft, the slaves would also be considered theft of themselves
    - Encouraged a system of informing
      - Very worried about slaves killing their masters, sets up a law that any slave that killed their master or tried, all other slaves would be put to death along with them

## Slaves:

- o Special belts that basically says “catch me, so I don’t escape”
- o Metal collar with message “I’ve run away, catch me “
  
- In the late republic (137 BC) there were a lot of slave revolts
- Spartacus (Gladiator)
  - o Launch his revolt
  - o Involved 70 to 100 thousands of slaves
  - o Able to defeat the best Roman general of all time
  - o Final battle, about 6000 thousand left
    - A lot of them fled and got killed
    - Roman captured the 6000 remaining and crucified them all along the via Appia
    - Spartacus disappears
  - o Things get much better for slaves
    - Farms and mines are still bad
    - Treated more like pets
    - Becomes a family in a way
    - Masters will start to free their slaves
    - Eventually slaves were able to own property (Empire)
  - o Freeman / Freewoman
    - Slave who had been freed
    - Masters can free their slave under any circumstances
      - Known has Manumission /Manumit
      - Legal procedure/ceremony recognized by the state
        - o Slave gets a gift = a pointy felt hat (Pileus)
        - o Becomes a symbol of freedom
        - o Not citizens but master can make you one.

- Rome keeps getting bigger and bigger and the same people are still running Rome
  - Lots of tension when Romans are trying to figure out the system
- Cursus Honorum (Ladder of hierarchy/similar to corporate ladder)
- All take office 1 January (Starts in 122 BC)
  - **Quaestor (20)**
    - Every year
    - Can only hold office for 1 year
    - Elected by the people
    - Financial officials of the Roman state
    - Fairly young – 27-30 yrs. old
  - **Aedile (4)**
    - Every year
    - Hold office for 1 year
    - Elected by ppl
    - Look after the city, the grain supplies and responsible for putting on games (theater, chariot, gladiators)
      - Up to 59 days a year are occupied by activities/holidays
    - Looking after the city :
      - Upkeep, renovations, cleaning
      - Streets
      - Water supplies
      - Markets
    - Act as a police force, public prosecutors to protect common people
  - **Praetor (8)**
    - Elected every year
    - Judges, run the courts
    - Allowed to become a **Propraetor** after being in office for 1 year
      - 1 year appointed (normally)
      - Provincial governors
      - Picked by lot (not elected)
  - **Consul (2)**

- o Elected every year
    - They can be re-elected
  - o Veto power over one of the other
  - o Take care of military (head, generals), legislative (present the laws to the senate), administrative (run the meetings of the senate) , supervisory (watching over everyone else)
  - o Need to be 42 yrs. old – this rule gets broken
  - o Can become **Proconsul**
    - Provincial governors
    - Picked by lot
  - **Censor (2)**
    - o Elected every 5<sup>th</sup> year and hold office for 18 months
    - o Census, State contracts(economic, legal stuff) , taxes(setting and collecting),
    - o Morals oversight of senate
      - Bring in new members for the Senate
      - Review current members to see if some have to be replaced
  - **Senate (600)**
    - o Former offices holders chosen by censors from senatorial order
    - o Supreme decision-making body of Roman state
- Ratifies elections and laws after voted upon

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Lecture #8

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- All positions have bodyguards (except Quaestor) called Lictors
  - o Lictor's were equipped with f\_\_\_\_\_
- Consuls have 12(or 24... not sure??) Lictors
- Tribunes
  - o Another position put in place after the plebs succession
    - Not part of the Senate or Cursus Honorum
    - Elected by plebs
    - 1-year term
    - 5-10 positions
    - Can veto elections, laws, decrees of Senate
    - Possess Sacrosanctitas – meaning you can't touch them, or you're sentenced to death

- Take office the 10<sup>th</sup> of every January
- 2 town mayors known as Duoviri
- Quinquennial
  - Municipals version of the Censors
- Pontifex Maximus is a religious figurehead
  - chief high priest

## Living arrangements

- Insulae: Apartment building
  - Insula means apartment
  - Insulae were up to 5 story high MAX by law
    - Exceeded constantly
- The Insula Felicles was famous and the tallest apartment building in Rome
- They are built of wood & brick since they're made for poor people
  - Often the bricks were sundried & not fired
  - Had a habit of falling or burning down
- Used oil lamps for light which were easy to accidentally start fire
- Only other source of light was the courtyards constructed within the apartment buildings to offer more light (pg. 57-58 for courtyard)
  - Useful for gathering water