

# Roman Republic

509 BC - 45 BC

- Romans were originally the Latins - an Indo-Euro. tribe that settled on the Tiber River, founded Rome
- Latins taken over by another tribe - The Etruscans
- Etruscans ruled Latins harshly - dictatorship w/ a King
- Latins revolted in 509 BC and defeated Etruscans
- Latins change their name to "Romans"

- Romans never want a king,  
they establish a "republic"

- SPQR

(Senatus Populus Que Romanus)

The Senate and the people of Rome

- large middle class

- Rom. Rep. major theme was the  
plebeians constant battle  
for more rights w/in the society

- military was made up of  
Roman citizens that volunteered

- defeat of Greeks, Macedonians,  
& Carthaginians to eliminate  
their major rivals in the  
Mediterranean Sea area

- Rome usually offered citizenship (eventually) to those they conquered
- wealth poured into Rome from military victories & massive trade

importance - Roman Republic

- 1) first real republic in history
- 2) Rome becomes an empire while it's still a republic
- 3) Rome becomes dominant in Mediterranean Sea area, not only militarily, but also... culturally
- 4) the amassing of wealth from military victories and trade, starts to hurt the middle class, especially... the importation of slaves
- 5) Rome's 3 Branched government system is the basis of the United States government system