

septimius severus the african emperor

Septimius Severus: The African Emperor Who Shaped Rome's Destiny

septimius severus the african emperor stands as one of the most remarkable figures in Roman history, not just because of his military prowess and political acumen but also due to the unique background he brought to the imperial throne. Born in Leptis Magna, a thriving city in the Roman province of Africa (modern-day Libya), Septimius Severus rose from provincial origins to become a powerful emperor who transformed the Roman Empire during a time of significant upheaval. His legacy is a fascinating blend of military success, administrative reforms, and cultural integration, making him a pivotal character worth exploring.

Early Life and Rise to Power

Septimius Severus was born in 145 AD into a prominent Punic family in Leptis Magna. Unlike many of his predecessors who hailed from Italy or the senatorial elite of Rome, Severus's African roots set him apart. This background gave him a distinctive perspective on the empire's vast diversity and the challenges of governing such a sprawling territory.

Growing up in a wealthy and influential family, Severus received a solid education in Rome, which prepared him for a career in law and politics. He climbed the ranks of the Roman political system, serving as a senator and eventually becoming consul. But it was his military skill and strategic mind that propelled him to the forefront during the Year of the Five Emperors (193 AD), a chaotic period marked by civil war and competing claims to the throne.

The Year of the Five Emperors and Severus's Ascendancy

After the assassination of Emperor Commodus in 192 AD, the empire plunged into instability. Multiple contenders vied for power, and Septimius Severus was initially declared emperor by his legions stationed in Pannonia. Using a combination of military force and political savvy, he defeated rival claimants like Pescennius Niger and Clodius Albinus.

Severus's triumph in this turbulent time showcased not only his battlefield expertise but also his ability to consolidate power and manipulate political allegiances. By 197 AD, he was firmly established as the sole ruler of the Roman Empire, setting the stage for his transformative reign.

Military Campaigns and Expansion

One of the hallmarks of septimius severus the african emperor was his relentless military ambition. He recognized that maintaining and expanding the empire's borders was essential for stability and prosperity. His campaigns extended across various frontiers, demonstrating his commitment to Rome's supremacy.

The Parthian War

One of Severus's most notable military endeavors was the campaign against the Parthian Empire in the East. The Parthians had long been Rome's rivals, and controlling Mesopotamia was a strategic priority. Severus launched a successful invasion, capturing the Parthian capital Ctesiphon around 198 AD and establishing a stronger Roman presence in the region.

This victory not only enhanced his reputation as a military commander but also secured vital trade routes and resources for the empire. The Parthian War underscored Severus's ability to project power far beyond Rome's traditional heartlands.

Campaigns in Britain

Another significant aspect of his military career was his focus on Britain. Severus led two major campaigns to subdue the northern tribes and expand Roman control over Caledonia (modern Scotland). These efforts involved building and reinforcing fortifications, including parts of what would later become Hadrian's Wall.

Although the campaigns were costly and challenging, they reinforced Rome's northern frontier and demonstrated Severus's determination to defend the empire from external threats.

Administrative Reforms and Governance

Beyond his military achievements, Septimius Severus the African emperor made substantial contributions to the administration of the empire. His reforms aimed to strengthen central authority and improve governance in provinces far from Rome.

Legal and Military Reforms

Severus restructured the Roman military by increasing soldiers' pay and allowing them to marry, which was previously forbidden. These changes improved morale and loyalty among the troops but also increased the army's influence in political matters.

He also implemented legal reforms that enhanced the role of the emperor in judicial decisions, centralizing power more firmly in the imperial office. This shift had long-lasting effects on Roman law and governance.

Provincial Development and Urbanization

As an African emperor, Severus showed particular interest in developing the provinces, including his native North Africa. He invested in urban infrastructure, such as roads, public buildings, and harbors, promoting economic growth and integration within the empire.

Leptis Magna, his hometown, benefited enormously from his patronage. The city saw grandiose construction projects, including a new forum, basilica, and harbor improvements, turning it into one of the most splendid cities in the empire.

The Legacy of Septimius Severus the African Emperor

Septimius Severus's reign marked a turning point in Roman history. He was the first emperor of African descent to hold the throne, and his success challenged the traditional Roman elite's dominance. His ability to blend military strength with administrative reforms helped stabilize the empire after a period of crisis.

A Dynasty and Its Decline

Severus established the Severan dynasty, which included his sons Caracalla and Geta. While his reign was marked by relative stability and expansion, the dynasty eventually faced internal strife, especially after his death in 211 AD. The rivalry between his sons led to civil conflict, highlighting the fragile nature of imperial succession.

Influence on Roman Culture and Identity

The African emperor's reign also reflected a broader cultural shift in Rome. His diverse background symbolized the empire's multicultural nature, revealing how power could come from beyond the traditional Roman heartlands. This inclusivity influenced art, architecture, and even religious practices during and after his rule.

Understanding Septimius Severus's Impact Today

Studying septimius severus the african emperor offers valuable insights into how leadership, diversity, and military strategy intersected in one of history's greatest empires. His story is a testament to the complexities of Roman rule and the dynamic nature of imperial power.

For historians and enthusiasts alike, Severus's life encourages a deeper appreciation of the Roman Empire's global dimensions. His example shows how a leader from a provincial city could reshape the destiny of an empire that spanned continents and cultures.

Whether you are drawn to military history, political strategy, or cultural studies, the legacy of septimius severus the african emperor remains a fascinating chapter in the epic saga of Rome.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who was Septimius Severus?

Septimius Severus was a Roman emperor who ruled from 193 to 211 AD and was the founder of the Severan dynasty.

Why is Septimius Severus called the African Emperor?

Septimius Severus is called the African Emperor because he was born in Leptis Magna, in the Roman province of Africa (modern-day Libya).

What were the major achievements of Septimius Severus?

Septimius Severus expanded the Roman Empire, strengthened its frontiers, reformed the military, and initiated significant architectural projects.

How did Septimius Severus come to power?

Septimius Severus rose to power after the Year of the Five Emperors in 193 AD, defeating rivals in a civil war and being proclaimed emperor by his troops.

What was Septimius Severus's impact on the Roman military?

He increased soldiers' pay, allowed soldiers to marry, and reorganized the military structure to create a more professional army loyal to him.

Did Septimius Severus have any connection to Carthage?

Yes, Septimius Severus had a strong connection to Carthage, as he was born in nearby Leptis Magna and later made Carthage a key administrative center in the African province.

What role did Septimius Severus play in the Parthian Wars?

Septimius Severus led successful military campaigns against the Parthian Empire, capturing their capital Ctesiphon and expanding Roman influence in the East.

How did Septimius Severus influence Roman architecture?

He commissioned numerous building projects, including the Arch of Septimius Severus in Rome, showcasing his military victories and imperial power.

Who succeeded Septimius Severus as emperor?

His sons Caracalla and Geta succeeded him, ruling jointly until Caracalla had Geta assassinated and became sole emperor.

What is the historical significance of Septimius Severus?

Septimius Severus is significant for stabilizing the Roman Empire after a period of civil war, initiating the Severan dynasty, and influencing Roman military and administrative reforms.

Additional Resources

Septimius Severus: The African Emperor Who Redefined Roman Power

septimius severus the african emperor stands as one of the most pivotal figures in Roman history, not only for his military prowess and political acumen but also for his unique heritage as a ruler originating from the African province of Leptis Magna (modern-day Libya). His ascent to the imperial throne marked a significant shift in the Roman Empire's leadership dynamics, reflecting the growing diversity and complexity of Roman society during the late 2nd and early 3rd centuries AD. This article delves into the life, reign, and legacy of Septimius Severus, exploring how his African roots influenced his policies and shaped the empire during a turbulent era.

The Rise of Septimius Severus: From Provincial Origins to the Imperial Throne

Born in 145 AD in Leptis Magna, a flourishing city in the Roman province of Africa Proconsularis, Septimius Severus was of Punic and Libyan descent. His background was notably different from the traditional Roman elite, which predominantly hailed from Italy or the western provinces. Despite this, Severus's family was well-established and affluent, allowing him access to elite Roman education and military training.

His rise to power was marked by a combination of military skill, political savvy, and opportunism. After serving in various administrative and military roles, Severus capitalized on the power vacuum following the assassination of Emperor Pertinax in 193 AD. Amidst the Year of the Five Emperors, Severus marched on Rome, defeated rival claimants, and secured his position as emperor. His victory was not just a personal triumph but also a testament to the shifting power bases within the empire, where provincial commanders increasingly influenced imperial politics.

Military Campaigns and Expansion

One of the defining features of Septimius Severus's rule was his emphasis on military strength and territorial expansion. His campaigns in the East, particularly against the Parthian Empire, were instrumental in restoring Roman dominance in regions that had been contested for decades. Severus's forces captured the Parthian capital of Ctesiphon twice, reaffirming Rome's eastern influence.

In addition to his eastern campaigns, Severus focused on securing the empire's frontiers in Africa and Britain. His interventions in North Africa helped stabilize the region, while his campaigns in Britain extended Roman control over the northern territories, including modern-day Scotland. These military actions not only fortified the empire's borders but also enhanced Severus's reputation as a warrior emperor.

Administrative Reforms and Legal Legacy

Beyond his military exploits, Septimius Severus was notable for significant administrative and legal reforms that had enduring impacts on Roman governance. He restructured the imperial bureaucracy, increasing the role of equestrian officials and reducing the influence of the traditional senatorial aristocracy. This shift reflected both his distrust of the Senate, which had opposed him during his rise, and his desire to centralize authority.

Severus also overhauled the Roman legal system by promoting jurists who supported imperial prerogatives, thereby strengthening the emperor's control over law and justice. His reign saw the codification of various legal principles that influenced later Roman law and, by extension, Western legal traditions.

The African Emperor's Cultural and Political Identity

Septimius Severus's African origins were not merely a biographical detail but an integral part of his imperial identity. He actively promoted the development of his hometown, Leptis Magna, transforming it into a monumental city with grand architectural projects, including a new forum, basilica, and harbor improvements. These efforts showcased his pride in his heritage and underscored the increasing importance of the provinces in imperial Rome.

Moreover, Severus's reign symbolized the diversification of Roman leadership, highlighting how the empire's vast multicultural fabric was beginning to be reflected in its highest offices. His ability to navigate Roman traditions while embracing his provincial roots helped legitimize his rule among diverse populations.

Religious Policies and Personal Beliefs

Severus's religious policies demonstrated a pragmatic approach to the empire's complex spiritual landscape. While he maintained the traditional Roman pagan practices and emphasized the cult of the emperor, he also showed tolerance towards other religions. Notably, some sources suggest he had a favorable stance towards Eastern mystery cults and possibly early Christianity, although this remains a subject of scholarly debate.

His personal beliefs were influenced by his upbringing in Africa and exposure to various cultural traditions, which may have contributed to a more inclusive approach toward religious diversity within the empire.

Challenges and Controversies of Severan Rule

Despite his successes, Septimius Severus's rule was not without challenges and controversies. His centralization of power and marginalization of the Senate alienated many traditional elites, sowing seeds of discontent that would later erupt into political instability. The increased militarization of the empire also strained resources and altered the balance between civilian and military authorities.

Furthermore, Severus's policies towards the army, including increased pay and privileges, while securing loyalty, placed a heavy financial burden on the imperial treasury. This fiscal pressure

contributed to economic difficulties that his successors would struggle to manage.

Legacy and Impact on the Roman Empire

Septimius Severus's legacy is multifaceted. On one hand, he reinforced the military foundations of the empire and set precedents for imperial administration that influenced subsequent emperors. His reign marked the beginning of the Severan dynasty, which ruled Rome for nearly three decades, navigating the empire through a complex period of transition.

On the other hand, his approach to governance also accelerated trends that would eventually challenge the stability of the Roman state, such as the increasing dominance of the military in politics and the erosion of senatorial authority. Yet, his identity as the African emperor remains a powerful symbol of the empire's diversity and the permeability of Roman imperial power.

- **Military achievements:** Successful Parthian campaigns and consolidation of Britain.
- **Administrative reforms:** Centralization of power and elevation of equestrian officials.
- **Cultural patronage:** Development of Leptis Magna and promotion of African heritage.
- **Religious tolerance:** Inclusive policies amidst a diverse religious landscape.
- **Challenges:** Political alienation of Senate and economic strain due to military expenses.

Septimius Severus the African emperor thus embodies a complex figure who bridged provincial origins and imperial authority, military might and legal innovation, cultural pride and political pragmatism. His reign offers critical insights into the evolving nature of Roman imperial identity at a time when the empire was both expanding and undergoing profound internal transformations.

Septimius Severus The African Emperor

septimius severus the african emperor: Septimius Severus Anthony R Birley, 2002-06-01 In this, the only biography of Septimius Severus in English, Anthony R. Birley explores how 'Roman' or otherwise this man was and examines his remarkable background and career. Severus was descended from Phoenician settlers in Tripolitania, and his reign, AD 193-211, represents a key point in Roman history. Birley explores what was African and what was Roman in Septimius' background, given that he came from an African city. He asks whether Septimius was a 'typical cosmopolitan bureaucrat', a 'new Hannibal on the throne of Caesar' or 'principle author of the decline of the Roman Empire'?

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point in Roman history. Birley explores what was African and what was Roman in Septimius' background, given that he came from an African city. He asks whether Septimius was a 'typical cosmopolitan bureaucrat', a 'new Hannibal on the throne of Caesar' or 'principle author of the decline of the Roman Empire'?

septimius severus the african emperor: Septimius Severus Anthony Richard Birley, 1989

septimius severus the african emperor: Septimius Severus Anthony Birley, 1972

septimius severus the african emperor: The African Emperor Anthony Birley, 1988

Septimius Severus was descended from Phoenician settlers in Tripolitania, North Africa and was emperor of Rome AD 193-211. Using archaeological discoveries from the 1960s onwards, together with literary sources, the author shows how African and Roman this man was and explores the meaning of his background and career.

septimius severus the african emperor: The African Emperor Simon Elliott, 2025-09-11

Septimius Severus was Rome's black emperor. Born in the blistering heat of a North African spring in Leptis Magna AD 145, he died in the freezing cold of a northern British winter in York in AD 211. A giant of an emperor, whose career can be counted in superlatives, Severus was in power at the height of Rome's might. He led the largest army to ever campaign in Britain, comprising 50,000 men, part of a Roman military establishment which peaked at 33 legions under his rule. Born into the richest family, in the richest part of the Roman Empire, Severus monumentalised his rule across the empire. He visited - and often fought in - every region. Where he did, he left a mighty legacy in the built environment, for example in Rome where much of the Forum Romanum and most of the imperial palaces are Severan. In North Africa, his hometown of Leptis Magna is all Severan, as are the Roman cities at the Atlas mountains. In London, the land walls that still define the City's Square Mile were delineated under his rule. Visitors to the undercroft at York Minster can stand where he died. Septimius Severus was one of the greatest warrior emperors, a hard man who almost died in battle several times and whose attitude is reflected in his deathbed advice to two sons: 'Be of one mind with your family, enrich the soldiers, and despise the rest.'

septimius severus the african emperor: Emperor Septimius Severus Ilkka Syväne, 2023-05-31

One ancient source called Severus the most warlike of all men who had lived up to that moment in time. The rise of Septimius Severus to power started the dominance of the military in Roman affairs and it was because of this that Septimius's advice for his sons was nothing less than: 'Be harmonious, enrich the soldiers, and scorn all other men!' Ilkka Syvanne explains in detail how the African Septimius Severus achieved his position, how he won his wars and battles and how he used his newly gained power to secure his family's position. He reveals how he reformed the state and its military, and how he used these remodeled forces in wars of conquest to prove his worth as emperor to both the soldiers and the populace. This biography offers the first complete overview of the policies, events and military campaigns of Severus' reign in the fullest detail allowed by the sources. It also explains how and why these contributed to the military crisis of the third century and discusses the legacy he left for his son, Caracalla, who followed him in both his good and bad traits.

septimius severus the african emperor: Septimius Severus and the Roman Army Michael

Sage, 2020-06-30 The assassination of Emperor Commodus in 192 sparked a civil war. Septimius Severus emerged as the eventual victor and his dynasty (the Severans) ruled until 235. He fought numerous campaigns, against both internal rivals and external enemies, extending the Empire to the east (adding Mesopotamia), the south (in Africa) and the north (beyond Hadrian's Wall). The military aspects of his reign, including his reforms of the army, are the main focus of this new study. After discussing his early career and governorship of Pannonia, Michael Sage narrates his war with Pescennius Niger, the siege of Byzantium, and the campaign in northern Mesopotamia that added it as a province. The much more difficult campaign against Clodius Albinus in Gaul is also studied in detail, as is that in North Africa. The narrative concludes with an account of the last campaign in Britain and Severus' death. The final chapters analyze Septimius' reforms of the army and assess their impact on events of the next seventy years until the accession of Diocletian. His greatest weakness was his love for his family. Like Marcus Aurelius he loved his children too much. They

failed to maintain what he had bequeathed them.

septimius severus the african emperor: Septimius Severus Yāsamin Zahrān, 2000

Septimius Severus was one of the most unusual and colorful emperors in the history of the Roman Empire. Born in Leptis Magna, today's Libya, he was the first truly African ruler of Rome. He brought the empire to the peak of its power and founded the mighty Severan dynasty of soldier-emperors. He died, alone and exhausted, in AD 211. In this meticulously researched biography, Yasmine Zahran tells the emperor's life story as a first person memoir dictated from his bed. The result is an intriguing narrative of the life of a remarkable man.

septimius severus the african emperor: Storming The Heavens Antonio Santosuosso,

2018-03-09 In the closing years of the second century B.C., the ancient world watched as the Roman armies maintained clear superiority over all they surveyed. But, social turmoil prevailed at the heart of her territories, led by an increasing number of dispossessed farmers, too little manpower for the army, and an inevitable conflict with the allies who had fought side by side with the Romans to establish Roman dominion. *Storming the Heavens* looks at this dramatic history from a variety of angles. What changed most radically, Santosuosso argues, was the behavior of soldiers in the Roman armies. The troops became the enemies within, their pillage and slaughter of fellow citizens indiscriminate, their loyalty not to the Republic but to their leaders, as long as they were ample providers of booty. By opening the military ranks to all, the new army abandoned its role as depository of the values of the upper classes and the propertied. Instead, it became an institution of the poor and drain on the power of the Empire. Santosuosso also investigates other topics, such as the monopoly of military power in the hands of a few, the connection between the armed forces and the cherished values of the state, the manipulation of the lower classes so that they would accept the view of life, control, and power dictated by the oligarchy, and the subjugation and dehumanization of subject peoples, whether they be Gauls, Britons, Germans, Africans, or even the Romans themselves.

septimius severus the african emperor: Ancient Greece and Rome Keith Hopwood, 1995

Sir Thomas Fairfax, not Oliver Cromwell, was creator and commander of Parliament's New Model Army from 1645 to 1650. Although Fairfax emerged as England's most successful commander of the 1640s, this book challenges the orthodoxy that he was purely a military figure, showing how he was not apolitical or disinterested in politics. The book combines narrative and thematic approaches to explore the wider issues of popular allegiance, puritan religion, concepts of honour, image, reputation, memory, gender, literature, and Fairfax's relationship with Cromwell. 'Black Tom' delivers a groundbreaking examination of the transformative experience of the English revolution from the viewpoint of one of its leading, yet most neglected, participants. It is the first modern academic study of Fairfax, making it essential reading for university students as well as historians of the seventeenth century. Its accessible style will appeal to a wider audience of those interested in the civil wars and interregnum more generally.

septimius severus the african emperor: Dissertations on the prophecies, which have remarkably been fulfilled ... The ninth edition Thomas NEWTON (Bishop of Bristol.), 1826

septimius severus the african emperor: Dissertations on the Prophecies Thomas Newton, 1827

septimius severus the african emperor: Encyclopedia of Women in the Ancient World

Joyce E. Salisbury, 2001-05-16 An extensive and fascinating collection of stories featuring both famous and everyday women, giving a well-rounded view of the lives of women in the ancient world. When did women first become rulers, athletes, soldiers, heroines, and villains? They always were, observes historian Judith Salisbury. From Mesopotamian priestesses and poets to Egyptian queens and consorts, there was never a time when women did not participate in all aspects of society. Salisbury tells the stories of 150 women from the ancient world, ranging from the very famous, such as Cleopatra VII, immortalized by Hollywood, to the barely remembered, such as the Roman poet Nossis. Writing for a general audience, Salisbury begins by painting each woman into her historical context, then recounts each woman's story, describing the choices she made as she looked for happiness, wealth, power, or well-being for herself and her family—stories much like our own. In

entries on general themes—clothing, cosmetics, work, sexuality, prostitution, gynecology—Salisbury analyzes the commonalities in the lives of these women of antiquity from a cross-cultural perspective.

septimius severus the african emperor: *Emperors and Usurpers in the Later Roman Empire* Adraos Omissi, 2018 One of the great maxims of history is that it is written by the victors, and nowhere does this find greater support than in the later Roman Empire. Between 284 and 395 AD, no fewer than 37 men claimed imperial power, though today we recognize barely half of these men as 'legitimate' rulers and more than two thirds died at their subjects' hands. Once established in power, a new ruler needed to publicly legitimate himself and to discredit his predecessor: overt criticism of the new regime became high treason, with historians suppressing their accounts for fear of reprisals and the very names of defeated emperors chiselled from public inscriptions and deleted from official records. In a period of such chaos, how can we ever hope to record in any fair or objective way the history of the Roman state? *Emperors and Usurpers in the Later Roman Empire* is the first history of civil war in the later Roman Empire to be written in English and aims to address this question by focusing on the various ways in which successive imperial dynasties attempted to legitimate themselves and to counter the threat of almost perpetual internal challenge to their rule. Panegyric in particular emerges as a crucial tool for understanding the rapidly changing political world of the third and fourth centuries, providing direct evidence of how, in the wake of civil wars, emperors attempted to publish their legitimacy and to delegitimize their enemies. The ceremony and oratory surrounding imperial courts too was of great significance: used aggressively to dramatize and constantly recall the events of recent civil wars, the narratives produced by the court in this context also went on to have enormous influence on the messages and narratives found within contemporary historical texts. In its exploration of the ways in which successive imperial courts sought to communicate with their subjects, this volume offers a thoroughly original reworking of late Roman domestic politics, and demonstrates not only how history could be erased, rewritten, and repurposed, but also how civil war, and indeed usurpation, became endemic to the later Empire.

septimius severus the african emperor: *The Roman Empire at Bay, AD 180-395* David S. Potter, 2014-01-03 *The Roman Empire at Bay* is the only one volume history of the critical years 180-395 AD, which saw the transformation of the Roman Empire from a unitary state centred on Rome, into a new polity with two capitals and a new religion—Christianity. The book integrates social and intellectual history into the narrative, looking to explore the relationship between contingent events and deeper structure. It also covers an amazingly dramatic narrative from the civil wars after the death of Commodus through the conversion of Constantine to the arrival of the Goths in the Roman Empire, setting in motion the final collapse of the western empire. The new edition takes account of important new scholarship in questions of Roman identity, on economy and society as well as work on the age of Constantine, which has advanced significantly in the last decade, while recent archaeological and art historical work is more fully drawn into the narrative. At its core, the central question that drives *The Roman Empire at Bay* remains, what did it mean to be a Roman and how did that meaning change as the empire changed? Updated for a new generation of students, this book remains a crucial tool in the study of this period.

septimius severus the african emperor: *Perpetua* Barbara K. Gold, 2018-09-17 Perpetua was an early Christian martyr who died in Roman Carthage in 203 CE. She has attracted great interest for her narrative written in prison just before she went to her death in the amphitheater. Her story is steeped in mystery, and every aspect of her life and death has generated much controversy.

septimius severus the african emperor: *Italy Illuminated* Biondo Flavio, 2005 Biondo Flavio was a pioneering figure in the Renaissance discovery of antiquity and popularized the term Middle Age to describe the period between the fall of the Roman Empire and the revival of antiquity in his own time. *Italy Illuminated* is a topographical work exploring the Roman roots of Italy.

septimius severus the african emperor: *Conflict in Ancient Greece and Rome* Sara Elise Phang, Iain Spence Ph.D., Douglas Kelly Ph.D., Peter Londevy Ph.D., 2016-06-27 The complex role warfare played in ancient Greek and Roman civilizations is examined through coverage of key wars and battles; important leaders, armies, organizations, and weapons; and other noteworthy aspects of

conflict. Conflict in Ancient Greece and Rome: The Definitive Political, Social, and Military Encyclopedia is an outstandingly comprehensive reference work on its subject. Covering wars, battles, places, individuals, and themes, this thoroughly cross-referenced three-volume set provides essential support to any student or general reader investigating ancient Greek history and conflicts as well as the social and political institutions of the Roman Republic and Empire. The set covers ancient Greek history from archaic times to the Roman conquest and ancient Roman history from early Rome to the fall of the Western Roman Empire in 476 CE. It features a general foreword, prefaces to both sections on Greek history and Roman history, and maps and chronologies of events that precede each entry section. Each section contains alphabetically ordered articles—including ones addressing topics not traditionally considered part of military history, such as noncombatants and war and gender—followed by cross-references to related articles and suggested further reading. Also included are glossaries of Greek and Latin terms, topically organized bibliographies, and selected primary documents in translation.

septimius severus the african emperor: New Documents Illustrating Early Christianity, 1 Stephen Llewelyn, G. H. R. Horsley, 1997-12-02 New documents illustrating early Christianity, 1976 reviews two or three hundred inscriptions and papyri which were published for the first time, or reissued, in 1976. They have been selected from several thousand Greek documents which appeared in that year. Many are reproduced in full, with translation, and extensive notes, and discussion on points of historical and philological interest relating to the New Testament or to the early history of Christianity. A Judaica section is also included.--Back cover.

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