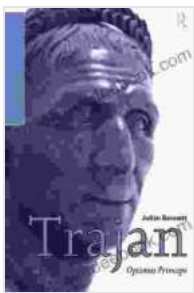


Trajan: Optimus Princeps | Roman Imperial Biographies

Trajan (born Marcus Ulpius Traianus on September 18, 53 CE - died August 8, 117 CE) is arguably one of the most famous and successful emperors of ancient Rome. His reign is generally regarded as a period of great prosperity and expansion for the Roman Empire.



Trajan: Optimus Princeps (Roman Imperial Biographies) by Julian Bennett

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 6359 KB
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Trajan was the first emperor to be born outside of Italy, and his diverse background is thought to have contributed to his success as a leader. He was born in the Roman province of Hispania Baetica (modern-day Andalusia, Spain) to Marcus Ulpius Traianus, a Roman senator, and Marcia, a Roman noblewoman. Trajan's father held several important positions in the Roman government, and young Trajan was well-educated and well-prepared for a life in public service.

After his father's death when Trajan was 10, Trajan moved to Rome with his mother and enrolled in the Roman army. He quickly distinguished himself as a skilled soldier and leader. In 91 CE, he was appointed governor of Germania Superior (Upper Germany), and four years later he was sent to put down a rebellion in the province of Pannonia (modern-day Hungary). Trajan's successful campaigns in Pannonia brought him to the attention of Emperor Nerva, who adopted him as his heir in 97 CE.

When Nerva died in 98 CE, Trajan became emperor. He quickly proved to be a popular ruler, and he is often referred to as "Optimus Princeps" ("the best ruler"). Trajan was a strong and decisive leader, and he was not afraid to take risks. He was also a generous and compassionate ruler, and he was loved by his people.

Trajan is best known for his military conquests. He led successful campaigns against the Dacians (modern-day Romania) and the Parthians (modern-day Iran). Trajan's victories expanded the Roman Empire to its greatest extent, and he is considered one of the greatest military commanders in Roman history.

In addition to his military achievements, Trajan was also a great builder. He constructed numerous roads, bridges, and aqueducts throughout the empire. He also built the famous Trajan's Column in Rome, which commemorates his victories against the Dacians.

Trajan died in 117 CE during a campaign against the Parthians. He was succeeded by his adopted son, Hadrian. Trajan is considered one of the Five Good Emperors of Rome, and his reign is often referred to as the "Golden Age" of the Roman Empire.

Trajan's Personality and Character

Trajan was a complex and enigmatic figure. He was a ruthless and determined warrior, but he was also a compassionate and generous ruler. He was a man of great ambition, but he was also a man of great humility. He was a brilliant military commander, but he was also a gifted orator and statesman.

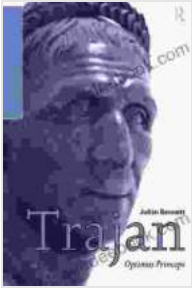
Trajan's personality and character are best revealed in his letters and speeches. In his letters to his friends and family, he is warm and affectionate. In his speeches to the Senate and the people of Rome, he is forceful and inspiring. He was a man of many talents and abilities, and he used them all in the service of the Roman Empire.

Trajan's Legacy

Trajan's legacy is immense. He is considered one of the greatest emperors of ancient Rome, and his reign is often referred to as the "Golden Age" of the Roman Empire. He left behind a vast and prosperous empire, and he is remembered as a wise and benevolent ruler.

Trajan's legacy is also evident in the many monuments and buildings that he constructed. Trajan's Column, Trajan's Market, and Trajan's Forum are all testaments to his greatness. These monuments are still admired and studied today, and they continue to inspire awe and wonder in all who see them.

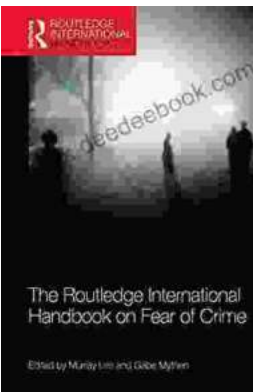
Trajan was a truly extraordinary man. He was a great soldier, a great builder, and a great ruler. He left behind a legacy that is still admired and studied today. He is a shining example of what a Roman emperor could be, and he is an inspiration to us all.



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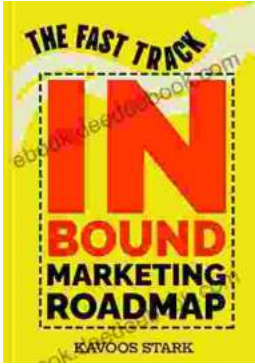
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