

### What is Carthage?

- 1. Phoenician City in N. Africa
- 2. Dido flees from Tyre to establish
- 3. 8th Century B.C. >trading post
- Dominant naval power & most important trading center of western Mediterranean
- 5. Controls western half of Sicily
- 6. Signs treaties with Rome in 508 B.C. and 348 B.C.



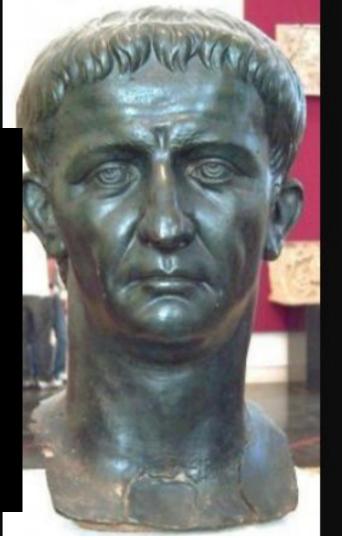
# Origins of the First Punic War

- Mercenaries (Mamertines) take control of Messana
  - a. Request aid from Carthaginians and Romans
    - i. Carthaginians send aid
    - ii. Romans hate mamertines but fear Carthaginians expanding influence
      - Carthage controlling Sicily = danger for Rome



## Appius Claudius Caudex

- 1. Claudius is sent to help Mamertines
  - a. Carthaginians tricked into leaving
  - b. Now fighting Hiero of Syracuse and the Carthaginians
- 2. Claudius defeats Hiero's army
  - a. Joins Rome in alliance
- Claudius defeats Carthaginian army at Agrigentum
  - a. Rome realizes they need a navy to take Sicily
    - i. Use captured Carthaginian ship to build navy



### The Raven

- 1. Rome struggles in naval battles
  - a. Build Raven
    - i. Pole attached to ship that connects to enemy ship
      - 1. Allows soldiers to board
    - ii. Turns naval into hand to hand
    - iii. Carthaginians lose at Mylae b/c of it



# M. Atilius Regulus

- 1. Consul Regulus sails to Africa to invade
- 2. 256 B.C. Romans win battle of Ecnomus
- 3. Carthage asks Rome for peace
  - Continue fightings b/c peace terms were too harsh
  - b. Carthage asks Spartan Xanthippus for help
    - i. Crushes Roman army and captures Regulus
- 4. Regulus sent to get peace/prisoner swap from Rome
  - a. Advises Rome to reject offer
  - b. Romans reject proposal after learning he lied about taking a poison and will die soon
  - When Regulus returns w/o peace terms he is tortured and killed



#### Romans at Sea

- 1. Romans lose at sea > focus on land
- 2. Romans have control (except for Lilybaeum and Drepana)
  - a. Need a fleet to take b/c
    Carthage is reinforcing by
    sea
- Roman citizens contribute money for new fleet





#### End of First Punic War

- 1. Carthaginian fleet defeated off Sicily
  - a. Romans besiege Lilybaeum
  - b. Carthage asks for peace in 241 B.C.
    - i. Must abandon Sicily & pay war fines
    - ii. Rome takes Corsica and Sardinia and demands more payments
  - c. Carthaginians are bitter and resentful
  - d. Hamilcar Barca never forgets
- 2. Rome goes on to take northern Italy up to the Alps