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Augustus Caesar

1,155 Words

Gaius Julius Caesar Augustus was the first emperor of Rome, who born in the name of Gaius Octavius Thurinus. However, people in the modern world known him in the name of Augustus Caesar, who built up Rome from ordinary kingdom to be one of the greatest civilizations of the world. The strong and peaceful Rome that Augustus Caesar built up at that time was the most important contribution to mankind. If he was not born at that time, today we might not have the great Roman civilization. Moreover, the Roman invention also play a massive role in the modern world such as Roman letter, Roman writing system, Roman building style, Roman highway and road system, Roman legal system and the name of each month from The Julian Calendar.<sup>1</sup> All of these inventions that we mentioned above most of them really benefit the people in the modern world. Pax Romana or in Latin word mean Rome in peace. This period of Pax Romana was an example of how strong and powerful the Rome in empire of Augustus Caesar was. It last about 207 years from 27 BC to 180 AD.<sup>2</sup> The three main reasons that made Rome in empire of Augustus Caesar be one of the greatest civilizations were the way that he brought back peace to Rome, The taxation system that he used, the road, and security system in Rome.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Maciamo. "Greatest Ancient Roman contribution(s) to the world." *Eupedia European travel and history*. 9 Feb. 2012. < [http://www.eupedia.com/forum/showthread.php?20285-Greatest-Ancient-Roman-contribution\(s\)-to-the-world](http://www.eupedia.com/forum/showthread.php?20285-Greatest-Ancient-Roman-contribution(s)-to-the-world)>

<sup>2</sup> Wikipedia contributors. "Pax Romana." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 4 Feb. 2012. < [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pax\\_Romana](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pax_Romana)>

<sup>3</sup> Wikipedia contributors. "Augustus." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 3 Feb. 2012. < <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus>>

First, let begin with the creation of peace in Rome by Augustus Caesar. The peacefulness of Rome last for such a long period of times approximately 207 years or the whole Pax Romana period. The Pax Romana period was also known as the Pax Augusta that came from the name of Augustus Caesar.<sup>4</sup> The main method which Augustus Caesar used in order to bring the peace to Rome was by converting the old administrative system of Rome from the Republic to Empire system.<sup>5</sup> This Empire system that he brought up really benefits Rome, because at that time many other kingdoms suffered from the problem of Republican government.<sup>6</sup> The Republican governments were too greedy and want to have power. Augustus Caesar noticed that problem and solved this problem by changing the administrative system to be the Empire which made him able to control Rome by his own self. He had all the power in his hand. This also made Augustus Caesar be able to control the kingdom of Roman easier. Moreover, he had to deal with the problem that Rome were facing then, by informed the rules and law. All the rules that he had put up became a great success. So, these were the main reasons that lead Rome, under the control of Augustus Caesar, to the time period of peacefulness or the Pax Romana period.

Secondly, about the taxation system that Augustus Caesar used in Rome. This helped Rome became greater than other kingdom at that time. It was because of the taxation system that Augustus Caesar had applied to make Rome become wealthier. The emperor or Augustus Caesar himself can use that amount of collected money to spend on other things that will benefit to the entire kingdom. It was better than only person using that amount of money. The method that Augustus Caesar used to collect

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<sup>4</sup> Wikipedia contributors. "Pax Romana." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 4 Feb. 2012.  
< [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pax\\_Romana](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pax_Romana)>

<sup>5</sup> Wikipedia contributors. "Augustus." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 3 Feb. 2012.  
< <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus>>

<sup>6</sup> Karl Galinsky. *Age of Augustus*. 2005. p.116-121

taxes was by announcing that each of the cities in the Roman kingdom would be the responsible to collect the taxes in their own region. The principle of how he collected those tax was that, for example, five percent of the heritage that would be passed for their wife and next generation would be collected to the government as taxes.<sup>7</sup> There also taxation for selling, in the control of Augustus Caesar. The tax was collected from the slaves selling by four percents and only one percent from selling others thing.<sup>7</sup> Augustus Caesar also started to provide the retirement for the military in Roman kingdom. Moreover, in some other region like England and Holland also brought this concept of taxation and applied as a basic for developing the taxation system in their own country.<sup>7</sup>

Next, the last main things told in the first paragraph about what Augustus Caesar had made for Rome to become a great empire was the road system, and also the security system. Let talk about the road system in that period first. The road system in this place really made Rome become stronger than other kingdoms of that time because of the transportation system that worked efficiently in Rome.<sup>8</sup> It made people that want to travel from a place to other place goes faster. Since, Roman kingdom at that time was a very big kingdom so it really needs to have a good transportation system which could allow the empire to control every part of the kingdom easier.<sup>9</sup> When the empire had to face with the problem for an example, when some places in the kingdom were lack of food they can send the food to their hand fast enough. It also would help in the war time period too.<sup>10</sup> Now, let see the security system that Augustus Caesar had provided in the empire. He had created the

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<sup>7</sup> Adams, Charles. "A History of Taxation." *TaxWorld Information for Inheritance Tax, Income Tax and All Other Forms of Taxation*. 8 Feb. 2012. < <http://www.taxworld.org/History/TaxHistory.htm>>

<sup>8</sup> Karl Galinsky. *Age of Augustus*. 2005. p.76-80

<sup>9</sup> Wikipedia contributors. "Roman roads." *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 8 Feb. 2012. < [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman\\_roads](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_roads)>

<sup>10</sup> Trevor Cairns. *The Romans and Their Empire*. 1970. p.41-44.

policeman and fireman in Rome up.<sup>11</sup> This security system really led to make the Roman kingdom become more civilization. Moreover, when people in the kingdom that Augustus Caesar control feel safe and secure, this will lead to the rise in confidence among the people in the kingdom. This means the stronger of the empire. People in that kingdom will really feel proud and pride of their kingdom that they all live in. So, this is also including in one of the main reasons that made Roman kingdom strong and powerful throughout the century.

As a conclusion, as we have proved in the information above that Augustus Caesar really made Roman kingdom strong and become powerful for the first time.<sup>12</sup> If we do not have Augustus Caesar to set the path for Roman kingdom to walk on, we might not have a lot of inventions that remain from the Roman culture. Like a lot of people knew that to build a tall and strong building the lowest brick or the brick to start the building have to be strong and well-structured to make all of the entire building strong and will not collapse in the future. The same way as what Augustus Caesar had started for Rome as the Roman first emperor is to set whole structure for Roman kingdom to go on in the future.<sup>13</sup> These really prove that if we do not have the man named Gaius Julius Caesar Augustus. We might not have the great culture of Rome and also a lot of things that we know them as the word Roman in this modern day might be all gone. So, as we have mentioned before “The strong and peaceful Rome that Augustus Caesar built up at that time was the most important contribution to mankind.”

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<sup>11</sup> Wikipedia contributors. “Augustus.” *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 3 Feb. 2012.  
< <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus> >

<sup>12</sup> Derek Williams. *The Reach of Rome*. 1996. p.1-12

<sup>13</sup> Edward Gibbon. *The history of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire*. 1983. p.81-87