

Humanities - HISTORY INQUIRY PROJECT

REPORT

What caused the Break Up of the Roman Empire?

Name:



I think the decline of the Roman Empire had something to do with all of the topics, but was mostly caused by 3 main groups. The Roman Army, The way of life and Hannibal. The Roman army could have played a big part because the Roman army kept getting weaker and more countries decided to fight them to get their land back. The Roman army was losing wars and men so this scared the Romans because their army was being defeated frequently and it wasn't as strong. Rome would have got out of control with so many attacks. The way of life could have also played a big part because as the rich kept getting richer, the poor kept getting poorer and the rich started getting out of hand with greed. They were building over Rome's largest food supply farms so Rome relied on other countries under their

empire for food and this resulted in food prices rising so it was much harder for the poor to get enough food to survive. The rich also found a way to shut off the poor's water supply. This could have been a big problem because the yellow group said 'Romans LOVED water.' It was the only thing left that the rich and poor had equal amounts of. They bathed in it 'until they turned into shrivelled up plums' - also quoted by the yellow group and all they would drink was water and Mulsom. The poor weren't happy with all of this. They refused to work for people who were taking their land, food and water supplies. This could have caused a rebellion between the rich and the poor. Hannibal could have also played a big part because he found a way to disconnect Rome from its allies making them more vulnerable and feeling insecure. Hannibal fought Rome twice and defeated them both times. Hannibal made a plan. He lined his troops around the outside of a lake, blocking all

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of the exits so the Romans couldn't escape. When the Romans arrived, Hannibal's army surrounded them, and forced most of them to drown themselves causing 15 000 Romans to die. The creme group said that Hannibal continued to kill Roman leaders and destroy their villages. The creme group also said Hannibal's contribution to the break up of Rome was beginning, because the Romans were losing faith and confidence in the strength of their leaders and their army. Hannibal weakened Rome's trust in its leaders and detached it from its allies, making Rome more vulnerable. He was widely feared, and caused many to flee Rome, which would have weakened the strength of Rome as a country.

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I believe these 3 groups all had a part to play in the decline of Rome, all for their own reasons. Though, nobody knows for sure what truly happened.