

Gaius Julius Caesar

(13 July 100 - 15 March 44 BCE)

- 100 (July 13) Birth of Caesar to an influential family.
- 81-79 Served in Asia Minor on the personal staff of the praetor.
- 78 Returned to Italy, started a career as a criminal lawyer, and stayed out of politics.
- 75 Went to Rhodes for further education.
- 74 Raised a small army and defended some towns in Asia Minor against attack; returned to Rome a war hero.
- 68 Was quaestor (responsible for fiscal administration) and served in Baetica, a province in Hispania.
- 65 Elected aedile (responsible for the Games and the maintenance of the temples)
- 63 Elected pontifex maximus (high priest); subsequently elected praetor. Very popular.
- 61 Elected governor of Baetica, a turning point in his career.
- 60 Elected to the highest office in the Roman republic. Formed First Triumvirate, with Crassus and Pompey, sealing the deal by intermarriage.
- 58 Left Rome (father-in-law Piso took care of his affairs in the capital).
- 58-54 Conquest of Gaul, a “preventive war” according to his propaganda.
- 54 Invaded Britain for a second time.

Death of his daughter Julia, who was the wife of Pompey. Crassus killed in action at Carrhae.
- 52 Pompey elected 'consul without colleague' and wielded almost dictatorial authority.
- 49 Senate demanded Caesar to hand over his ten legions to a new governor, but he chose to rebel, crossed the river Rubico, invaded Italy, provoked the Second Civil War, entered Rome, was made dictator. (Pompey in Greece, gathering resources.)
- 48 Overcame Pompey's larger army at Pharsalus. Pompey survived, but was murdered by soldiers of the ten-year-old king Ptolemy XIII, who hoped to gain Caesar's support against his older sister Cleopatra VII. When Caesar met Cleopatra, he was captivated, and chose her side.
- 47 Defeated Ptolemy (March); spent time with Cleopatra (during which time she conceived a son), conducted successful battle against the Sarmatian tribe at Zela in Asia Minor (*veni, vidi, vici*), returned to Rome (September).
- 46 The last republicans regrouped in Africa, and had brought together a large army, but Caesar defeated them (April).
- 45 Suppressed final revolt in Hispania, returned home (Oct), instituted reforms, sought a way to make his rule tolerable (dictatorship, permanent consulship, consulship without colleague, etc.)
- 44 Assassination (March 15).