

FORUM ROMANUM: SHOW #10

PANEM ET CIRCENSES

Iunii I, LXXX A.D.
(**primo Iunii, octogesimo anno Domini**)

Kal. Iun. DCCCLXXXIII AVC
(**kalendiis Iuniis, octingentesimo octogesimo tertio anno ab urbe condita**)

I. Salutatio

Favonius: Salvete, omnes! Mihi nomen est Marcus Favonius et hoc est Forum Romanum! Quid novi est hodie? Brevi tempore videbimus. At prius, ecce Quaestio Hodierna!

II. Quaestio Hodierna

Lector: Quaestio hodierna est de architectura: Tria genera architecturae classicae sunt Doricum,

BREAD AND CIRCUSES

June 1, 80 A.D.
(**the first of June, in the 80th year of the Lord**)

Kalends of June, 883 AUC
(**the Kalends of June, in the 883rd year from the founding of the city**)

I. Greeting

Favonius: Hello, everyone! My name is Marcus Favonius and this is Forum Romanum! What's new today? We'll see in a little bit. But first, here's the Question of the Day!

II. Question of the Day

Reader: The question of the day is about architecture: The three kinds (orders) of classical

Ionicum, et _____. Responsum dabitur ad finem Fori Romani.

III. Quid novi?

Favonius: Et nunc videamus quid novi sit. Hodie Amphitheatrum Flavium tandem dedicatum est! Imperator Caesar Augustus Titus Flavius Vespasianus dedicavit hoc novum amphitheatrum, paene post annum decimum quam inceptum est. Titus, Imperator noster, atque frater Flavius Domitianus decreverunt ludos magnificos plurimos dies habendos! Hoc ipso tempore, nostra Iulia Pauli est ante Amphitheatrum Flavium ipsum. Ergo ad eam statim eamus.

IV. Et alia (Iulia ante Amphitheatrum Flavium; interrogat Iuvenalem)

Iulia: Ave atque salve, Favoni! Adsum ante Amphitheatrum Flavium, novissimum atque

architecture are Doric, Ionic, and _____. The answer will be given at the end of Forum Romanum.

III. What's new?

Favonius: And now let's see what's new. Today the Flavian Amphitheater has been dedicated at last! The emperor Caesar Augustus Titus Flavius Vespasianus dedicated this new amphitheater, nearly ten years after it was begun. Titus, our emperor, and his brother Flavius Domitianus decreed that wondrous games be held for many days! At this time, our own Julia Pauli is in front of the Flavian Amphitheater itself. Therefore, let's go to her right away.

IV. And other things (Julia in front of the Colosseum; interviews Juvenal)

Julia: Greetings and salutations, Favonius! I'm here in front of the Flavian Amphitheater, the

splendidissimum amphitheatrum omnium!

Favonius: Ut plane videmus. Narra tu nobis quid ibi accidat.

Julia: Libenter. Ut mihi videtur, paene totus Populus Romanus adest ad ludos magnificos spectandos: senatores et servi; liberi atque liberti; matronae militesque!

Favonius: Nisi erro, quinquaginta milia hominum Amphitheatrum Flavium potest continere!

Julia: Id est quod narrant. Spectatores coeperunt advenire hodie multo mane ut viderent spectacula.

Favonius: Qualia spectacula fiunt?

Julia: Ut saepe, primo erant homines scelesti ad bestias damnati. Post hoc miserandum

newest and most magnificent amphitheater of them all!

Favonius: As we plainly see. Tell us what's happening there.

Julia: Gladly. As it seems to me, nearly the whole Roman populace is here to watch the magnificent games: senators and slaves; children and freedmen; matrons and soldiers!

Favonius: Unless I'm mistaken, the Flavian Amphitheater is able to hold 50,000 men!

Julia: That's what they say. The spectators began to arrive today early in the morning to see the shows.

Favonius: What sorts of shows are happening?

Julia: As usual, at first there were criminals condemned to the beasts. After this sad sight

spectaculum erant venationes optimae! Multa milia animalium collecta sunt ab omnibus partibus Maris Nostri: ursi et tauri, leones et pantherae! Etiam elephantes crocodilique!

Favonius: Mirandum! Verum ubi tot animalia possunt contineri?

Julia: In carceribus subter arenam ipsam— praeter elephantes scilicet.

Favonius: Subter arenam! Quam callide! Dispeream nisi fabri Romani sint optimi machinatores toto in orbe terrarum!

Julia: Constat. Quod magis, super totum amphitheatrum est velarium maximum quod perhibeat solem a spectatoribus!

Favonius: Mirifice! At tamen, dic nobis plura de ludis, quaeso.

Julia: Libenter. Post venationes munera

there were the best animal hunts! Many thousands of animals were collected from all parts of the Mediterranean: bears and bulls, lions and panthers! Even elephants and crocodiles!

Favonius: Amazing! But where can so many animals be held?

Julia: In cages under the arena itself – except for the elephants, of course.

Favonius: Under the arena! How clever! I'll be damned if Roman builders are not the best engineers in the whole world!

Julia: Agreed. What's more, over the entire amphitheater there is a huge cover that keeps the sun off from the spectators!

Favonius: Amazing! But tell us more about the games, please.

Julia: Gladly. After the hunts, gladiatorial games

gladiatoria dabantur. Sanguis perfluit totam per arenam! Nonnulli gladiatores tam bene pugnabant ut mitterentur, sed alii...pollice verso.

Favonius: Potesne, Iulia, loqui cum uno e spectatoribus?

Iulia: Ita faciam statim. Heus tu, te volo!
(*Juvenalis apparet*) Salve, mi amice! Quod nomen tibi est?

Juvenal: Salve tu. Decimus Iunius Iuvenalis sum.

Iulia: Tu fuisti intus, spectans hos ludos mirandos, nonne?

Juvenal: Ita vero, intus fui. At vero haud gaudeo intus fuisse. Horrendum erat, si me roges.

Iulia: Horrendumne? Quomodo?

were given. Blood flowed everywhere through the whole arena! A few gladiators fought so well that they were freed, but others... thumbs down.

Favonius: Are you able, Julia, to speak with one of the spectators?

Julia: I'll do so right away. Hey you, I want you!
(*Juvenal appears*) Hello, my friend! What's your name?

Juvenal: Hello to you. I am Decimus Junius Juvenalis.

Julia: You were inside, watching these amazing games, weren't you?

Juvenal: Yes, I was inside. But I'm not at all happy that I was inside. It was horrible, if you ask me?

Julia: Horrible? In what way?

Juvenal: Quale spectaculum est videre trecentos homines fortes atque tria milia bestiarum innocentium crudelissime ad mortem ducta!?

Julia: Fortasse verumst. At tamen, nonne hoc aedificium mirabile est!

Juvenal: Mirabile, fateor. In re architecturae, certe miraculum est! Ecce illas columnas bellissimas: tria genera architecturae—Doricum, Ionicum atque Corinthium!

Julia: Hoc aedificium ergo tibi placet, nonne?

Juvenal: Non in toto. Ecce! In exteriori parte, magnificentia et dignitas; verum in interiori, crudelitas et inhumanitas! Nonne tu haec audis? Hoc est Urbs Roma ipsa—marmor sanguine perfluens!

Julia: Plane tibi non placent munera gladiatoria.

Juvenal: What sort of a show is it to see three hundred brave men and three thousand innocent animals led most cruelly to their deaths!?

Julia: Perhaps it's true. But, isn't this an amazing building!

Juvenal: Amazing, I admit. In the matter of architecture, it is certainly a miracle. Look at those extremely beautiful columns: three orders of architecture – Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian!

Julia: Therefore this building pleases you, right?

Juvenal: Not entirely. Look! On the outer part, glorious and dignified; but inside, cruel and inhumane! Don't you hear these things? This is real City of Rome – marble flowing with blood!

Julia: Clearly the gladiatorial games don't please you.

Juvenal: Sane. Mihi haud placent, sed, ut plane audis, Populo Romano placent. Temporibus pristinis Populus Romanus libertatem tantam amabat. At nunc, duas res tantas amavit Populus Romanus: panem et circenses!

Julia: Utinam plus audire possemus, Iuvenalis, sed, vae nobis, tempus fugit! Gratias tibi ago et valeas. Totum est, Favoni, rursus ad te!

Favonius: Gratias agimus, Iulia.

V. Tempestas Hodierna

Favonius: Tempus est audire de tempestate. Quam ob rem, ecce Aulus Serenus!

Serenus: Gratias tibi ago, Favoni. Videamus quaenam sit tempestatas hodie. Hoc die festo, totam per Italiam caelum serenum est. Gratias Iovi! Quam bellam tempestatem ad ludos spectandos! At vero ego ludos spectare non possum quod hic sum...at tamen videamus

Juvenal: Absolutely. They don't please me at all, but, as you hear, they please the Roman people. In previous times the Roman people loved only freedom. But now, the Roman people have begun to love only two things: bread and circuses!

Julia: I wish we could hear more, Juvenal, but, too bad for us, time flies! Thank you and good-bye! That's everything, Favonius, back to you!

Favonius: We thank you, Julia.

V. Today's Weather

Favonius: It's time to hear about the weather. For that reason, here is Aulus Serenus!

Serenus: Thank you, Favonius. Let's see what the weather is like today. On this holiday, the sky is clear through all of Italy. Thanks to Jove! What beautiful weather for watching games! But I can't watch the games because I am here... but let's see what the weather is like other places

quaenam sit tempestas alibi circum Mare
Nostrum. In Aegypto ubi sunt Pyramides atque
Pharos Alexandriae, caldissima est tempestas.
Multos dies iam Iuppiter non pluit!
In Asia, ubi est Mausoleum Halicarnassi et
Templum Artemis Ephesi, sol splendide lucet et
tempestas caldissima est. Atque sol lucet apud
insulam Rhodum, ubi quondam erat situs in portu
Colossus Apollinis, simillimus colosso iuxta
nostrum Amphitheatrum Flavium! Iam satis est.
Aulus Serenus sum atque spero caela sint vobis
valde serena!

VI. Responsum Quaestioni

Favonius: Multas gratias, Serene. Et nunc, ecce
responsum quaestioni hodiernae.

Lector: Quaestio hodierna erat ut sequitur: Tria
genera architecturae classicae sunt Doricum,
Ionicum, et _____. Responsum est hoc:
Corinthium.

around the Mediterranean. In Egypt, where there
are the pyramids and the Pharos of Alexandria,
the weather is very hot. For many days not
Jupiter hasn't rained! In Asia, where there is the
Mausoleum of Halicarnassus and the temple of
Artemis of Ephesus, the sun is shining brightly
and the weather is hot. And the sun is shining on
the island of Rhodes, where at one time in its
port the Colossus of Apollo was located, very
similar to the colossus next to our Flavian
Amphitheater. Now that's enough. I'm Aulus
Serenus and I hope that your skies may always be
clear!

VI. The Answer to the Question

Favonius: Thanks a lot, Serenus. And now, here
is the answer to the question of the day.

Reader: The question of the day was as follows:
The three orders of classical architecture are
Doric, Ionic, and _____. The answer is this:
Corinthian.

VII. Dictum Hodiernum

Favonius: Nunc tempus est videre nostrum
Dictum Hodiernum!

Lector: Hoc est dictum hodiernum: panem et
circenses

VIII. Valedictio

Favonius: Verba notanda. Ut repetamus nuntios
principales: Hodie, splendidissimum
Amphitheatrum Flavium tandem dedicatum est!
Totum est ad hanc editionem Fori Romani.
Gratias summas agimus et di vobis faveant.
Valete omnes!

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VII: The Saying of the Day

Favonius: Now it's time to see our saying of the
day!

Reader: This is the saying of the day: bread and
circuses.

VIII. Farewell

Favonius: Words to remember. To review our
main new: Today, the very magnificent Flavian
Amphitheater was at last dedicated! That's all for
this edition of Forum Romanum. We thank you
and may the gods bless you. Bye everyone!

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