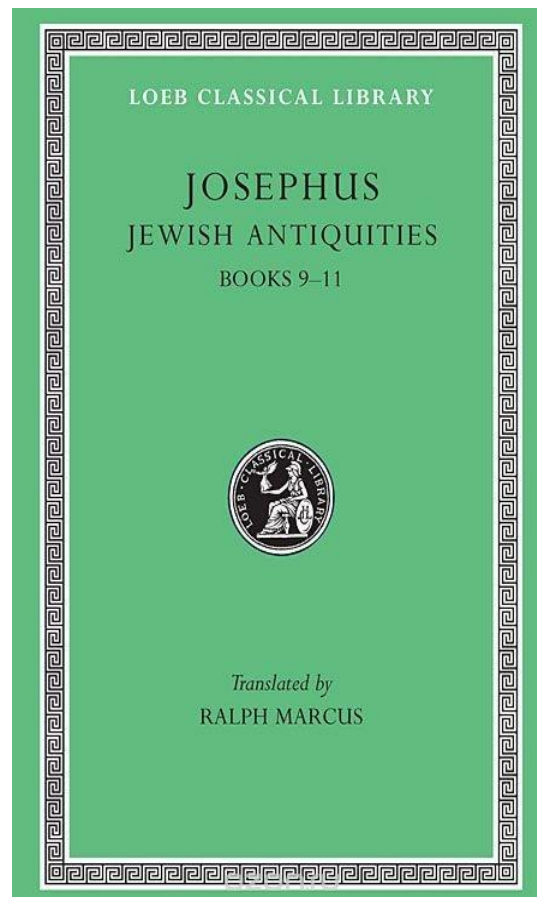


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THE ROMAN PROCURATORS' POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN JUDEA IN THE 1ST CENTURY AD



Introduction

This article aims to track the actions of Roman procurators and the Jewish people that influenced the start of the Jewish war. The negligence of the rulers and the passivity of the Jewish people played a cruel joke on the fate of a huge number of innocent people. One of the most important sources that I used was the Jewish stories of Josephus, an eyewitness and participant in all these actions, however, since Josephus was detained by the Romans, he was reviled sharply, apparently to avoid death.

Reasons for the start of the Jewish war. The actions of the Jewish people and the Roman army

Between 6 and 66 A.D., there were 14 prosecutors in Judea, but only a few influenced the outbreak of war. Cuspius Fad was the procurator of Judea in 44-46. He is mentioned by Joseph in the Jewish Antiquities (Book 20).

During the governorship of Fad in Judea, a certain Feuda, a deceiver, persuaded a large mass of people to take all his property with them and follow him, Feuda, to the Jordan River. He pretended to be a prophet and assured that he would order the river to step aside and easily let them pass. With these words, he misled many. However, Fad did not allow their madness. He sent against them a detachment of cavalry, which suddenly came upon them, killed many of them and captured many alive, frenzied, the soldiers chopped off Fevda's head and drove her to Jerusalem.



Mark Anthony Felix became the procurator after Ventidius Cuman in 52 and was until 60. His rule was marked by internal hostility and unrest, which were brutally suppressed. He had a good relationship with the Jewish elite, and he was even married to Agrippa II's sister. Relations with the community were problematic and worsened, leading to the First Rebellion.



Portia Festus (Porcius Festus) was the procurator of Judea in 58 - 62 AD, replacing Anthony Felix. He inherited all the problems of his predecessor regarding the Roman practice of distributing to individual members of the Jewish elite the Roman citizenship and the corresponding privileges. During his reign, Jewish hostility towards Rome intensified sharply. Feelings were awakened, and this played an important role in bringing about the first Jewish rebellion.

Gessius Florus became the procurator in 64; he was greedy and unfair to the Jewish population. According to Joseph, it was he who became the root cause of the First Jewish Rebellion. After taking office in Caesarea, Flor began the practice of endorsing the actions of the local Greek population of the city against the Jewish population. The local Greek population noticed such a policy of Flora and widely

enjoyed such favor in their interests. In particular, during the prayer in the synagogue, the Greeks killed several birds at the entrance to it, which was a mockery of Jewish law and desecration of the place and made it impossible to perform ritual actions in the synagogue. The Jews sent a delegation to ask for intercession from Flora. Despite accepting the payment of eight talents for hearing the case, Flora instead imprisoned petitioners.

It is all of the above that led to the beginning of the uprisings and the first Jewish war.



Conclusion

It is difficult to say whether it was all real, because there is no exact evidence of this or that event, except for the Josephus's books. The theme of my report at first glance may seem very strange in the current realities of modern society, but this is an excellent example of what kind of ruler there must not be. Each politician is obliged to evaluate his actions on a global scale, to understand how his decisions can affect ordinary people. We all must learn from mistakes, and politics, and even more world leaders are no exception. Perhaps I will end the report with a phrase from Oscar Wilde's book: «*One of the advantages of the past is that it is in the past*».