The title is taken from Sir Mortimer Wheeler's *Rome Beyond the Imperial Frontiers*, in which he described how "the long, acquisitive arm of imperial Rome reached out over thousands of kilometres, not only to affect the history of the lands it touched, but also to leave a record, archaeologically and in writing. As far as Africa is concerned, it is with the written record that the importance of its outreach begins, and indeed ends. While Christopher Ehret's *An African Classical Age. Eastern and Southern Africa in World History, 1000 B.C. to A.D. 400* is a reminder of how Ancient Rome portal "War portal. v.t.e. Roman military borders and fortifications were part of a grand strategy of territorial defense in the Roman Empire, although this is a matter of debate. By the early 2nd century, the Roman Empire had reached the peak of its territorial expansion and rather than constantly expanding their borders as earlier in the Empire and Republic, the Romans solidified their position by fortifying their strategic position with a series of fortifications and established The employment of non-citizens as auxiliaries—for example, from allies of Rome beyond the frontiers—was a long-established tradition, but increasingly tribal warbands served alongside the legions under their own chieftains as allies or "federated" people. The prominence of "barbarian" soldiers in the Roman army was to be crucial to the development of events as the western empire declined. But Odoacer did not claim the imperial title, which was held by Emperor Zeno at Constantinople. Filling the Void. Germanic kingdoms were established as the empire fell.