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Research Article

VICTORY BULLET; ABOUT THE TRAJAN FORUM

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ABSTRACT

This article presents a brief history of the creation of Trajan's Column. It also talks about the architecture of this monument, its images and the significance of the building in modern times.

KEYWORDS

Rome, Damascus, Dacia, Danaus, Arc de Trioffa, Trajan, Emperor Hadrian, forum, victory, Carrare marble, Apollodorus, Capitoline slopes.

INTRODUCTION

One of the most magnificent squares in Rome is the Forum of Trajan. It was here that the entire political system of ancient Rome was transplanted from the Roman Forum. The new forum is distinguished by a well-thought-out composition, luxury, details, many jewels, statues, and Trajan's column is the main decoration.

The forum was built in honor of Emperor Trajan's victory over the Dacians. The architect of this

building was Apollodorus from Damascus. The area from 116 to 95 meters is covered with marble. Its entrance led through the triumphal arch depicted on Roman coins. On three sides were statues of Portuguese and famous Roman figures. On the fourth side, the basilica is a building intended for political events. Behind the basilica were two libraries - between which the famous Trajan's column was placed.

The column is made of 18 marble blocks and does not have a smooth coating, as it depicts Trajan's war images and victories in reliefs.

The main asset of Trajan's Column in Rome is the relief. It tells the story of Trajan's two wars against the Dacians in historical sequence. The reliefs are very clear and detailed, they depict more than 2500 human figures, in which the image of the emperor is repeated about 90 times. Among them are some mythological Roman characters. But the main thing in these reliefs is their details. The paintings are of great historical importance, they reflect the details of the clothes and weapons, landscapes, faces of that time.

If you look at the magnificence of the column and its scale, you will not even imagine that it is hollow. On the contrary, there are spiral stairs inside it that lead to the observation area at the top of the column. From the top of the column, tasks such as observing the city and maintaining order can be done.

The 38-meter tall Trajan's Column glorifies the might of the Roman Empire and the zeal of its commanders. The column is decorated with marble slabs that depict the events of that period with historical accuracy. (albeit an exaggeration typical of fictional Roman buildings) and in chronological order. Basically, the plates tell the story of the battles with the Dacians, the crossing of the Danube and Trajan's return to Rome with the victorious army.

Today, not all the sights of the Forum of Trajan have reached our days. The column is the best preserved - it is undoubtedly magnificent, but it

was designed to look very elegant around the buildings of the Forum, and in solitude it looks a little lonely. It is noteworthy that under the column are the tombs of Emperor Trajan himself and his wife. The Senate and Emperor Hadrian decided to waive the ban on urban burials to highlight Emperor Trajan's services to Rome and its people.

The main roads of Italy start from the forum, the main streets of the city go back to this forum. Statues and decorative columns are installed in its center. Emperor Trajan's Forum was very luxurious. Built by the architect Apollodorus, Trajan's column was installed in the center of the forum square.

It is made of 20 blocks of Carare marble, 38 m high (including the pedestal) and hollow inside a column with a diameter of 4 m: it consists of a spiral staircase of 185 steps, leading to the platform of the capital. The weight of the monument is about 40 tons. The barrel of the column contained reliefs depicting episodes of the Roman and Dacian war around a 190 m long ribbon 23 times. It was originally crowned with an eagle, later a statue of Trajan. It is interesting that they learned about the state of the war with the Dacians from the reliefs of the column, because there were no documents about it.

The inscription on the column also tends to explain that Trajan's column was as tall as a mountain. They had geometric letters, geometric shapes such as squares or circles. They were usually read from the bottom, so the lower letters were smaller in size. In which a relief

depicting Trajan's fight against the Dacians is made in a scrolling frieze.

Trajan himself is on the column about 90 times (Wikipedia states 59 times), and everywhere he is not alone, but in the ranks of the legionaries. In addition to the legionaries, the Dacians defeated by the emperor are depicted. Trajan's column was originally decorated with a golden Roman eagle, and after the emperor's death, his statue was placed on it. In 1588, by order of Pope Sixtus V, a statue of the Apostle Peter was placed on the column, which is still holding the column.

Rome is the capital of modern Italy and a powerful ancient empire. Many centuries of history have left many monuments here that attract millions of tourists. One of the most beautiful and magnificent sights is Trajan's Column in Rome, located in the square of the same name. It serves not only as a decoration, but also as a chronicle of the most important military events of the Roman Empire. Trajan's column was built in honor of the Roman emperor. Thanks to a talented commander and reformer, the territory of the Roman Empire increased significantly.

In addition to an active foreign policy and the construction of fortresses, the emperor built aqueducts, bridges and other civil structures. The last imperial forum was built in Rome in honor of the wise ruler. Unlike the previous ones, this was an exhibition of Trajan's weapons and victories. The square was accessible through the Arc de Trioffa, and in the center stood a huge column bearing the name of the great emperor. The design of the forum and columns was created by

the architect Apollodorus. He completed the construction of the monument in 113 AD. A few years later, in 117, Trajan died. A container made of ashes was placed on the rectangular base of the monument and turned into a tomb. The total height of Trajan's column reaches 38 m and the diameter reaches 4 m. The estimated mass of the obelisk is 40 tons. The entire column can be divided into three components:

1. on foot;
2. column;
3. the capital.

A small hall was cut inside the rectangular base of the obelisk. In addition to the remains of Trajan himself, the ashes of his faithful companion (Pompey Plotina) were stored there. The inscriptions on the foundation walls have been preserved since ancient times, and historians are attracted by the style of writing. You can enter the hall and the spiral staircase through a bronze door, which occupies one of the four walls of the foundation.

As a decoration, the main part of the column is covered with a ribbon-like hat. The length of this ribbon is 190 m, and each of the 23 turns depicts the scenes of the battles led by Trajan. The column is located in the small courtyard of the forum, next to the Latin and Greek libraries, as well as in the ancient basilica.

The entire tape is divided into two parts, between which there is an image of Niki (goddess of victory). Each part is dedicated to the emperor's

separate military wars (101-102 and 105-106). Around the shield are the trophies he won. The uniqueness of this building is that, like a chronicle, it describes in detail important events in the history of the Roman Empire. The almost complete absence of text simplifies the reception of information for those who do not know the language or do not understand ancient letters.

The architectural design of the forum and the practical implementation of the work are related to the name of Apollodorus. He was considered an excellent military engineer. Besides, Apollodorus is considered the author of works on mechanics and polyoretics (siege art). Emperor Trajan greatly appreciated Apollodorus.

Apollodorus created the column as a monument to the victories won by Troy, Trajan. Its construction was a gift for Jupiter Feretri "Armor of fat" (spolia opium) king of the Dacians. Originally the full height of the structure was probably 38 m (100 Roman feet), largely determined by the size of the surrounding buildings of Trajan's Forum, which should not have obscured the column. Above him, in a stone statue, a 3-meter statue of the emperor is installed. Glistening in the sun, it was the dominant feature of the entire forum's architectural ensemble. The height of the column is 38 m, its trunks are 29.78 m, the diameter is 3.695 m, the trunk is mounted on a huge base of 5.29 meters, decorated with reliefs and provided with a dedication inscription. Initially, statues of four eagles with laurel branches were installed in the corners of the capital. A vestibule and stairs below the entrance led to a small chapel. Here,

after the death of Trajan in 117, a golden pyre was placed with his ashes, and later Pompey Plotina was also cremated with ashes. Another staircase, carved into the hollow shaft of the pillar, led from the entrance to the top. It consisted of 152 steps and made eleven rotations in a clockwise, counterclockwise, eleven steps. The stairs led to a 4.34×4.34 m platform surrounded by handrails on the high base of the Trajan statue, where a magnificent view of the Forum opened.

The most famous example of the typicality of the images on Trajan's column reliefs are the nine mounted figures in which both the riders themselves and their horses are covered with scales from head to toe.

In it, the images themselves and their details are often determined by the established laws of the genre. This applies, in particular, to the uniform military equipment of the Roman legionaries, all of which were dressed in plate shells (lorica segmentata) and equipped with rectangular shields (phlegm). The reliefs that created the pillars of artists on rectangular shields depict only two versions of the decoration: a laurel wreath or a part of a thunderbolt with eagle wings. Neither in the form of shields nor in the form of military equipment can be observed the difference between the soldiers of the imperial guard and the legionnaires. Unlike the "Romans", the soldiers of the auxiliary cohorts were dressed in chain mail and wore elongated oval-shaped shields. The coat of arms on the shields, although more varied than the shields of the legions, is very stereotypical and differs only in a few general forms. In fact, the equipment of the soldiers

varied even within those units. The legionnaires depicted on the Trojan Column mostly wore chain mail.

Art historians say that the Romans had never seen such a beautiful complex before or after Trajan. The forum itself was surrounded by pillars, surrounded by a wall and protected by a roof. The entrance to the forum was crowned by a magnificent triumphal arch decorated with a sculpture depicting a chariot drawn by six horses.

To implement the project, the architect had to remove part of the slopes of the Quirinal and the Capitol - none of the forums built before this required such a change in natural scenery. However, the workers under the leadership of Appolodorus did a great job - at the time of completion, the forum was 300 meters long and 185 meters wide, and the center of the forum was raised to a height of 38 meters (dedicated to the emperor in 113). The Forum complex includes the Basilica Ulpia (bazilica Vlpia), Trajan's Imperial Library (bibliotheca Vlpia) and Trajan's Market (mercatus Traiani). After his death, the complex was completed with the Temple of Divine Trajan (Templum Divi Trayani)

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Trajan's Column, which was built during the greatest prosperity of the Roman Empire, has experienced many recessions and wars. A few centuries ago, all the reliefs on the column were painted with bright colors. But the sun and time have changed the color of the column. He did not spare the relief images. That

is, the relief images of Trajan's column have been slightly eroded. Currently, Trajan's column continues to decorate the square and entertain tourists. However, access to the upper part of the column is closed for tourists. Trajan's column, which is considered the beauty of Rome, has not lost its importance even now.

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