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The name Pelasgians (/ p ? ? l æ z d ? (i) ? n z, - ? i ? n z /; Ancient Greek: ????????, Pelasgoí, singular: ????????, Pelasgós) was used by classical Greek writers to either refer to populations that were the ancestors or forerunners of the Greeks, or to signify all pre-classical indigenes of Greece. The first Roman republican wars were wars of both expansion and defence, aimed at protecting Rome itself from neighbouring cities and nations and establishing its territory in the region. Initially, Rome's immediate neighbours were either Latin towns and villages, or else tribal Sabines from the Apennine hills beyond. It is known that Roman priests covered their heads in religious ceremonies. Some ancient statues of Caesar Augustus show him with a covered head because he was the Pontifex Maximus of Rome, and because he was interested in promoting the "traditional values" of the Romans, for political reasons., Dionysius Of Halicarnassus Roman Antiquities Volume I Books 12 Loeb Classical Library No 319.

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