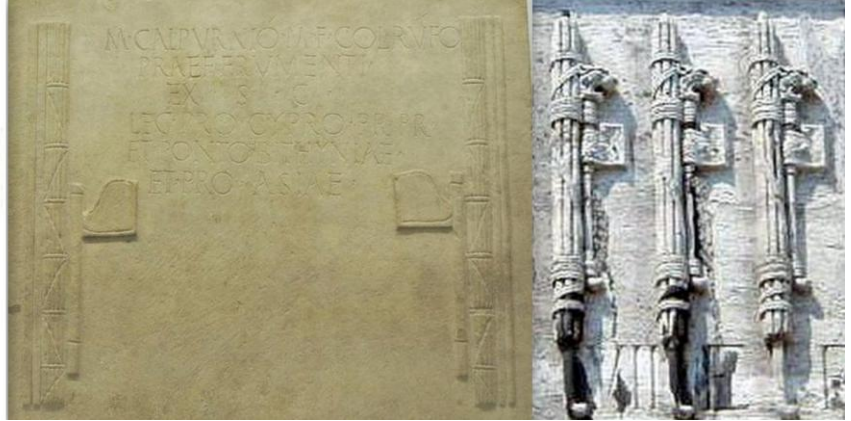


## FASCES

The FASCES was a cylindrical bundle of elm or birch rods bound together by red bands, from which an ax head projected; and which was borne by Lictors (attendants and body guards) before a Consul or high Magistrate, as a symbol of their authority.



The Fasces was adopted from the Etruscans. It symbolized the power of life or death that a Roman Magistrate had over the Roman citizen; who could be scourged by the birch rods, representing physical punishment for transgressions; or be beheaded by the axe for serious crimes. The lowering of the Fasces was form of salute to a higher official. It was also an emblem of unity and power; being used as an icon on coins and "coats of arms" long after the times of Ancient Rome. The number of Lictores in the Republic varied by magistrial rank. A Dictator was honored with 24 lictores, each carrying a Fasces; a Consul was awarded 12, while a Praetor was allowed 6.



The Imperator (Emperor) usually was a Consul as well, so he would maintain 12 licores carrying fasces. Emperor Claudius had this number proceed him before entering a captured town in Britannia." After the reign of Emperor Domitian (81-96AD), the Imperator was accorded 24 lictores. Benito Mussolini's Italian "Fascist" Party of the 1930's, derived its name from the Fasces, which it had adopted as an emblem in 1919.

Our two FASCES in action from our participation in the festivals. I think I get a good final result.



Sticks that we use are cut from the forest.

Making the new lion head on a black wax.By a private order.

