

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The Rule of Justinian

The Byzantine Empire

2/23/2024

**Intro: What is Procopius' opinion on the "racing factions?" (excerpt [here](#))**

[Link to simulation.](#) Use the space below to record your decisions and their outcome as you live out one of the major events of Justinian's reign.

Which *deme* are you representing and who are members of that *deme*?

In reality, what *deme* did Justinian support?

For each decision, describe the main issue facing Justinian and note your decision. Then briefly explain the outcome. This will help you understand key events and issues of Justinian's reign.

Issue & Decision	Outcome
New law:	
Financial reform:	
The Sassanids:	
Crisis & Mob in Constantinople:	
Seeking refuge in the palace (no decision to write here, but why are you here and why do you have to go to the Hippodrome?)	

Issue & Decision	Outcome
John of Cappadocia (will you listen to the mob?):	
What is Empress Theodora's advice, and what do you decide to do (fight or flight)?	
Belisarius & Narses' plan:	(We'll go over the outcome together). Or, go <a href="#">here</a>

### Debrief

What were the causes of the Nika riots and the difficulties of Justinian's reign?
Why were the Nika Riots a significant event in Justinian's reign? What do they help us understand about his reign?
What do you think about Justinian's actions in dealing with the riots?

**Why is Justinian's legacy so mixed? Why is he remembered as one of the greatest leaders of Byzantium while also being criticized by Byzantines and by historians like Procopius?**

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