

# Empress Pompeia Plotina - Main Biography

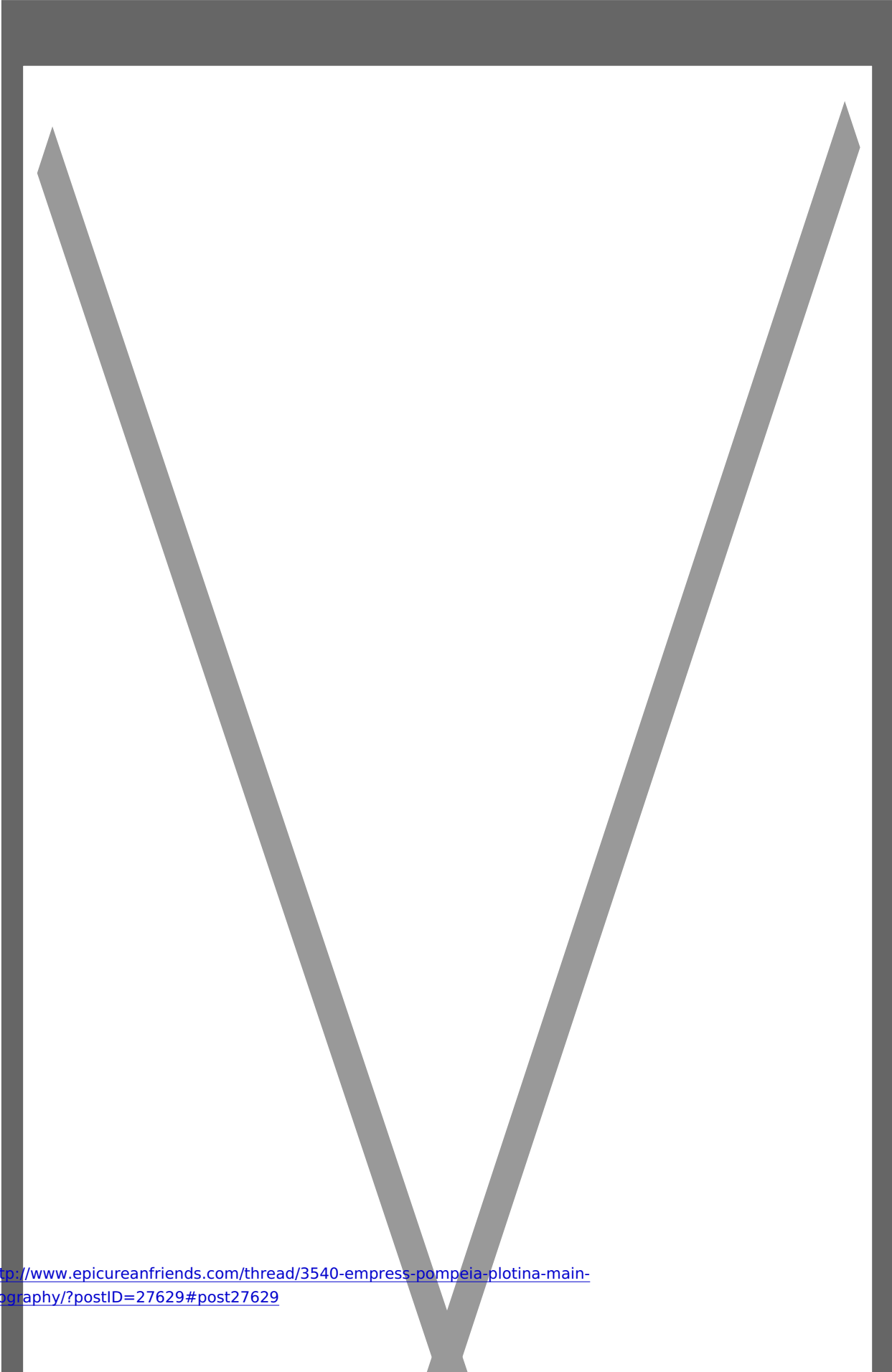
Post by "Pacatus" of November 21, 2023 at 6:18 PM

From the Wiki article [Cassius](#) linked:

"She is often viewed as having provided Romans with fairer taxation, improved education, assisted the poor, and created tolerance in Roman society."

"While Plotina was a widow, her best-documented act took place. During the year 121, while the emperor Hadrian was inspecting the provinces, Plotina engaged him in a series of letters to discuss who should be the new head of the [Epicurean](#) school of philosophy in [Athens](#). She petitioned for a change in the law, so that Popillius Theotimus, the acting head of the school, could become the official head; in response, Hadrian agreed with her argument, and the relevant letters were preserved in a series of inscriptions. Freisenbruch notes, 'In stark contrast to her passive anonymity in the literary record, this inscription from Athens recasts Plotina as a highly educated woman, active on behalf of causes close to her heart and with the kind of access to the emperor once enjoyed by Livia.'" [\[11\]](#)

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<http://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/3540-empress-pompeia-plotina-main-biography/?postID=27629#post27629>

[Pompeia Plotina - Wikipedia](#)

en.wikipedia.org

A powerful, confident, intelligent woman, then – active behind the scenes.

Re: rumors surrounding her role in securing Hadrian's succession:

“It may also reflect male Roman displeasure that an empress – let alone any woman – could presume to meddle in Rome's political affairs.” <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trajan>

Ah, how the times, they do not change! 😞