

Empires In World History: Power And The Politics Of Difference



HISTORY

Winner of the 2011 World History Association Book Prize

Empires in World History departs from conventional European and nation-centered perspectives to take a remarkable look at how empires relied on diversity to shape the global order. Beginning with ancient Rome and China and continuing across Asia, Europe, the Americas, and Africa, Jane Burbank and Frederick Cooper examine empires' conquests, rivalries, and strategies of domination, emphasizing how empires accommodated, created, and manipulated differences among populations.

"This is the single best book about the relationship of empires and nations that I can think of."—Kenneth Pomeranz, author of *The Great Divergence*

"A major corrective to much of the literature about empire, this is destined to become a classic. . . . The coverage is sweeping and balanced. A stunning accomplishment."—Jeremy Adelman, Princeton University

"This superb book redefines the field of empire and colonial studies. . . .

[T]he authors find a fresh way to retell the story of empires, illuminating how they were maintained for such long periods, what made them, and why they collapsed. There is nothing comparable."—Ronald Grigor Suny, University of Michigan

"This exemplary work, clearly laid out and fluently written, is a must for every undergraduate library, though more advanced scholars will also find much in it."—*Choice*

"A tour d'horizon through world history based on a stupendous knowledge of the literature, both authors take as their leitmotif the question of how empires have dealt with diversity and analyze the most varied constellations of imperial control."—Andreas Eckert, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*

Jane Burbank is professor of history and Russian and Slavic studies at New York University. Her books include *Intelligentsia and Revolution* and *Russian Peasants Go to Court*. Frederick Cooper is professor of history at New York University. His books include *Decolonization and African Society* and *Colonialism in Question*.

Cover images: (Left to right, back panel) (1) *The Renaissance of the Oriental Question, Le Petit Journal*, October 18, 1908. Courtesy of Smarth Art Resources, New York. (2) *Glycerolones Going to Their Reservation*, illustration from *Zetland's Monthly Magazine*, 1874. Courtesy of New York Public Library. (3) *Robert Clive, leader of the British East India Company receiving the land revenues of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa*, 1765, painted by Benjamin West, British Library, London. Courtesy of HRP, Art Resources, New York. (4) *Charles IX, oil painting by Dutch artist Bernard van Orley, first half of the sixteenth century*. Musée du Louvre, Paris. Courtesy of Bridgeman Art Library, Getty Images. (5) *Karilui* at which Temujin is proclaimed Chinggis Khan, illustrated in a Persian manuscript from the 1430s of Rashid al-Din's *Universal History*, c. 1310. Courtesy of Bridgeman Art Library, Getty Images. (Spine) (6) *Coronation of Emperor Challenge by Pope Leo III in St. Peter's Cathedral, Rome, in 800*. From a French manuscript, *Chroniques de France*, 1375–79, in Bibliothèque Municipale, Caen, France. Courtesy of Bridgeman Art Library, Getty Images. (Left to right, front panel) (7) *Justinian I, Byzantine emperor and his retinue*, c. 547 AD. From a mosaic in the church of San Vitale, Ravenna, Italy. Bridgeman Art Library, Getty Images. (8) *Almog warlike on horseback*, illustrated in a Persian manuscript from the 1430s of Rashid al-Din's *Universal History*, c. 1310. Courtesy of Bibliothèque nationale de France, Manuscrits orientaux. (9) *Portrait of Kameji Emperor (1661–1723). The emperor in informal dress, painted on a hanging silk scroll by court artists*. Courtesy of Palace Museum, Beijing, China. (10) *Portrait of Jean-Baptiste Belley*, by Anne-Louis Girodet de Roussy-Trioson, 1797. Courtesy of Bridgeman Art Library, Getty Images. (11) "The Berlin wall being torn down, November 11, 1989." Photo by Stephen Ferry. Courtesy of Getty Images.

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