

exceptions noted below. Islam's rituals, doctrines, early history, sects, and key figures in its development are covered thoroughly, as are the later scholars, philosophers, and rulers. From this standpoint the work is a straightforward ready reference source on the religion. There are however major omissions in this work. Namely, inadequate coverage of the modern era and non-Middle Eastern Muslim communities. Furthermore, Mr. Glasse is obviously partial to philosophical topics, which is not an issue in and of itself, but when other areas are neglected it becomes problematic.

An example of the book's Middle East focus is the cursory coverage of the rich Islamic history in Sub-Saharan Africa. There is a brief mention of the Sokoto Caliphate in West Africa, but the Tukulor Empire is absent. It seems inconceivable that events that had as dramatic effect and geographical spread as the West African jihads would have been ignored if they occurred in Turkey or Syria during the same time period of the nineteenth century. Likewise, there is no mention of Timbuktu, Songhay, and either Mali the empire or the modern country. A similar exercise could be repeated with South and South East Asia. Often the refrain from authors of encyclopedias is that not everything can be included and something will be neglected. True indeed, however Glasse undermines this argument by seeing fit to write a curious 22 ½ page entry on the topic of Manicheism, which happens to be four times longer than the entries on Muhammad and Islam combined. An odd choice, and one that no doubt pushed many important topics to the wayside.

Glasse could be given a pass for continuing the tradition of ignoring large swaths of non-Middle Eastern Islamic history, an unfortunate common attribute of general encyclopedias of Islam. However, it is perplexing that he chose to ignore so many current topics within the Muslim world. For instance, there is very little on modern extremist movements or their development, save an entry for the Taliban and a couple of short entries on the Muslim Brotherhood, Al Qaeda, Sayyid Qutb, and even shorter mention of groups such as Abu Sayyaf. It is true that these groups are mere blips in the long history of Islam, yet, they are basic starting points of research for many students today and this work simply falls short in this regard. It would be difficult to recommend this book for any researcher looking for information beyond the early history and development of Islam. Serious scholars would eschew this work for an edition of the voluminous *Encyclopaedia of Islam* (Brill, 1960-2007; 2007-) and beginning scholars are likely to be confused by the dearth of entries on contemporary topics.

This encyclopedia has value, including an extensive chronology, maps, and early empire genealogies, but it does not otherwise stand out in any particular way from similar works that have proliferated in recent years. Its shortcomings are many and it may be benefiting from the reputation of its first edition (1989), which was widely praised and respected. The world has changed dramatically in 25 years and that is not fully captured in this edition.--Brent D. Singleton, *Coordinator for Reference Services, California State University, San Bernardino, California*

***Slave Culture: A Documentary Collection of the Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers' Project.*** Ed. By Spencer Crew, Lonnie Bunch, and Clement Price. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2014. 3 vols. acid free \$294 (ISBN 978-1-4408-0086-3). Ebook available (978-1-4408-0087-0), call for pricing.

Although primary source content from the Slave Narratives of the Federal Writers' Project exists in many other locations and formats, *Slave Culture* is the first reference work that attempts to order selected narratives from these collections into thematic categories, allowing readers to "better understand what aspects of enslavement reverberated most forcefully for them [the interviewees] as well as why they [the aspects] were important" (xi).

This collection of selected narratives begins with an introductory essay highlighting areas of controversy, namely the unbalanced power relationship between interviewers and interviewees, as well as the emergence of oral history as a legitimate scholarly record. This introduction, like much of the edited material in the volumes, is simply written and prone to euphemism and elision (for example, "sexual imposition and enslaved women"), suggesting an intended audience of juvenile readers or novice researchers. Followed by a brief chronology, the reader is then introduced to the thematic categories themselves, which include "The Enslaved Community Culture," "Childhood for the Enslaved," "The Enslaved Family," "Enslaved Women," "Work and Slavery," "Physical Abuse and Intimidation," and "Runaways and the Quest for Freedom". Each thematic category is introduced by a brief summary of overarching themes before presenting the narratives themselves, which are listed alphabetically by interviewee name. The narratives themselves are often short, one to two paragraphs, and as instructed by the Federal Writers' Project guidelines, are transcribed in an attempt to "capture the verbal cadence of the interviewee" (xxiii). The content of the narratives themselves defies easy categorization as imposed by the editors; this reviewer felt that excerpting interviewee's narratives to fit a thematic construct obscured the nuanced reading that may be possible when reading an interviewee's narrative cohesively. While there is a name index should readers wish to pursue more narratives by the same interviewee, the thematic categorization seems best suited to specific curricular needs in school or public libraries.

Researchers interested in reading slave narratives cohesively may choose instead to pursue one of the more comprehensive collections available. The Library of Congress' American Memory website contains a collection of over 2,300 digitized slave narratives, freely accessible to the public and searchable by keyword, narrator, or state (<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/snhtml/>). In addition to this free online resource, many libraries may also already have in their collections the multi-volume print collection *The American Slave: A Composite Autobiography* (Series 1, Greenwood, 1972; Series 2, Greenwood, 1979), which collects over 2,000 additional slave narratives not included in the Library of Congress documents,

## SOURCES

and organized by state. These three collections are the source for all of the narratives included in *Slave Culture*.

As a derivative source, *Slave Culture* succeeds in applying themes to the narratives; how intuitive or useful those themes are, and what such thematic ordering adds to the already extensive literature, is up for debate. Barring a unique curricular need or surplus acquisitions funds, this volume is not recommended with so much other identical primary source material freely available.—*Kristin J. Henrich, Reference Coordinator, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho*

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***Soccer Around the World: A Cultural Guide to the World's Favorite Sport.*** By Charles Parrish and John Nauright. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2014. 400 pages. Acid free \$89 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-302-8). Ebook available (978-1-61069-303-5), call for pricing.

Although the word “soccer” is primarily used in the United States, it actually derives from the English term “association football.” Known throughout most of the rest of the world as football, the game on the pitch is often cited as the most popular sport on the planet. Going country by country, this book helps explain why and what impact that brings.

The book’s 18 chapters are each devoted to a single nation. The authors openly acknowledge in the introduction that their choices may be controversial, but they have included all the traditional European football powers, plus Cameroon, Egypt, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and the United States, among others. The rationale for some of those countries is fairly tenuous solely on athletic grounds. For example, it appears that Egypt was included because of the role that soccer plays in that volatile country’s political stability.

Each chapter includes sections on “History & Culture,” “Women’s Soccer,” “Iconic Clubs,” “Soccer Legends,” and “At the World Cup,” as well as a sidebar of tangential interest and references for further reading. The themes covered vary by country. For instance, the Argentina chapter dwells on the problems of violence among fans, while the chapters on both Argentina and Brazil discuss how opening up the sport to the poor in those countries improved the quality of play and broadened the interest in the game.

The sections on women’s soccer are pretty slim and discouraging for some countries, but women have made serious inroads with several countries, such as Japan, Germany, Brazil and the United States—all countries whose women’s teams have done well at the World Cup. The Brazilian chapter includes a sidebar on superstar Marta, while the US chapter includes women in its section on Soccer Legends.

The volume also contains appendices that list iconic teams and legendary players for countries not included here, a soccer timeline, an overall bibliography and an index. This thorough work is clearly written and contains a wealth of information on the game, the teams, the players and the cultural

impact of soccer on each nation. It would be welcome in any reference collection.—*John Maxymuk, Head of Public Services, Rutgers University, Camden, New Jersey*

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***Warfare in the Roman Republic: From the Etruscan Wars to the Battle of Actium.*** Ed. by Lee L. Brice. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2014. 338 pages. Acid free \$58 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-298-4). Ebook available (978-1-61069-299-1), call for pricing.

Covering the period from the fall of the kings of Rome until the dawn of the empire under Octavius (later to be known as Augustus Caesar), this work focuses specifically on military affairs during this tempestuous time. This period of history witnessed the rise of Rome as a Mediterranean superpower and the decline of Greece, Carthage, and Egypt. Of the 96 total entries, almost a third covers famous people, primarily military leaders and historians. The biographies are very brief and focus almost exclusively on the military actions of these men (and of Cleopatra VII, the only female who receives an entry). Entries on wars and battles constitute the next greatest number of entries. Of special note are the entries on the three major civil wars of the Republican age and on the Punic wars for which, in addition to providing a brief sketch of the course of the wars, the volume provides a handy chart of the key events for each war that gives the approximate date of the event, its region/locale, key commanders, combatant numbers, and the victor. Other entries include topics related to war and the military such as artillery, cavalry, centurions, forts, military decorations, standards, and training. Some items are conspicuous in their absence. Although there is an entry for the office of quaestor, there is none for praetor or consul which were much higher offices that usually bestowed military command (imperium) upon those who held the office. Also, there is an entry for the Comitia Centuriata but the other assemblies of the people are not mentioned, even in the index. Another entry that is missing is augury which occurred before any battle. A major feature of the work is the inclusion of selections from the work of several ancient historians who discuss the Roman military. These include excerpts from the writings of Polybius, Livy, Julius Caesar, Plutarch, Galba, and Appian. Other useful features of the volume are a detailed chronology for the period 509 to 30 BCE, a short glossary of terms (that could have been expanded), a helpful bibliography of sources, and a comprehensive index. The list of contributors gives ten individuals, but seven of these either wrote or shared authorship of one article each. Lee Brice, the editor of the book, actually wrote or co-wrote almost all the articles.

For those academic libraries that support programs in classics, Latin, and ancient Mediterranean history, this will be a worthwhile purchase. For other libraries that have access to the print or online version of *The Oxford Classical Dictionary* this will be an optional purchase.—*Gregory A.*