

SOURCES

Encyclopedia of White Collar & Corporate Crime (2004), and the *Encyclopedia of Interpersonal Violence* (2008), available in print or as e-books via Sage Reference online.

At the top of my list of positives about this set is the ability to purchase separate volumes or the complete five-volume set, with the recommendation to shelve them within the circulating collection for greatest use. In addition, the pro-con essays are well written and would be very useful to readers. One drawback I found with this series is that I would've liked to know more about the authors of the individual chapters. Though each chapter includes author's name and institutional affiliation, I would like to know more about the scope of each author's work and research.—*Nancy Frazier, Instructional Services librarian, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania*

Conflict and Conquest in the Islamic World: A Historical Encyclopedia. Edited by Alexander Mikaberidze. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2011. 2 vols. acid free \$195 (ISBN: 978-1-5988-4336-1). E-book available (978-1-5988-4337-8).

This unique and concise encyclopedia provides over six hundred entries about the sweeping military and political history of Islam from the seventh century to present day. Edited by Alexander Mikaberidze, a professor at Louisiana State University, *Conflict and Conquest in the Islamic World: A Historical Encyclopedia* is a focused, two-volume set presenting the collective expertise of over 100 military and political scholars, including the support of the esteemed Bernard Lewis whom the editor describes as the “doyen of Islamic studies.”

Entries cover conflicts, wars, rebellions, battles, weapons, leaders, and other military facets. Most entries are a page to a page and a half in length with some broader topics, such as “Saljuks” or “Algerian War (1954–1962),” running several pages in length. Many of the entries are accompanied by photographs or maps and provide introductory information in basic terminology geared to high school and college students who have little or no knowledge of Islam. A glossary of commonly used Islamic military terms is within easy reach in volume 2. Every entry has a bibliography of further readings that includes mostly book citations which one could use for further research or as a collection development tool. Also included are cross-references that direct the reader to related topics.

The encyclopedia is extensive in its scope, covering Islamic military history spanning several centuries. Geographically, it includes the customary Middle Eastern regions but also Islamic countries in North Africa, Central Asia, Southwestern Asia, and Oceania. In the preface, Mikaberidze describes the encyclopedia as “selective by nature” and explains that its purpose is to feature Muslim military and political leaders and omit Western personalities that are already covered in existing reference materials (xxx). The selections made by the editor offer an extensive overview of Islamic military and political history that is truly unique. It is the only encyclopedia whose sole focus is Islamic history from the military and

political perspective. Included in volume 1 is a convenient chronological list of major conflicts and battles fought by or in Islamic nations.

This reference work is unique and topical. Highly recommended for academic, public, and high school libraries. Available electronically.—*Colleen Lougen, Electronic Resources Librarian, State University of New York at New Paltz*

Encyclopedia of Geography. Edited by Barney Warf. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2010. 6 vols. acid free \$895 (ISBN: 978-1-4139-3959-1). E-book available (978-1-4129-3959-1), \$1,120.

These volumes cover the expanse of human and physical geography and include biographical as well as topical entries cross referenced with “see also” directives and “further readings” for each listing. Each entry is arranged alphabetically by topic (or last name) and supplemented with full color illustrations liberally used throughout. A full list of entries is included at the beginning of each volume and a reader's guide is listed in volume 1 with subtopics hierarchically organized under Physical or Human Geography.

The *Encyclopedia* covers the vast and varied topic of geography from Remote Sensing to Aristotle and Neoliberalism to Stewart Fotheringham. The coverage is broad, and most topics are well represented in several entries as appropriate. For instance, the history of mapping and cartography techniques are discussed at length individually as well as within the GIS related articles. The articles are descriptive, including historical context, but they also identify the key questions in the study of geography, where they are relevant, and their contributions to the field. This is especially true of the entries for individuals who may be associated with other subjects such as Emmanuel Kant. These are great assets in a reference work for beginning researchers or as a reference tools for researchers. A similar title, *Companion Encyclopedia of Geography* (Routledge, 2007), uses a thematic direction with essays describing various problems or issues on a large scale and then delving into the directions of research. The encyclopedia is a catalog and description of terms, ideas and people making it a preferred title for reference shelves rather than the edited book/ text book format of the companion.

Some of the weaknesses of this title are exactly its expansive scope. For undergraduates used to the instant linking of topics in a web environment, they may not have the patience to track down all the related articles within their area of interest through six volumes. As a librarian, I consider the extensive “see also” references a strength, but in print form, they could be cumbersome to a user. In its electronic form, this title might appeal to students who prefer the hyperlink. I also found the “further readings” a little misleading. This was more of a reference list for the article and not a list of recommended readings for more information, and should be labeled as such. Or, it might have been supplemented with additional readings.

I recommend the *Encyclopedia of Geography*. It is likely