

## SOURCES

that illustrate the impact of colonial activities on the economic, political, legal, cultural, and social lives of the affected peoples and places. The encyclopedia offers a range of users, including students, researchers, and the general public, a guide to current scholarship in this broad-ranging field.

Important commodities, people, concepts, and specialized and broad subjects are covered by the articles, which range from a few paragraphs (“Cinnamon”) to about ten pages (“Empire, British” or “Religion, Roman Catholic Church”). Particularly important are general survey articles on the empires of western countries; these articles usually include a map and brief chronology. The bibliographies following the articles can be extensive, and some include Web sites and works in western languages. The work is enhanced with a glossary of terms, illustrations, maps, and twenty-nine key primary source documents.

Although the articles are arranged alphabetically, a helpful thematic outline groups most of the article titles by broad subjects, such as ideologies, industries, organizations and institutions, empires, concepts, and ideas. Also useful is the detailed subject index. All three entry points, along with see-also references following each article, are important tools for finding all relevant articles or parts of articles because of the sometimes specialized article themes and the way they are arranged in the alphabetical sequence. Many article titles are inverted, although some related titles are not, such as articles entitled “Empire, French,” “French Colonialism, Middle East,” and “France’s African Colonies.”

A helpful feature is that the editors grouped some related articles together with titles beginning with the same word, such as several articles beginning with “Religion.” All article titles with a religion theme are also listed in the thematic outline.

There are some inconsistencies in the organization and thematic conception of the work. For example, there are articles on many countries, regions, and cities, but it is odd that there are articles on Havana and Mexico City but not on Cuba and Mexico.

Despite the problems, the authors and editors produced a work that is interesting and stylistically well written. Taken together, the articles offer a huge wealth of knowledge and information to help readers understand the complex interactions in projecting western power during the development and breakdown of colonialism, the continuing influence of western nations in the affairs of former colonies, and post-colonial concepts.

This new work is one of two recent reference encyclopedias on colonialism. *Colonialism: An International Social, Cultural, and Political Encyclopedia* (ABC-Clio, 2003), edited by historian Melvin Page, is much simpler in organization and thematic construction. Articles do not have the complex themes found in *Encyclopedia of Western Colonialism Since 1450*. Instead the articles and bibliographies are shorter and do not have as much depth of information and coverage of topics such as postcolonialism and women. The primary source documents and empire chronologies provided in *Colonialism* are much more extensive. Both encyclopedias serve

a wide audience, but *Encyclopedia of Western Colonialism Since 1450* will have more appeal to upper level students and researchers.—David Lincove, *History, Political Science and Philosophy Librarian, Ohio State University Libraries, Columbus*

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***Encyclopedia of World Poverty.*** Ed. by Mehmet Odekon. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage, 2006. 3 vols. acid free \$395 (ISBN 1-4129-1807-3).

Mehmet Odekon, a professor of economics at Skidmore College, has authored several books on Turkey’s economy and is the editor of this three-volume reference set containing approximately eight hundred articles from more than one hundred contributors. Volume one starts with the Reader’s Guide (acting like a table of contents), which is arranged alphabetically by broad topics such as antipoverty organizations, causes of poverty, countries, and history of poverty. Under each broad topic is a list of entries related to that topic. The first volume also includes a chronology of poverty that starts with the tenth century BC (the first use of the word *poverty* in the biblical world) and ends with 2005 and the United Nations declaring Burundi as the poorest nation. Following this is a list of contributors and their affiliations, then a complete alphabetical list of all the articles from the three volumes. None of the lists give page numbers, so the user needs to browse the volumes or use the index to find the appropriate page for the entry.

The introduction states that the source “is intended for use as an authoritative and rigorous source on poverty and related issues” (vii). The editor describes how poverty is tied in with social, political, and economic freedoms, not merely a lack of income. With this definition, one can start to understand why poverty exists not only in developing countries but in wealthy countries as well. The editor goes on to say that the articles in the encyclopedia cover both the variety of statistical ways to measure poverty as well as the nonquantifiable ways, such as stigmatization and powerlessness.

The articles are set alphabetically and range in length from a few paragraphs to several pages. All articles are signed and have bibliographies, most of which offer only a handful of references; there are some with more extensive listings. There are see-also references. For example, under Libya, the see-also includes famine, Islam and Poverty, Niger, Socialism, and Women and Poverty.

One hundred ninety-one countries are covered. Most of the entries are only a page or so long, and all country entries end with their rankings from the Human Development Index and the Human Poverty Index. Both of those rankings have their own entries in the source as well. Countries may be referred to in other articles, so it is helpful to use the index to see where else a country may be discussed. There are a number of individuals covered, ranging from Mahatma Gandhi and Karl Marx to John Rawls (social philosopher) and Karl Polanyi (Hungarian political economist). A number of U.S. presidents and administrations and their work with poverty issues are also included.

A strength of the source is found in the voluminous list-

ings of measurements and definitions of poverty. The entries include such topics as the “Arab Definition of Poverty,” “Deprivation Index,” “The Luxembourg Income Study,” “Relative Welfare Index,” and “World Bank Poverty Lines.” Other areas covered in the encyclopedia are antipoverty agencies such as Better Safer World, Food First, and Second Harvest, and poverty relief initiatives such as Head Start, Microcredit, and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) regional project for overcoming poverty.

The extensive index is included at the end of each volume. Volume three contains a glossary of terms and a resource guide, which lists books, journals, and Internet sites for reference. Rather than a compilation of all the sources listed in the bibliographies of each article, the guide is a separate list of resources. There are two appendixes: appendix A contains U.S. state economic data from the Bureau of the Census; appendix B has country economic profiles taken from the *CIA World Factbook*.

Any number of sources can be used to research specific topics covered in this encyclopedia. However, the editor does a nice job of bringing all this information together in a readable format. Otherwise, to get all the information covered in these volumes, one would have to consult several sources. As with many multivolume reference sets, the cost may be prohibitive for smaller libraries; however, this source is well worth the price. Recommended for all libraries.—*Stacey Marien, Business and Economics Librarian, American University Washington, D.C.*

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***Great Lives from History: The 19th Century 1801–1900.*** Ed. by John Powell. Pasadena, Calif.: Salem, 2006. 4 vols. alkaline \$360 (ISBN 1-48765-292-7).

The sixth installment of an ambitious Great Lives series includes biographies of noteworthy individuals dating from the ancient world through the twentieth century. The four volumes of *Great Lives from History: The 19th Century* are made up of 737 essays on the lives of 757 people from the 1800s who have, according to the editors, made important contributions to civilization. Although there are representatives from numerous countries, the volumes are mainly geared to Western achievement; 83 percent of the entries cover residents of North America (301 entries), the United Kingdom (182), France (seventy-seven), and Germany (sixty-five). There are 123 sketches of women.

The Great Lives series revises the ten-volume *Dictionary of World Biography*, which was published by Salem in 1998 and 1999. For these, the nineteenth-century volumes, 120 new entries were written and added to those that had originally appeared in the *Dictionary*, 189 new sidebars were incorporated, maps were included, and updated and annotated bibliographies were compiled for the older essays. Each entry is between fifteen-hundred and three-thousand words long and invariably includes basic tombstone information about its subject, sketches of the person's early life and life's work, an evaluation of his or her overall significance, a bibliography, and see-also notes. In addition, there are references to related

articles in the publisher's companion set, *Great Events from History: The 19th Century 1801–1900* (Salem, 2006).

The editors have included a complete list of contents in all four volumes, which is very helpful to the reader. Also, all of the maps are in each volume; unfortunately, their clarity and comprehensiveness leave something to be desired. Back matter in volume 4 features lists of nineteenth-century rulers and heads of state, a chronological list of entries, a category index in which people are listed by their occupations and avocations, a geographical index, a personal name index, and a subject index.

Because people do not necessarily fit neatly into one century or another, readers of *Great Lives from History: The 19th Century* should know that some of the biographical sketches include information from both the eighteenth and twentieth centuries. For instance, the essay on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who lived thirty of his seventy-one years in the twentieth century, notes his contributions in literature, war reporting, political life, and the Spiritualist movement, 1901–1930.

It is always puzzling why some people are included in these kinds of compilations, but not others. There is no sketch of Thomas Jefferson, president from 1801 to 1809, or his successor, James Madison, president from 1809 to 1817, but there is one on Madison's wife, Dolley. There is a sketch of actor Edwin Booth, but not his younger brother, John Wilkes, the latter arguably more important in the general scheme of things. Why are Impressionist artists Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Édouard Manet included, but not Claude Monet?

Users of compilations such as the Great Lives series benefit from the convenience of having numerous and diverse biographical sketches in one source. They need not consult the venerable *Dictionary of American Biography (DAB)* (Scribner, 1928–1935, supplements 1944–1977) and the esteemed *Dictionary of National Biography (DNB)* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1885–1900, supplements from 1901 to 1996, updated by *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* in 2004) plus other reference books, for example, if they are interested in finding information about a number of different Americans and Britons associated with a particular event that transcended national borders. What they lose, however, is the kind of comprehensiveness that works like the *DAB* and *DNB* offer.—*E. Richard McKinstry, Andrew W. Mellon Senior Librarian, H. F. du Pont Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Delaware*

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***International Encyclopedia of Adolescence: A Historical and Cultural Survey of Young People around the World.*** Ed. by Jeffrey Jensen Arnett. New York: Routledge, 2006. 2 vols. acid free \$375 (ISBN 0-415-96667-1).

There are several fine encyclopedias on adolescence that approach the topic from different points of view. *International Encyclopedia of Adolescence* from Routledge offers the unique perspective of looking at youth (ages ten to twenty-five) in the context of the larger culture in which they live as well as the historical and geographic settings that inform their worldview. The approach is a global one, with a glimpse of youth and family life set in the framework of each country's