

Animal Rights and Welfare: A Documentary and Reference Guide. By Lawrence W. Baker. Documentary and Reference Guides. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2015. 350 pages. Acid free \$100 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-942-6). E-book available (978-1-61069-943-3), call for pricing.

Animal Rights and Welfare: A Documentary and Reference Guide is a collection of fifty-one primary source documents relating to the topics of animal rights and animal welfare. The preface states that these are separate and distinct philosophies: animal rights advocates such as People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and the Animal Liberation Front hold that humans and animals have the same rights (thereby precluding their use even as pets or assistive animals), whereas animal welfare adherents like the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the American Humane Society endorse the use of animals for agriculture, work, biomedical research, etc., but in a manner that minimizes pain and suffering. The documents assembled here represent a wide spectrum of opinion covering both categories. Document types include “book excerpts, government acts and laws, presidential proclamations and comments, news articles, editorials, congressional hearings testimony, court documents, and press releases” (xiii). Entries are arranged chronologically, beginning with Aristotle’s musings on plant, animal, and human differences (322 BCE) and concluding with a 2014 statement on the implications of climate change for animal well-being. Entries range from approximately three to ten pages in length. The table of contents is divided into five sections, each reflecting the salient themes from the era covered in that section. There is considerably more material from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries than earlier periods—likely reflecting the increasingly controversial nature of the subject. The “Reader’s Guide to Related Documents” facilitates subject access by grouping entries under twelve subject headings ranging from “Agriculture Industry” to “Zoos and Aquariums.” A bibliography and a detailed index conclude the book.

Each entry follows a consistent format: a concise description of the document consisting of a representative quote from the document’s main body, a brief explanation of the content, date and place of original publication, and a short summary of its significance; the document itself; an analysis by the compiler which provides helpful context; and a brief “Further Reading” list. This content and organization is effective in helping the reader quickly grasp the key issues and arguments and how those have been expressed over time by classical philosophers, government officials, advocacy groups on all sides, individual activists, and others.

This work fills a gap in existing information sources by bringing together a representative and wide-ranging group of primary sources on a consistently “hot topic.” Marc Bekoff’s *Encyclopedia of Animal Rights and Animal Welfare* (Greenwood, 2010), a two-volume set from the same publisher, presents a standard encyclopedic treatment of the topics with informative essays with source lists following each,

along with an extensive bibliography at the end, but no full text primary documents. Clifford J. Sherry’s *Animal Rights: A Reference Handbook* (ABC-CLIO, 2009) contains useful background material in textual form. Chapter 6, titled “Data and Documents,” provides eleven excerpts from statutes and hearings relating to US federal legislation, but that is the extent of its primary source coverage. Finally, Daniel S. Mills’ *The Encyclopedia of Applied Animal Behaviour and Welfare* (CAB International, 2010) treats the welfare aspect through a predominantly zoological lens. While it features an extensive compilation of brief articles, it is not designed to facilitate browsing for animal welfare material and does not include the text of primary documents.

The work under review is a valuable, eclectic collection of relevant primary material on an issue involving strong and diverse public opinion in an accessible format. It is recommended for academic, public, and school libraries serving middle school students and up.—*Michael L. Nelson, Collection Development Librarian, University of Wyoming Libraries, Laramie, Wyoming*

Artifacts From Medieval Europe. By James B. Tschen-Emmons. Daily Life Through Artifacts. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2015. 321 pages. Acid free \$100 (ISBN: 978-61060-621-0). E-book available (978-1-6109-622-7).

Artifacts are defined in this book as “any object made or used by humans” (xix). These characteristics distinguish artifacts from written primary sources, although both are studied to learn about the past. The author combines forty-five visual images of artifacts, related textual sources, and brief explanations and analyses to introduce information about medieval life in Europe.

This book is divided into nine topical sections with essays six pages in length that focus on selected artifacts. The sections are agriculture and animal husbandry; armor, weapons and tools; art and architecture; communication and business; domestic items; entertainment; religion; science and technology; and transportation. Readers will find essays on real artifacts such as a butter keg, horse collar, cradle, tunic, religious icon, pilgrim’s badge, flying buttress, chessboard, astrolabe, and cog. In each essay there is an illustration of an artifact, an introduction and description of the item, and a discussion of its significance and relationship to broader issues on the topic. Also many of the essays have a related textual primary source in English, and all have a selected bibliography that sometimes includes websites for further reading.

The essay on the horse collar shows a portion of an illuminated manuscript page from the Luttrell Psalter (1325–35) in England. The illustration depicts a man plowing a field with a horse fitted with a collar. The author explains how the image can be interpreted to learn about the use of horses in agriculture, particularly for plowing, and how people developed the harness for greater efficiency and comfort for the horse. This discussion leads to the broader importance

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of horses for transportation, and the relationship of people to animals such as cattle, chickens and pets. Also, the essay has an excerpt from a fifteenth century book on hunting. In another example, a fifteenth century woodcut shows a cog, a small boat with a single sail. The cog is compared with other vessels used at the time, and the author describes life on ships and changes in boat design. Included is a photo of two ship anchors but no print primary source.

The essay topics do not always give an indication of the direction taken by the author. In the essay on the Prague Jewish Cemetery the author shows a photograph of a cemetery with graves dating back to 1439. He writes little about medieval Jewish burial practices, focusing instead on burial among various religions and also includes information on the place of Jews in medieval Europe. There is a text document from St. Bernard requesting that the people of England improve their treatment of Jews. In the essay on bone ice skates that appears in the entertainment section, the author examines the use of animal bones as skates in winter and offers an excerpt from textual source that refers to this use of bones. This leads to a discussion on weather changes in medieval times, a topic the reader might not expect.

This book is a very basic, introductory reference source for learning about medieval life through artifacts. The writing is engaging and clear, and students can browse the artifacts and subject index. A brief chronology of events and a section on how to evaluate artifacts accompanies the work. This book is recommended for secondary school students and general readers.—*David Lincove, History, Political Science, Public Affairs, Philosophy Librarian, Ohio State University Libraries, Columbus, Ohio*

Asian American Society: An Encyclopedia. Edited by Mary Yu Danico. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2015. 4 vols. Alkaline \$595 (ISBN: 978-1-4522-8190-2).

Asian American Society: An Encyclopedia is a comprehensive four-volume reference work that consists of 315 in-depth entries discussing many aspects of Asian American culture. Editor Mary Yu Danico, a past-president of the Association for Asian American Studies and currently a professor at California State Polytechnic University, states in the introduction, “We recognize that it is impossible to discuss every facet of Asian American society, but we have put forth our best efforts to examine the historical, social, cultural, economic, and political aspects of our society through the lens of multiple disciplines and voices” (xxv).

Danico’s introduction insightfully summarizes Asian American immigration history and the growing field of Asian American Studies. A chronology in volume 1 provides a solid overview of significant events in Asian American history.

The alphabetically arranged entries are written and signed by international scholars, and each entry concludes with cross-references and citations for further reading on the topic. There is a helpful reader’s guide in volume 1 that

organizes articles into fourteen topical categories, such as “Asian American Literature,” “Family, Generations, and Youth Culture,” “Identities,” and “Social Problems.”

There are many lengthy and in-depth entries covering the social and historical cultures of twenty-one ethnic groups, some of which include Cambodian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Pacific Islander, and Thai Americans. This encyclopedia also contains informative essays about the LGBTQ Asian American identity, community, and issues. A significant number of entries are quite unique and focus on current and pop culture topics like “Beauty Pageants,” “Bollywood,” “Harold and Kumar Films,” “Helicopter Parents,” and “YouTube Performers.”

One of the most impressive features of this encyclopedia is the collection of primary documents which are the content of volumes 3 and 4. There are 213 primary documents spanning 1849–2013. Readers can examine the full-text of many landmark cases, letters, and legal acts. Some of the more memorable documents are the text of an 1880 pamphlet titled “Chinatown Declared a Nuisance” and the 1977 document “The Forgotten Minority: Asian Americans in New York City.” Another useful feature included in the appendix of volume 4 is the “US Census Bureau: 2010 Census Briefs—The Asian Population,” which is full of many rich statistics and analysis.

Asian American Society: An Encyclopedia would sufficiently supplement Xiaojian Zhao and Edward J. W. Park’s three-volume *Asian Americans: An Encyclopedia of Social, Cultural, Economic, and Political History* (Greenwood, 2014). Zhao and Park’s encyclopedia contains many more biographical sketches and only the excerpts of a handful of primary documents. There is not a lot of overlap of content aside for entries about the various Asian American groups which are written by different contributors. Danico wrote essays for both encyclopedias about the “1.5 Generation Asian American.”

Since Asian American Studies is a widely growing discipline, *Asian American Society: An Encyclopedia* would be a valuable addition to any academic library.—*Megan Coder, Associate Librarian, State University of New York at New Paltz*

The Civil Rights Movement in America: From Black Nationalism to the Women’s Political Council. Edited by Peter B. Levy. Movements of the American Mosaic. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2015. 427 pages. Acid free \$89 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-761-3). E-book available (978-1-61069-762-0), call for pricing.

In light of several reference works on the Civil Rights Movement having been published in the past decade, selectors may not be inclined to purchase a new offering on the topic. Nonetheless, recent publications should be carefully considered for content that has been previously overlooked or has gained resonance in recent years. The work under review is a well written, basic window into the African American Civil Rights Movement appropriate for high school and beginning college level research. As part