

# Decline And Fall Of The British Empire 1781 1997

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this title originally published in 1988 examines the network of states and the political and economic systems which bound the british empire together this book examines each country and how the empire made its mark in the shape of urban form public buildings and rural land patterns an overall assessment of the imperial heritage is attempted as a pointer to the unity which existed between the many diverse lands for a brief period in their history

martin kitchen has written an informative account of the rise and fall of the british empire concentrating on the 19th and 20th centuries but giving the background of the first british empire which was lost with the creating of the usa

the phenomenon of imperialism has never been under such intense scrutiny by such a wide range of academic disciplines as it is today from cultural studies to the history of science academics are engaged in a series of debates about empire which move far beyond traditional preoccupations with metropolitan strategy economics and rivalry this volume negotiates the many trends and concerns in recent areas of debate to

provide a broad based comparative history of the british empire through the use of primary and secondary documentary sources selections are presented within a chronological framework beginning with the origins of empire and ending with decolonization the selections are illuminated by a central theme of identity which both reflects modern scholarly preoccupations and establishes a clear and coherent approach to the selected readings general and section introductions explore such issues as the role of economics and religion in imperial expansion and rule how indigenous and creole populations constructed and expressed their own identities and what changes were wrought by the process of decolonization bringing together a wide range of documentary evidence this volume allows the varied and vital debates on aspects of imperialism to be seen in the wider context of the broad history of the british empire

from the eighteenth century until the 1950s the british empire was the biggest political entity in the world the territories forming this empire ranged from tiny islands to vast segments of the world's major continental land masses the british empire left its mark on the world in a multitude of ways many of them permanent in this very short introduction ashley jackson introduces and defines the british empire reviewing its historiography by answering a series of key questions what was the british empire and what were its main constituent parts what were the phases of imperial expansion and contraction and the general causes of expansion and contraction how was the empire ruled what were its economic effects what were the cultural implications of empire in britain and its colonies what was life like for people living under imperial rule what are the legacies of the british empire and how should we view its place in world history about the series the very short introductions series from oxford university press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area these pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

up to world war ii and beyond the british ruled over a vast empire modern western attitudes towards the imperial past tend either towards nostalgia for british power or revulsion at what seem to be the abuses of that power the cambridge illustrated history of the british empire adopts neither of these approaches it aims to create historical understanding about the british empire on the assumption that such understanding is important for any informed appreciation of the modern world through striking illustration and a text written by leading experts this book examines the experience of colonialism in north america india africa australia and the caribbean as well as the impact of the empire on britain itself emphasis is placed on social and cultural history including slavery trade religion art and the movement of ideas how did the british rule their empire who benefited economically from the empire and who lost

in the character of the british empire ramsay muir eloquently dissects the complex nature of british colonialism and its global ramifications during the height of the empire employing a blend of historical narrative and critical analysis muir examines not only the political and economic structures underpinning the empire but also the cultural ideologies and social attitudes that shaped british identity his rigorous scholarship and clear prose situate the book within the broader context of early 20th century imperial studies challenging readers to understand the nuanced motivations

behind britain s expansion and its enduring legacy as a historian deeply engaged with the social and political issues of his time muir s insights are informed by his own experiences and observations of the british empire s impact on both colonizers and the colonized educated at edinburgh and imbued with a commitment to social justice muir worked as an advocate for more equitable policies which colored his views on the moral complexities of imperialism his background lends an empathetic lens to the often stark realities of colonial rule this book is essential reading for anyone interested in the intricacies of british imperial history and its implications making it a vital contribution to discussions surrounding colonialism muir s thoughtful analysis invites critical reflection and serves as a poignant reminder of the ethical burdens borne by empires in their quest for dominance

this edited work adopts a distinctive thematic approach to the history of british imperialism from the 18th to the 20th century each contributor offers a personal assessment of the topic at hand and examines key interpretive debates among historians

for almost two hundred years britain dominated the world its naval supremacy enabling it to acquire a vast empire including india canada australia new zealand and much of africa although it could not prevent its american colonies from becoming independent its industrial and commercial power helped it to keep its scattered possessions under control while a small army was sufficient to put down native rebellions in the absence of the involvement of other european states a dwindling economy and the cost of two world wars saw this once mighty empire crumble giving in the process independence to nearly all of its dominions in the years after 1945 empire is a succinct and highly readable account of this extraordinary rise and fall

great britain s geopolitical role has undergone many changes over the last four centuries once a maritime superpower and ruler of half the world britain now occupies an isolated position as an economically fragile island often at odds with her european neighbors in the rise and fall of the british empire lawrence james has written a comprehensive perceptive and insightful history of the british empire spanning the years from 1600 to the present day this critically acclaimed book combines detailed scholarship with readable popular history this is a stylish intelligent and readable book the new york times book review

a study of key themes in the history of the british empire by one of the senior figures in the field

ingram founder and editor of the international history review and honorary research fellow in history at victoria u wellington new zealand presents ten studies discussing great britain s role as a world power and reinterpreting the tensions that lay beneath its overall strategy during its imperial heyday distributed by isbs c book news inc

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