

## The Political Economy Of Merchant Empires State Power And World Trade 1350 1750 Studies In Comparative Early Modern History

What was the role of merchant guilds in the medieval and early modern economy? Does their wide prevalence and long survival mean they were efficient institutions that benefited the whole economy? Or did merchant guilds simply offer an effective way for the rich and powerful to increase their wealth, at the expense of outsiders, customers and society as a whole? These privileged associations of businessmen were key institutions in the European economy from 1000 to 1800. Historians debate merchant guilds' role in the Commercial Revolution, economists use them to support theories about institutions and development, and policymakers view them as prime examples of social capital, with important lessons for modern economies. Sheilagh Ogilvie's magisterial new history of commercial institutions shows how scrutinizing merchant guilds can help us understand which types of institution made trade grow, why institutions exist, and how corporate privileges affect economic efficiency and human well-being.

This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1821 edition. Excerpt: ...of a value equal to that exported, plus the gains outward and homeward. Wherefore, in a thriving country, the value of the total imports should always exceed that of the expotts. What then are we to think of the Report of the French Minister of the Interior in 1813, who makes' the total exports to have been 383 millions of francs, and the total imports, inclusive of specie, but 350 millions: a statement upon wliich, he felicitates the nation, as the most favourable that had ever beeh presented. Whereas, this balance shews, on the contrary, what every body felt and knew, that the commerce of France was then making immense losses, in consequence of the blunders of her administration, and the total ignorance of the first principles of Political Economy. ff the merchant find it more advantageous to get his returns in goods than in specie, and if it be admitted, that he knows his own interest better than any body else, the sole point left for discussion is, whether returns in specie, though less advantageous to the merchant, may not be better for the nation than returns of any other article: whether, in short, it be desirable in a national point of view, that the precious metals should abound, in preference to any other commodity. What are the functions of the precious metals in the community? If shaped into trinkets or plate, they serve for personal ornament, for the splendour of our domestic establishments, or for a variety of domestic purposes; they are converted into watch-cases, spoons, forks, dishes, coffee-pots; or rolled out into leaves for the embellishment of picture-frames, book-binding, and the like; in which case, they form part of that portion of the capital of the community, which yields no interest, but is devoted to the...

The Political Economy of Merchant Empires State Power and World Trade, 1350-1750 Cambridge University Press

Publisher Description

This book focuses on why Europe became the dominant economic force in global trade between 1450 and 1750.

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In this major reinterpretation of the activities of London's merchant community during the early Stuart period, Robert Brenner explains the factors behind the opening of long-distance commerce to the south and east, describes the growing power of the great City merchants, and profiles the new colonial traders, who became the chief architects of the Commonwealth's dynamic commercial policy.

This book examines the political and social impact of the English overseas merchant during this key era of state development. Historians have increasingly recognized the significance of this period as one of commercial and political transition, but relatively little thought has been given to the perspective of the overseas traders, whose activities transcended these dynamic arenas. Analysis of the role of merchants in public life highlights their important contribution to England's rise as a commercial power of the first rank, and illuminates the fundamental political changes of the time. Case-studies of London, Liverpool, and York reveal the intricate workings of mercantile politics, while studies of the press and Parliament illustrate the increasing prominence of the trader on the national stage. The author's pioneering approach shows how crucial the political accommodation which the merchant class secured with the landed gentry was to the country's success in the eighteenth century.

Now in its fourth edition, this best-selling reader in international political economy offers 31 solid articles - 15 new - by renowned scholars in political science and economics. Frieden and Lake have edited and introduced each reading with care to ensure its accessibility to students who are new to the subject. This reader continues to offer a provocative look at the positive and negative impacts of globalization.

Throughout history, societies have had to decide whom to 'sacrifice' and whom to help in times of disaster. This volume examines how elite groups attempt to maintain power through the use of particular economic, political, and ideological instruments and how both ruling elites and common people endeavor to create meaningful traditions while enduring hardship. *The Political Economy of Hazards and Disasters* demonstrates how vulnerability is economically constructed, primary producers adapt their production regimes, how traders and merchants adapt their practices, and how political economic objectives play out in recovery efforts. The Dutch presence in India is all but forgotten memory, with only a handful of words in the Indic languages traceable to Dutch influence, some monuments and numerous archival documents to remind us that the once mighty Verengde Oostindische Compagnie (VOC), the United Dutch East India Company, was a major presence in India for almost two centuries, and indeed was the most powerful European power for more than half that period. Although much distinguished research on Dutch trade in India has been done in recent years, it has been confined to specific regions of VOC operation and limited spans of time. This work, which grew out of the Heras Memorial Lectures on the subject, and has been substantially expanded and revised since, by contrast examines the fluctuating fortunes of this once great company over its entire history from 1600-1795. Unlike other histories of the *longue duree*, however, it integrates political economy with social history to provide a multi-faceted panorama of the VOC's operations in India, its interactions with the other European powers, with Indian rulers, the public at large, and its own crisis-ridden structure which was in the end to prove its nemesis. Through frequent recourse to Dutch archival material it provides fascinating glimpses of the intrigue, skulduggery and back-biting which characterized the international trade of the period, transporting us to another place and time.

This title is part of UC Press's Voices Revived program, which commemorates University of California Press's mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice, reach, and impact. Drawing on a backlist dating to 1893, Voices Revived makes high-quality, peer-reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print-on-demand technology. This title

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was originally published in 1987.

Becoming Bourgeois is the first study to focus on what historians have come to call the "middling sort," the group falling between the mass of yeoman farmers and the planter class that dominated the political economy of the antebellum South. Historian Frank J. Byrne investigates the experiences of urban merchants, village storekeepers, small-scale manufacturers, and their families, as well as the contributions made by this merchant class to the South's economy, culture, and politics in the decades before, and the years of, the Civil War. These merchant families embraced the South but were not of the South. At a time when Southerners rarely traveled far from their homes, merchants annually ventured forth on buying junkets to northern cities. Whereas the majority of Southerners enjoyed only limited formal instruction, merchant families often achieved a level of education rivaled only by the upper class—planters. The southern merchant community also promoted the kind of aggressive business practices that New South proponents would claim as their own in the Reconstruction era and beyond. Along with discussion of these modern approaches to liberal capitalism, Byrne also reveals the peculiar strains of conservative thought that permeated the culture of southern merchants. While maintaining close commercial ties to the North, southern merchants embraced the religious and racial mores of the South. Though they did not rely directly upon slavery for their success, antebellum merchants functioned well within the slave-labor system. When the Civil War erupted, southern merchants simultaneously joined Confederate ranks and prepared to capitalize on the war's business opportunities, regardless of the outcome of the conflict. Throughout *Becoming Bourgeois*, Byrne highlights the tension between these competing elements of southern merchant culture. By exploring the values and pursuits of this emerging class, Byrne not only offers new insight into southern history but also deepens our understanding of the mutable ties between regional identity and the marketplace in nineteenth-century America.

This book was converted from its physical edition published in 1866 to the digital format. George Henry Smith guides us whole the basic terms of political economy as they were understood in 19th century. It is great example of economics theory book written in 19th century which aim was to explain principals of the political economy. Author covers following topics: - The Moral of Man's Wants - The Mechanism of Society - Labour - Division and Combination of Labour - Exchange - Money - Manufacturer-Mechanic-Labourer - The Farmer - The Merchant-The Tradesman - The Schoolmaster-Education - Public Servants - The Banker-Credit - Capital-Interest - Value-Demand and Supply - Machines - Property - Wages - Population - Protection - Consumption and Production - Competition - Poverty-Wealth - Isolated Man - Social Man

Transnational merchant law, which is mistakenly regarded in purely technical and apolitical terms, is a central mediator of domestic and global political/legal orders. By engaging with literature in international law, international relations and international political economy, the author develops the conceptual and theoretical foundations for analyzing the political significance of international economic law. In doing so, she illustrates the private nature of the interests that this evolving legal order has served over time. The book makes a sustained and comprehensive analysis of transnational merchant law and offers a radical critique of global capitalism.

Explores the relationship between long-distance trade and the economic and political structure of southern India.

"What did it mean to run a large, commercialized agrarian polity according to the best Confucian principles? This book is intended as a contribution to both intellectual and political history. It is partly a study of how Confucian-trained officials thought about the grain trade and the state's role in it, particularly the

“ever-normal granaries,” the stockpiles of grain maintained by every county government as protection against shortages and high prices. The author investigates the scope and limits of belief in market forces among those critical of government intervention, establishing that rudimentary economic arguments for state withdrawal from the grain trade were available by 1750. She then explores challenges, from within the ruling apparatus, to the state’s claim that its own stockpiling served the public interest, as well as the factors behind decisions in the mid- and late 1740s to suspend or decrease state purchases of grain. As a study of Confucian government in action, this book describes a mode of public policy discussion far less dominated by the Confucian scriptures than one might expect. As a contribution to intellectual history, the work offers a detailed view of members of an ostensibly Confucian government pursuing divergent agendas around the question of “state or merchant?””

This book is a political history of economic life. Through a description of the convulsions of long-term change from colony to republic in Buenos Aires, *Republic of Capital* explores Atlantic world transformations in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Tracing the transition from colonial Natural Law to instrumental legal understandings of property, the book shows that the developments of constitutionalism and property law were more than coincidences: the polity shaped the rituals and practices arbitrating economic justice, while the crisis of property animated the support for a centralized and executive-dominated state. In dialectical fashion, politics shaped private law while the effort to formalize the domain of property directed the course of political struggles. In studying the legal and political foundations of Argentine capitalism, the author shows how merchants and capitalists coped with massive political upheaval and how political writers and intellectuals sought to forge a model of liberal republicanism. Among the topics examined are the transformation of commercial law, the evolution of liberal political credos, and the saga of political and constitutional turmoil after the collapse of Spanish authority. By the end of the nineteenth century, statemakers, capitalists, and liberal intellectuals settled on a model of political economy that aimed for open markets but closed the polity to widespread participation. The author concludes by exploring the long-term consequences of nineteenth-century statehood for the following century's efforts to promote sustained economic growth and democratize the political arena, and argues that many of Argentina's recent problems can be traced back to the framework and foundations of Argentine statehood in the nineteenth century. Eric Santner offers a radically new interpretation of Marx's labor theory of value as one concerned with the afterlife of political theology in secular modernity. What Marx characterized as the dual character of the labor embodied in the commodity, he argues, is the doctrine of the King's Two Bodies transferred from the political theology of sovereignty to the realm of political economy. This genealogy, leading from the fetishism of the royal body to the fetishism of the commodity, also suggests a new understanding of the irrational core at the center

of economic busyness today, its 24/7 pace. The frenetic negotiations of our busy-bodies continue and translate into the doxology of everyday life the liturgical labor that once sustained the sovereign's glory. Maintaining that an effective critique of capitalist political economy must engage this liturgical dimension, Santner proposes a counter-activity, which he calls "paradoxological." With commentaries by Bonnie Honig, Peter Gordon, and Hent de Vries, an introduction by Kevis Goodman, and a response from Santner, this important new book by a leading cultural theorist and scholar of German literature, cinema, and history will interest readers of political theory, literature and literary theory, and religious studies.

This book analyzes the ways in which Amsterdam, Antwerp and Hamburg developed dual identities as 'communities of commerce' and republics.

This study examines the crucial role of merchants in the rise and decline of New Orleans during the nineteenth century.

A groundbreaking history of early America that shows how Boston built and sustained an independent city-state in New England before being folded into the United States In the vaunted annals of America's founding, Boston has long been held up as an exemplary "city upon a hill" and the "cradle of liberty" for an independent United States. Wresting this revered metropolis from these misleading, tired clichés, *The City-State of Boston* highlights Boston's overlooked past as an autonomous city-state, and in doing so, offers a pathbreaking and brilliant new history of early America. Following Boston's development over three centuries, Mark Peterson discusses how this self-governing Atlantic trading center began as a refuge from Britain's Stuart monarchs and how—through its bargain with the slave trade and ratification of the Constitution—it would tragically lose integrity and autonomy as it became incorporated into the greater United States. *The City-State of Boston* peels away layers of myth to offer a startlingly fresh understanding of this iconic urban center. In this Westview Press Spotlight, Melani Cammett and Ishac Diwan explore the impact of the Arab Spring and subsequent events in the region. *The Political Economy of the Arab Uprisings* analyzes the ways in which salient socioeconomic and political factors are interacting to shape the construction of new political institutions and economic reform programs. The authors introduce students to events with vivid depictions of regional variations in the uprisings, pointing to a variety of factors that differentiate the countries of the region and help to explain their distinct trajectories thus far. *The Political Economy of the Arab Uprisings* is an extracted chapter from the 2013 Updated Edition of *A Political Economy of the Middle East*, Third Edition by Alan Richards, John Waterbury, Melani Cammett, and Ishac Diwan. In the full-length edition, the authors present a comprehensive analysis of the transformation and development of the political economy in the Middle East over the past several decades. The book retains its focus on the interaction of economic development processes, state systems, and social actors as well as introduces coverage of the rising oil prices and how it reinforces authoritarian governance in the region, a refined assessment of 'the Washington Consensus', the impact of the Arab Spring, and much more.

*Cities of Commerce* develops a model of institutional change in European commerce based on urban rivalry. Cities continuously competed with each other by adapting commercial, legal, and financial institutions to the evolving needs of merchants. Oscar Gelderblom traces the

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successive rise of Bruges, Antwerp, and Amsterdam to commercial primacy between 1250 and 1650, showing how dominant cities feared being displaced by challengers while lesser cities sought to keep up by cultivating policies favorable to trade. He argues that it was this competitive urban network that promoted open-access institutions in the Low Countries, and emphasizes the central role played by the urban power holders--the magistrates--in fostering these inclusive institutional arrangements. Gelderblom describes how the city fathers resisted the predatory or reckless actions of their territorial rulers, and how their nonrestrictive approach to commercial life succeeded in attracting merchants from all over Europe. Cities of Commerce intervenes in an important debate on the growth of trade in Europe before the Industrial Revolution. Challenging influential theories that attribute this commercial expansion to the political strength of merchants, this book demonstrates how urban rivalry fostered the creation of open-access institutions in international trade.

Do You Know What the American System Of Economics is All About? Most Americans actually don't—and it's not because they are actually stupid. It's because there's been a systematic suppression of the truth, to the point where it's been written out of the history books and schools throughout the nation. The Political Economy of the American Revolution was first published in 1977 in order to revive the truth about American history. Newspaper editor Nancy Spannaus and historian Christopher White assembled the crucial writings which defined the American System, as a continuation of the Italian Golden Renaissance tradition, and a war against British imperialism and free trade. They produced a book of readings which served as an assault on the Treason School of American history. This new edition adds some crucial materials, but its guts are the same: the works of Alexander Hamilton and his French predecessor, Jean-Baptiste Colbert. These are writings you either can't find anywhere else, or which are hard to find. They are supplemented by introductory essays by Spannaus and White. The scholar and the conscientious citizen will find this book indispensable. The American war against British imperialist methods continues today, and must be won.

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"The merchants of the medieval Hanse monopolised trade in the Baltic and North Sea areas. The authors describe the structure of their trade system in terms of network organisation and attempts to explain, on the grounds of institutional economics, the coordination of the merchants' commercial exchange by reputation, trust and culture. The institutional economics approach also allows for a comprehensive analysis of coordination problems arising between merchants, towns and the 'Kontore.' Due to the simplicity and flexibility of network trade, the Hansards could bridge the huge gap in economic development between the West and the East. In the changing economic conditions around 1500, however, exactly these characteristics proved to be a serious limit to further retain their trade monopoly"--Provided by publisher.

A history of capitalism in nineteenth- and twentieth-century China and India exploring the competition between their tea industries Tea remains the world's most popular commercial drink today, and at the turn of the twentieth century, it represented the largest export industry

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of both China and colonial India. In analyzing the global competition between Chinese and Indian tea, Andrew B. Liu challenges past economic histories premised on the technical "divergence" between the West and the Rest, arguing instead that seemingly traditional technologies and practices were central to modern capital accumulation across Asia. He shows how competitive pressures compelled Chinese merchants to adopt abstract, industrial conceptions of time, while colonial planters in India pushed for labor indenture laws to support factory-style tea plantations. Further, characterizations of China and India as premodern backwaters, he explains, were themselves the historical result of new notions of political economy adopted by Chinese and Indian nationalists, who discovered that these abstract ideas corresponded to concrete social changes in their local surroundings. Together, these stories point toward a more flexible and globally oriented conceptualization of the history of capitalism in China and India.

Historians have traditionally turned to free trade and laissez faire to explain the development of political economy during the Enlightenment. Reinert argues that economic emulation was the prism through which philosophers, ministers, reformers, and merchants thought about imperialism, economics, industry, and reform in the early modern period.

This study addresses the gap between the industrialized nations of the North and the developing nations of the South - particularly through the maritime trade and industry - as the central problem of the international political economy in the twentieth century. Trade is the largest contributor to the asymmetrical relationships and ensuing conflicts that have emerged between the North and the South since the days of the Industrial Revolution. Shipping has played a pivotal role as the vector or artery through which this trade is conducted and in which this pattern of inequality has only recently been challenged by the South. Okechukwu C. Iheduru describes the conflict, providing a comprehensive analysis and explanation of why weak actors often fail to effect changes in the regimes that govern their international relations. One such failed attempt is the quest by the South for a new international maritime order (NIMO), which emerged after the 1974 United Nations Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences as a derivative of the demand for a new international economic order (NIEO). Empirical generalizations and comparisons are drawn from the experiences of three West African countries (Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria) and four countries in Southeast Asia (South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and Indonesia). Iheduru's main argument is that the failure of NIEO and its derivative, the NIMO, is related to the constraints of "late industrialization," especially technological changes, the distribution of power in world shipping, competing nationalism, and the state-society interaction in the policy process. Except in South Korea and Singapore, the attempt by the South to develop national merchant fleets to change the liberal shipping regime failed because of their inability to match the rapidity of change in the maritime industry, overcome the head start of the traditional maritime states in world trade, suppress arrogant nationalism for the efficiency of regional cooperation, and nurture capitalism under state policies beneficial for trade and merchant marine. The late-industrialization theory developed by Alexander Gerschenkron is modified to capture adequately the multifaceted dimensions of North-South relations in general and the fractures in the shipping sector in particular. A discussion of the role of structures, agency, and intragroup politics in development is integrated into one unified framework of analysis.

Transnational merchant law, which is mistakenly regarded in purely technical and apolitical terms, is a central mediator of domestic and global political/legal orders. By engaging with literature in international law, international relations and international political economy, this book develops the conceptual and theoretical foundations for analyzing the political significance of international economic law. In doing so, it illustrates the private nature of the interests that this evolving legal order has served over time. The book makes a sustained and comprehensive analysis of transnational merchant law and offers a radical critique of global

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capitalism.

A historiography of Ottoman Basra, a trade center in the eighteenth century.

Economies - and the government institutions that support them - reflect a moral and political choice, a choice we can make and remake. Since the dawn of industrialization and democratization in the late eighteenth century, there has been a succession of political economic frameworks, reflecting changes in technology, knowledge, trade, global connections, political power, and the expansion of citizenship. The challenges of today reveal the need for a new moral political economy that recognizes the politics in political economy. It also requires the redesign of our social, economic, and governing institutions based on assumptions about humans as social beings rather than narrow self-serving individualists. This Element makes some progress toward building a new moral political economy by offering both a theory of change and some principles for institutional (re)design.

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