

by size, social stratification, and type of religious activity. Network analysis is applied to this data base, focusing on economic, administrative, and transportation networks.

The main conclusion is that the administrative network was given priority by the Tarascan leadership, and, with the development of efficient, highly centralized control over the Lake Pátzcuaro Basin with its rich resources and high population density, a power base was created that made it possible subsequently to extend control over a large geographic territory and resist conquest by the neighboring Aztec state. According to the analysis, a large part of this administrative strength lay in the nature of the settlement system in which more than 85 percent of Lake Pátzcuaro Basin's population lived in large centers, particularly the primate center, facilitating control within the basin and, through these centers, of the population and resources in the outlying territory.

The authors use a combination of archaeological, ethnohistorical, ethnographical, and ecological data from manuscripts and published sources and from field observations carried out during 1976 and 1977. The single most important source of information is the *Relación de Michoacán*, an ethnohistorical document generally thought to have been produced about 1540. The scarcity of data on the protohistoric period led the authors to use their reconstruction of the early Hispanic period along with modern field and remote sensing data to fill in the gaps.

Although conclusions seem tenuous in view of the scarcity of data from the period under study and the need to extrapolate so much from historic and modern data, the use of geographic techniques of analysis provides an interesting and different approach to understanding a protohistoric society.

Generous use is made of maps, and detailed data on the environment, resources, settlements, and productivity of the Lake Pátzcuaro Basin are included in five appendixes, which make up about one-third of this monograph.

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COLONIAL AND INDEPENDENCE PERIODS

The Pacific since Magellan. Vol. II. Monopolists and Freebooters. By O. H. K. SPATE. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1983. Illustrations. Notes. Maps. Figures. Appendix. Index. Pp. xxi, 426. Cloth. \$59.50.

This book is an astonishing *tour de force*, picking up the threads of a story where the first volume, *The Spanish Lake*, set in the sixteenth century, left off. It

is nothing less than a general history of European exploration, conquest, trade, and settlement of the lands bordering and islands populating the vast Pacific Ocean from early Dutch incursions in the sixteenth century to the Wars of Independence in the nineteenth.

The scholarship is sweeping and nearly impeccable, from a Latin Americanist's point of view, and thus one must conclude that the sections on Oceania, Japan, Russia, and China are equally credible and definitive. The author's prose soars with his subject, whether describing the cold, cruel suffering of Vitus Bering and his crews in the far northern latitudes in the eighteenth century or the impact of the buccaneers on English literature, inspiring some of the dearest and most memorable works in the English language, including *Robinson Crusoe* and *Gulliver's Travels*.

Equally compelling is the analysis of incidents, trends, battles, and statistics of the Pacific as they fit into the flow and pattern of world history. The author links the slack period of exploration, trade, and settlement in the middle third of the seventeenth century with the contractions of the world economy, not simply accepting the hypotheses and proofs of the great French economic historians (Fernand Braudel and Pierre Chaunu are two of those cited), but rendering his own interpretation on how Pacific patterns fit into or question the macrohistory postulated by the French.

The author's willingness (and delight) in drawing out the broad generalizations from the mass of facts will provide the reader with much to ponder when considering the affairs of men, especially of Western men, in the making of the modern world. One of my favorites: "So Japan was taken out of the 'mainstream of history' (whatever that is), and this was probably not so greatly (if at all) to her disadvantage as earlier schools of European historians have assumed: India and Indonesia did not greatly gain, in their own values at least, by being forcibly dragged into the stream" (p. 77).

While the author is fair in most instances, his judgment of Spanish affairs is sometimes injudicious and pedestrian. On the apparent lack of Spanish continuity in maintaining the strength of the Armada del Mar del Sur in the seventeenth century, he writes that "for a few years after 1615 there were no raids, one could relax, and there was always mañana . . ." (p. 19). To equate the motivations and activities of Spanish grandees of the early seventeenth century with the stereotypical Mexican peon of Hollywood filmmakers borders on the inane. There are some other remarks that rub against the grain of truth. "Like the Spanish Crown in the Indies, they [Dutch directors of East Indian operations] would have preferred to commit injustice equitably" (p. 27). Such baseless editorializing flaws the book, demonstrating the pitfalls of rendering breezy judgments on an imprecise, or prejudicial, knowledge of minds and faiths of such men as Charles V and Philip II.

There is no formal bibliography, which is not a great matter, but enough of one to quibble with, for it deprives the interested scholar of an easy and ready

reference tool based on the author's exhaustive research. On the other hand, his notes are a delight to read, the type of free-spirited, no-holds-barred praise and criticism one was accustomed to in the works of another old warrior-historian, Admiral Samuel Eliot Morison.

This book is an entire course on the world of the Pacific. From the two volumes, one must conclude that the Pacific found its biographer in O. H. K. Spate, whose exhaustive research, delightful style, and thematic thoroughness matched the grandeur of his subject and the breadth of his vision.

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The Inca and the Aztec States, 1400–1800: Anthropology and History. Edited by GEORGE A. COLLIER, RENATO I. ROSALDO, and JOHN D. WIRTH. New York: Academic Press, 1982. Figures. Appendixes. References. Index. Pp. xx, 475. Cloth.

This book brings together eighteen papers by as many specialists, historians and anthropologists, on various aspects of Andean and Mesoamerican civilization in the preconquest and colonial periods. George A. Collier's introduction succeeds admirably in summarizing the main content and significance of these essays.

Pedro Carrasco's opening essay on "The Political Economy of the Aztec and Inca States" develops a position that he has stated elsewhere. Starting from the viewpoint that production is the key area in the organization of any economy, he argues that the basic and most significant characteristic of the Aztec and Inca economies was that they were politically organized; social stratification in both states was based on the coincidence between the economically dominant group and a ruling class legitimized by its descent from a leading dynasty.

In support of his thesis of the political character of the economy, he asserts that "the lands of the nobility that have sometimes been considered private property were actually personal holdings of individuals from whom public services were expected" (p. 37). I have difficulty grasping Carrasco's distinction between "private property" and "personal holdings." An essential attribute of private property is the power to alienate it, and we know on the authority of the chronicler Diego Durán, Bernardino de Sahagún, and other reliable sources that Aztec lords gambled away or otherwise disposed of their lands and other possessions.

Less controversial are the two papers that follow on Aztec state formation. Edward Calnek's fine paper on "Patterns of Empire Formation in the Valley of Mexico" studies a process that began with the rise of numerous city-states in the thirteenth century in the Valley of Mexico and culminated in the emergence of the Aztecs as the dominant power in the region.

In a paper on a related topic, "Dynastic Succession and Centralization of