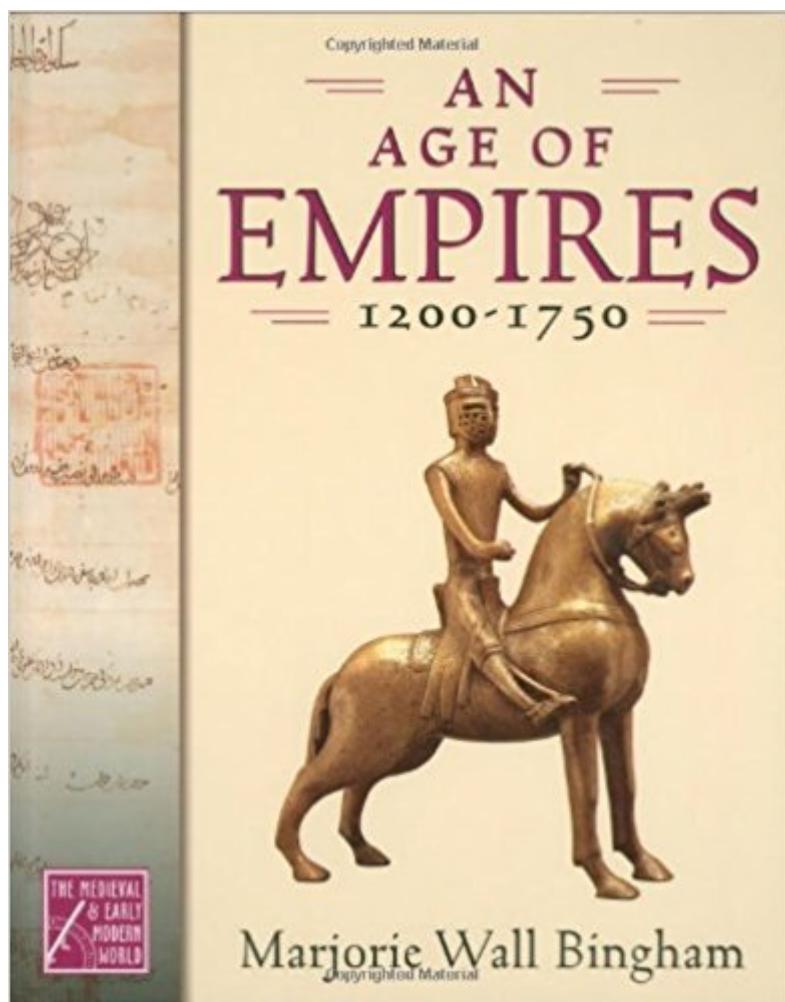


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An Age Of Empires, 1200-1750 (The Medieval And Early Modern World) (Medieval & Early Modern World)



Synopsis

The Age of Empires includes some of the most colorful, ruthless, and restless figures in all of history. During this time Genghis Khan told his troops to "fall upon the enemy like falcons," Ivan the Terrible expelled Mongol invaders from Russia but murdered his own son in a fit of rage, and Babur the Tiger ruled India, combining ferocity on the battlefield with a love of books and poetry. It is a period of extremes: Muslim Turks tolerated Jews and Christians within the Ottoman Empire yet under the Habsburgs the devastating Thirty Years' War pitted Catholics against Protestants. Lithuanian society was remarkably open, granting women the right to own property and decide their religious beliefs while Spanish and Portuguese colonizers enslaved Native Americans and Africans in Peru and Angola. Beautifully illustrated and filled with maps and primary sources, The Age of Empires captures both the historical sweep and vivid details of this transformative period. From Marco Polo's eyewitness account of an opulent Chinese banquet to a missionary's sermon denouncing Spanish atrocities in the Caribbean, these documents bring the era dramatically to life. They show how the spread of empires meant new lands and great wealth for the conquerors, and death, destruction, and slavery for the conquered. But The Age of Empires also shows how, in their relentless outward expansions, imperial rulers brought vastly different peoples into contact, opening new trade routes and stimulating intellectual development, as cultures exchanged both goods and ideas. In these ways as well as others, the Age of Empires is the beginning of our own age. The Medieval and Early Modern World tells the colorful story of a pivotal period in human history, an era that is crucial to understanding our own times. The expansion of trade and city life, the spread and reform of religious institutions, the rise of regional empires and local feudal regimes, and revolutionary advances in science and technology laid the foundation for the modern world. Told through the words and experiences of the people who lived it -- kings, queens, and commoners, priests and lay people, explorers, scientists, artists, and world travelers -- this is a world history for a new generation.

Book Information

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Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Customer Reviews

Marjorie Wall Bingham has taught at every level from seventh grade to graduate school and has served on the Bradley Commission on History in the Schools and on other national and state committees to encourage more and better history teaching. She is a coauthor of a thirteen-book series including *Women in World Cultures* (1980-1987), and the author of a high-school curriculum for the Korea Society.

I got this book steeply discounted from another online seller -- and that's the way to go if you want to read it. Bingham provides a very basic introduction to a vast amount of knowledge; the book isn't that thick (mine is about 145 pages of actual text), the text is rather large, and it's full of color photographs. After purchasing and reading the book, I would never consider buying it for what is offering as its new price (as of 10/20/08, \$32). But it is an interesting book, and probably useful for a brief foray into conquest, and the beginnings of globalization. I think I got it from Labyrinth Books for something like \$5 or \$10, which is a good deal.

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