

Collapse Of An Empire Lessons For Modern Russia

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this vividly detailed revisionist history opens a new vista on the great ottoman empire in the early nineteenth century a key period often seen as the eve of tanzimat westernizing reforms and the beginning of three distinct histories ethnic nationalism in the balkans imperial modernization from istanbul and european colonialism in the middle east christine philliou brilliantly shines a new light on imperial crisis and change in the 1820s and 1830s by unearthing the life of one

man stephanos vogorides 1780 1859 was part of a network of christian elites known phanariots institutionally excluded from power yet intimately bound up with ottoman governance by tracing the contours of the wide ranging networks crossing ethnic religious and institutional boundaries in which the phanariots moved philliou provides a unique view of ottoman power and ultimately of the ottoman legacies in the middle east and balkans today what emerges is a wide angled analysis of governance as a lived experience at a moment in which there was no clear blueprint for power

this is the story of the greatest empire the world has ever known simon baker charts the rise and fall of the world's first superpower focusing on six momentous turning points that shaped roman history welcome to rome as you've never seen it before awesome and splendid gritty and squalid from the conquest of the mediterranean beginning in the third century bc to the destruction of the roman empire at the hands of barbarian invaders some seven centuries later we discover the most critical episodes in roman history the spectacular collapse of the free republic the birth of the age of the caesars the violent suppression of the strongest rebellion against roman power and the bloody civil war that launched christianity as a world religion at the heart of this account are the dynamic complex but flawed characters of some of the most powerful rulers in history men such as pompey the great julius caesar augustus nero and constantine putting flesh on the bones of these distant legendary figures simon baker looks beyond the dusty toga clad caricatures and explores their real motivations and ambitions intrigues and rivalries the superb narrative full of energy and imagination is a brilliant distillation of the latest scholarship and a wonderfully evocative account of ancient rome

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