

CONTENTS

BOOK III

Overview	613
1. The Intermediate Ages	613
2. The Political Relevance of the 'Historic' Religions	613
3. New States for Old	616
4. Migrations and Invasions	619
5. The State System at the Close of the Middle Age	620
PART I. EASTERN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST	
1. The Byzantine Empire (c.1000)	623
1. Chronology	624
2. The Nature of the Byzantine Polity	628
3. The Territorial Framework	630
4. The Central Government	631
5. The Services	645
6. Appraisal	654
7. Conclusion: The Significance and Legacy of the Byzantine Polity	662
2. The Empire of the Caliphate (c.900)	665
1. The Rise and Decline of the Empire of the Caliphs	668
2. Some Strengths and Weaknesses of the Empire	670
3. The Nature of the Polity: Comparisons and Contrasts	674
4. The Territorial Framework	679
5. The Caliph	685
6. The Central Government	704
7. The Services	711
8. Appraisal	716
9. Conclusion: The Nature and Limitations of the Caliphal Empire	725
Addendum 2a. A Note on Mamluk Egypt (1250–1517)	728
1. Significance and Nature of the Mamluk Polity	728
2. Mamluks: Generally	729
3. Egypt	730
4. Mamluk Rule	731
5. The Balance-Sheet of Mamluk Rule	735

PART II. CHINA

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 3. The T'ang Empire | 738 |
| 1. Introductory: From Han to Sui | 738 |
| 2. The Early T'ang (618–755) | 746 |
| 3. The Later T'ang (755–874) | 784 |
| 4. The End of the T'ang (874–907) | 796 |
| 5. Conclusion | 803 |
| 4. Government Under the Ming, 1368–1644 | 806 |
| 1. Ming Society and Economy | 807 |
| 2. The Transit of the Ming | 812 |
| 3. The Structure of Government | 814 |
| 4. The Chinese Constitution | 817 |
| 5. Paperwork and Paralysis | 832 |
| 6. The Government–Notables Alliance | 837 |
| 7. Maladministration | 841 |
| 8. The Nature of the Regime | 848 |
| 9. The Strengths and Weaknesses of the Ming Regime | 852 |

PART III. EUROPE

- | | |
|--|------|
| 5. The Feudal Background | 855 |
| 1. The Dark Ages | 855 |
| 2. Forces and Institutions in the High Middle Ages | 857 |
| 3. Structures and Processes in the Medieval <i>Regnum</i> | 882 |
| 6. The <i>Regna</i> | 896 |
| 1. The Political Geography of Western and Middle Europe | 896 |
| 2. The Development of the European <i>Regna</i> | 898 |
| 3. The Feudal Kingdom of England | 899 |
| 4. France: The Classical Feudal Kingdom | 919 |
| 5. The Disintegration of the Kingdom of Germany | 935 |
| 7. The Republican Alternative: Florence and Venice | 950 |
| 1. The Thrust to Autonomy | 951 |
| 2. <i>Italia Insaquinata</i> | 959 |
| 3. The City-Republic | 963 |
| 4. The Government of Florence, c.1370 | 964 |
| 5. Venice: <i>La Serenissima</i> | 985 |
| 6. The Legacy of the Medieval Republics | 1019 |
| 8. Representative Assemblies | 1024 |
| 1. The Great Political Invention of the Middle Ages | 1024 |
| 2. The Clerical and the Secular Lineages of Representation | 1029 |

CONTENTS

vii

3. The Meaning of 'Representation'	1032
4. The Characteristics of Assemblies	1036
5. Three Contrasting Representative Assemblies	1039
6. The Fate of the Representative Principle	1050
<i>Bibliography</i>	1052