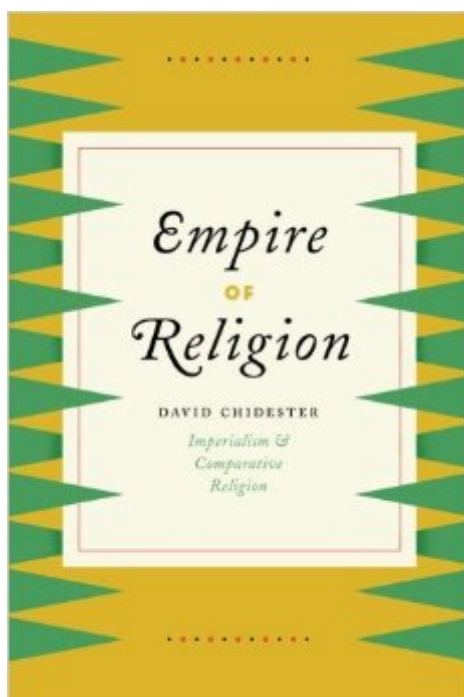


The book was found

Empire Of Religion: Imperialism And Comparative Religion



Synopsis

How is knowledge about religion and religions produced, and how is that knowledge authenticated and circulated? David Chidester seeks to answer these questions in *Empire of Religion*, documenting and analyzing the emergence of a science of comparative religion in Great Britain during the second half of the nineteenth century and its complex relations to the colonial situation in southern Africa. In the process, Chidester provides a counterhistory of the academic study of religion, an alternative to standard accounts that have failed to link the field of comparative religion with either the power relations or the historical contingencies of the imperial project. In developing a material history of the study of religion, Chidester documents the importance of African religion, the persistence of the divide between savagery and civilization, and the salience of mediations—imperial, colonial, and indigenous—in which knowledge about religions was produced. He then identifies the recurrence of these mediations in a number of case studies, including Friedrich Max Müller's dependence on colonial experts, H. Rider Haggard and John Buchan's fictional accounts of African religion, and W. E. B. Du Bois's studies of African religion. By reclaiming these theorists for this history, Chidester shows that race, rather than theology, was formative in the emerging study of religion in Europe and North America. Sure to be controversial, *Empire of Religion* is a major contribution to the field of comparative religious studies.

Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press (March 19, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 022611743X

ISBN-13: 978-0226117430

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #445,964 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #182 in [Books > History > Africa > South Africa](#) #1009 in [Books > History > World > Religious > General](#) #1167 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Comparative Religion](#)

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Empire of Religion: Imperialism and Comparative Religion New frontiers: Imperialism's new

communities in East Asia, 1842-1953 (Studies in Imperialism MUP) Reading Mystical Lyric (Studies in Comparative Religion): The Case of Jalal Al-Din Rumi (Studies in Comparative Religion) Empire and Nation-Building in the Caribbean: Barbados, 1937-66 (Studies in Imperialism MUP) Japan's Total Empire: Manchuria and the Culture of Wartime Imperialism (Twentieth Century Japan: The Emergence of a World Power) Reproducing Empire: Race, Sex, Science, and U.S. Imperialism in Puerto Rico The End of Comparative Philosophy and the Task of Comparative Thinking: Heidegger, Derrida, and Daoism (SUNY Series in Chinese Philosophy and Culture) ... Chinese Philosophy and Culture (Paperback)) Towards a Chinese Civil Code: Comparative and Historical Perspectives (Chinese and Comparative Law) Film and Literature: A Comparative Approach to Adaptation (Studies in Comparative Literature: No. 1) COMPARATIVE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE: A Casebook Approach (Carolina Academic Press Comparative Law Series) The Protection of Legitimate Expectations in Administrative Law: A Comparative Study (Hart Studies in Comparative Public Law) Engendering whiteness: White women and colonialism in Barbados and North Carolina, 1627-1865 (Studies in Imperialism MUP) The Spanish-Cuban-American War and the Birth of American Imperialism, Vol. 1 1895-1898 (Modern reader) The Aborigines' Protection Society: Humanitarian Imperialism in Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Canada, South Africa, and the Congo, 1837-1909 (Columbia/Hurst) French Imperialism in the Middle East: The Failure of Policy in Syria and Lebanon, 1900-1914 Imperialism at Home: Race and Victorian Women's Fiction (Reading Women Writing) Culture and Imperialism Undoing Border Imperialism (Anarchist Interventions) Democracy Matters: Winning the Fight Against Imperialism Face of Imperialism

[Dmca](#)