

mike davis late victorian holocausts

Mike Davis Late Victorian Holocausts: Unveiling the Dark History of Climate and Empire

mike davis late victorian holocausts is a phrase that resonates deeply with those interested in the intertwining of environmental history, colonialism, and human tragedy. Mike Davis, a renowned historian and social critic, brought to light a harrowing chapter in world history with his work "Late Victorian Holocausts," which explores the catastrophic famines and droughts that struck Asia and Africa during the late 19th century. These events were not mere natural disasters; they were deeply connected to the economic and political policies of imperial powers, which exacerbated human suffering on an unimaginable scale.

Understanding the significance of Mike Davis's analysis helps us comprehend how environmental factors, combined with colonial exploitation, can lead to what he terms "holocausts" – massive, preventable human catastrophes.

The Premise of Mike Davis's Late Victorian Holocausts

At its core, Mike Davis's "Late Victorian Holocausts" is a historical investigation into a series of famines and droughts that occurred between 1876 and 1900. These calamities primarily affected parts of India, China, Brazil, and Africa, regions under heavy imperial influence or control. What sets Davis's work apart is his argument that these famines were not just the result of natural climatic fluctuations but were significantly worsened by colonial economic policies and global market dynamics.

Davis delves into how the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) climate phenomenon triggered abnormal weather patterns, causing droughts and crop failures. But rather than just documenting the natural causes, he critically analyzes how British colonial policies—such as the export of food grains, taxation, and the dismantling of traditional agrarian economies—intensified the famine conditions.

Colonial Economic Policies and Their Role

One of the most crucial insights from Mike Davis's work is the impact of imperial economic strategies on famine mortality. British colonial administrations prioritized the export of cash crops and food grains to fuel the industrial revolution back home. Meanwhile, indigenous populations faced escalating land taxes and were forced into cash-crop farming, which left them vulnerable when food supplies dwindled.

Additionally, the colonial government often refused to intervene effectively during famine outbreaks, adhering to laissez-faire economic principles and believing that market forces should regulate supply and demand. This ideological stance led to catastrophic delays in famine relief and contributed to millions of deaths.

Environmental Triggers: The Role of Climate in Late Victorian Famines

Understanding the environmental context is critical to grasp the full picture of the Late Victorian Holocausts. Mike Davis highlights how climate anomalies, particularly those linked to El Niño events, disrupted rainfall patterns and agricultural productivity.

El Niño and Its Global Impact

El Niño is a climate phenomenon characterized by the warming of surface waters in the Pacific Ocean, which can have widespread effects on weather worldwide. In the late 19th century, several strong El Niño events led to severe droughts in Asia and Africa. These droughts devastated crops, leading to food shortages and triggering famines.

Davis's research emphasizes that while natural phenomena like El Niño were unavoidable, the magnitude of human suffering was amplified by the socio-political context of the time. The climatic disruptions created a fragile agricultural base that imperial policies then exploited or neglected, resulting in catastrophic outcomes.

Interconnection Between Environment and Economy

The environment and economy are often discussed separately, but Mike Davis's Late Victorian Holocausts effectively demonstrate their interconnection. In agrarian societies dependent on stable monsoons and predictable weather, any disruption could spell disaster. When combined with colonial extraction and economic restructuring, these environmental shocks turned into humanitarian crises.

Case Studies Highlighted in Late Victorian Holocausts

To illustrate his thesis, Mike Davis provides detailed case studies of famines across different continents, showing a pattern of environmental disaster compounded by human action or inaction.

The Great Famine in India (1876-1878)

One of the most devastating famines analyzed is the Great Famine in India, which claimed millions of lives. British policies during this period are scrutinized for their failure to provide timely relief and for continuing food exports despite widespread hunger. The famine was triggered by drought conditions linked to El Niño, but British laissez-faire ideology and prioritization of imperial economic interests worsened the crisis.

China's Northern Drought and Famine

In China, droughts in the north led to severe food shortages, exacerbated by the Qing dynasty's weakening control and foreign economic pressures. Davis points out that foreign powers' interference and the internal political chaos limited effective famine response, making the crisis particularly severe.

Famine and Drought in Brazil and Africa

Mike Davis also explores famines in Brazil and parts of Africa, regions often overlooked in popular history. In Brazil, droughts in the northeast led to widespread hunger, while in Africa, colonial disruption of traditional land use and economic practices increased vulnerability to famine during drought periods.

The Legacy and Lessons of Mike Davis Late Victorian Holocausts

Mike Davis's exploration of the Late Victorian Holocausts offers important lessons for contemporary society, especially in understanding the complex relationship between climate change, political economy, and human vulnerability.

Recognizing Human Responsibility in Natural Disasters

One key takeaway is that natural disasters rarely occur in isolation from human systems. Policies, governance, and economic structures play a significant role in shaping the impact of environmental events. Recognizing this interconnectedness can help modern policymakers design more effective disaster response and prevention strategies.

Implications for Modern Climate Change and Food Security

The Late Victorian famines serve as a stark warning in the age of climate change. As global warming increases the frequency and severity of extreme weather events, vulnerable populations—often in the Global South—face heightened risks of food insecurity. Understanding how historical famines were worsened by economic and political factors underscores the need for equitable, sustainable development policies today.

Reassessing Historical Narratives

Davis's work challenges traditional historical narratives that often attribute famines solely to natural causes or local failures. By highlighting the imperial context and global market dynamics, he

encourages a more nuanced view of history that incorporates environmental and economic factors.

Reading and Engaging with Mike Davis's Work

For those interested in environmental history, colonial studies, or socio-economic analysis, Mike Davis's "Late Victorian Holocausts" is a compelling read. His interdisciplinary approach combines climatology, history, and political economy to provide a holistic understanding of one of the darkest periods in the colonial era.

If you want to dive deeper, consider these tips:

- Explore supplementary materials on the El Niño-Southern Oscillation to understand the climatic backdrop.
- Read contemporaneous accounts from the affected regions to gain insight into the human experience during the famines.
- Compare Davis's analysis with other historians' perspectives on colonialism and disaster management.

By doing so, readers can appreciate the complexities behind these historic events and reflect on their relevance today.

The exploration of Mike Davis late Victorian holocausts opens up a vital conversation about how societies respond to environmental challenges and the enduring consequences of imperialism. It reminds us that history is not just about dates and events but about the ongoing interaction between nature, power, and human resilience.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of Mike Davis's book 'Late Victorian Holocausts'?

The main theme of 'Late Victorian Holocausts' by Mike Davis is the investigation of the famines in Asia and Africa during the late 19th century and how colonial policies, capitalism, and imperialism exacerbated these disasters.

How does Mike Davis explain the cause of famines in 'Late Victorian Holocausts'?

Mike Davis argues that famines were not merely natural disasters but were significantly caused and worsened by British colonial policies, economic exploitation, and the integration of global markets that disrupted local food systems.

What regions does 'Late Victorian Holocausts' primarily focus on?

The book primarily focuses on famines in India, China, and parts of Africa during the late Victorian era, highlighting the interconnectedness of global climatic events and imperial economic policies.

How does 'Late Victorian Holocausts' challenge traditional views of famine?

The book challenges the traditional view that famines are solely due to natural causes by demonstrating the role of political economy, colonial governance, and global capitalist dynamics in causing and intensifying famines.

What role does climate change play in 'Late Victorian Holocausts'?

Climate change, particularly the impact of El Niño events causing droughts, is discussed as a natural factor that triggered famines, but Davis emphasizes that human factors like colonial exploitation were critical in turning these droughts into widespread disasters.

Why is 'Late Victorian Holocausts' considered an important work in historical and environmental studies?

It is considered important because it integrates environmental history with political economy, showing how ecological crises are intertwined with colonialism and capitalism, thus providing a comprehensive understanding of historical famines.

How has 'Late Victorian Holocausts' influenced contemporary discussions on famine and colonialism?

The book has influenced contemporary debates by highlighting the structural causes of famine linked to imperialism and economic policies, encouraging scholars and policymakers to consider political and economic contexts in addressing food security and humanitarian crises.

Additional Resources

****Mike Davis Late Victorian Holocausts: An Analytical Review****

mike davis late victorian holocausts represents a pivotal work in the field of environmental history and socio-economic analysis, shedding light on the devastating famines that struck the late Victorian British Empire and the broader world during the 19th century. This book, authored by Mike Davis, offers a meticulously researched narrative that challenges conventional interpretations of these catastrophic events, highlighting the intersection of climate, colonial policies, and global capitalism. In this analytical review, we explore the core themes, methodologies, and impact of Davis's work, while integrating relevant insights to better understand the complexities behind the late Victorian famines, often labeled as "holocausts."

Contextualizing Late Victorian Holocausts

Mike Davis's book, **Late Victorian Holocausts: El Niño Famines and the Making of the Third World**, published in 2001, is a profoundly investigative account that links environmental phenomena with imperialist policies and economic exploitation. The term "late Victorian holocausts" specifically refers to a series of famines that occurred primarily between 1876 and 1900, affecting regions in India, China, Brazil, and parts of Africa. These famines collectively resulted in the deaths of tens of millions of people, yet they remain relatively under-examined in mainstream historical discourse.

Davis's central thesis revolves around the idea that these famines were not merely natural disasters but were significantly exacerbated—if not caused—by colonial economic policies that prioritized imperial profits over local welfare. His integration of climatological data, particularly the impact of El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events, with socioeconomic factors provides a multi-layered understanding of how environmental stressors interacted with human decisions to produce catastrophic outcomes.

El Niño and Climatic Influences

One of the groundbreaking aspects of **Late Victorian Holocausts** is Davis's detailed examination of the correlation between El Niño events and the onset of droughts and famines in various tropical and subtropical regions. The late 19th century experienced several intense El Niño episodes that disrupted monsoon patterns, leading to severe agricultural failures. For example, the 1876-1878 famine in India, which killed an estimated 10 million people, coincided with major El Niño-induced drought.

Davis, through rigorous climatological reconstruction, underscores how these natural climate fluctuations created the environmental stress that precipitated food shortages. However, the distinguishing feature of his analysis lies in how he argues that the colonial administrations' responses—or lack thereof—played a decisive role in turning these climatic events into large-scale human tragedies.

Colonial Policies and Economic Exploitation

A critical element of Davis's investigation is the examination of British imperial policy in India and elsewhere. The British Raj's emphasis on free-market economics, cash crop production, and minimal state intervention in famine relief exacerbated the impact of food shortages. The insistence on exporting grain even during times of local scarcity, combined with high taxation and land revenue demands, left millions vulnerable.

By comparing famines in different colonies and countries, Davis illustrates a pattern where imperial powers prioritized economic extraction over humanitarian considerations. In India, for instance, the policy of laissez-faire economics dictated that the market should not be interfered with, which led to inadequate famine relief measures. Meanwhile, in China and Brazil, similar dynamics of export-oriented economies and weak state capacity contributed to comparable outcomes.

Impact and Scholarly Reception

Mike Davis's **Late Victorian Holocausts** has been influential across multiple disciplines, including environmental history, postcolonial studies, and political economy. The book is praised for its interdisciplinary approach, combining climatology, history, and economics to provide a holistic understanding of a complex historical phenomenon.

However, some critiques have emerged regarding Davis's interpretation of colonial culpability. Certain scholars argue that while colonial policies undoubtedly worsened famine conditions, the scale and complexity of these disasters cannot be entirely attributed to imperial mismanagement. They point to other factors such as indigenous social structures, pre-existing vulnerabilities, and local ecological conditions that also played significant roles.

Despite such debates, Davis's work remains a cornerstone for understanding how environmental crises intersect with human politics, especially in contexts of colonialism and global capitalism.

Features and Contributions of the Work

- **Interdisciplinary Methodology:** Davis's fusion of climate science data with socio-political analysis sets a precedent for future research in environmental history.
- **Global Perspective:** Rather than focusing solely on India, the book covers multiple famines across continents, emphasizing the interconnectedness of imperial economies.
- **Critical Examination of Imperialism:** The work challenges sanitized narratives of colonial benevolence by exposing the role of economic policies in famine causation.
- **Use of Primary Sources:** Davis draws extensively from colonial archives, contemporary reports, and climatological records to build a compelling case.

Relevance to Contemporary Discussions on Climate and Food Security

In the modern era, **Late Victorian Holocausts** holds significant relevance as the world grapples with climate change and its potential to exacerbate food insecurity. The book's insights into how environmental stress interacts with political and economic systems offer valuable lessons for contemporary policymakers.

For instance, the current discourse on climate-induced migration and famine can benefit from Davis's analysis of how systemic inequalities and governance failures compound natural disasters. By understanding historical precedents, governments and international organizations might better anticipate and mitigate similar crises in vulnerable regions.

Moreover, the book's focus on the consequences of ignoring scientific and humanitarian warnings during environmental stress periods parallels current challenges in global climate governance.

Comparisons with Other Environmental Histories

Compared to other seminal works in environmental history, such as Jared Diamond's **Collapse** or Alfred Crosby's **Ecological Imperialism**, Davis's **Late Victorian Holocausts** stands out for its focus on the socio-economic and political dimensions of environmental disasters rather than purely ecological or anthropological perspectives.

While Diamond explores societal collapse through environmental mismanagement, Davis's work emphasizes the role of colonial power structures in shaping vulnerability and response. Crosby's work on the biological consequences of imperialism complements Davis's by providing context on how ecological factors influenced human history, but Davis's book adds a sharper critique of economic exploitation.

Critical Reflections on Mike Davis Late Victorian Holocausts

The strength of Davis's work lies in its ability to weave environmental and political narratives into a coherent explanation of famines that were often dismissed as natural or inevitable. His detailed case studies allow readers to appreciate the scale and human cost of these late 19th-century disasters while questioning the dominant historical narratives that overlooked colonial responsibility.

Yet, it is also important to acknowledge the complexity of such events. Environmental disasters are rarely caused by a single factor. Davis's focus on colonial policy is illuminating but should be complemented by further research into local agency, indigenous resilience, and ecological variability.

This nuanced understanding does not diminish the book's significance but rather situates it within an ongoing effort to comprehend the multifaceted causes of famine and human suffering.

Mike Davis's **Late Victorian Holocausts** remains a seminal text for anyone interested in the interplay between climate, empire, and human catastrophe. Its detailed analysis and critical perspective provide a foundation for both historical inquiry and contemporary policy debate, making it an essential contribution to the study of environmental disasters and imperial history.

[Mike Davis Late Victorian Holocausts](#)

mike davis late victorian holocausts: Late Victorian Holocausts Mike Davis, 2001
Examining a series of El Nino-induced droughts and the famines that they spawned around the

globe, Davis shows how the ruling elites helped produce some of the worst tragedies in human history. 15 photos. 8 maps.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Empire, Colony, Genocide* A. Dirk Moses, 2008 In 1944, Raphael Lemkin coined the term 'genocide' to describe a foreign occupation that destroyed or permanently crippled a subject population. This text is a world history of genocide that highlights what Lemkin called 'the role of the human group and its tribulations'.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Tragic Orphans* Carl Vadivella Belle, 2016-05-13 In 1938, noting that the bulk of the Indian population formed a e;landless proletariat; and despairing of the ability of the factionalized Indian community to unite in pursuit of common objectives, activist K.A. Neelakanda Ayer forecast that the fate of Indians in Malaya would be to become e;Tragic orphanse; of whom India has forgotten and Malaya looks down upon with contempt;. Ayer's words continue to resonate; as a minority group in a nation dominated politically by colonially derived narratives of e;racee; and ethnicity and riven by the imperatives of religion, the general trajectory of the economically and politically impotent Indian community has been one of increasing irrelevance. This book explores the history of the modern Indian presence in Malaysia, and traces the vital role played by the Indian community in the construction of contemporary Malaysia. In this comprehensive new study, Carl Vadivella Belle offers fresh insights on the Indian experience spanning the period from the colonial recruitment of Indian labour to the post-Merdeka political, economic and social marginalization of Indians. While recent Indian challenges to the political status quo - a regime described as that of e;benign neglecte; - promoted Indian hopes of reform, change and uplift, the author concludes that the dictates of political discourse permeated by the ideologies of communalism offer limited prospects for meaningful change.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Narratives of Hunger in International Law* Anne Saab, 2019-04-04 This book explores the role that the language of international law plays in constructing understandings - or narratives - of hunger in the context of climate change. The story is told through a specific case study of genetically engineered seeds purportedly made to be 'climate-ready'. Two narratives of hunger run through the storyline: the prevailing neoliberal narrative that focuses on increasing food production and relying on technological innovations and private sector engagement, and the oppositional and aspirational food sovereignty narrative that focuses on improving access to and distribution of food and rejects technological innovations and private sector engagement as the best solutions. This book argues that the way in which voices in the neoliberal narrative use international law reinforces fundamental assumptions about hunger and climate change, and the way in which voices in the food sovereignty narrative use international law fails to question and challenge these assumptions.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Colonialism and Genocide* Dirk Moses, Dan Stone, 2013-09-13 Previously published as a special issue of *Patterns of Prejudice*, this is the first book to link colonialism and genocide in a systematic way in the context of world history. It fills a significant gap in the current understanding on genocide and the Holocaust, which sees them overwhelmingly as twentieth century phenomena. This book publishes Lemkin's account of the genocide of the Aboriginal Tasmanians for the first time and chapters cover: the exterminatory rhetoric of racist discourses before the 'scientific racism' of the mid-nineteenth century Charles Darwin's preoccupation with the extinction of peoples in the face of European colonialism, a reconstruction of a virtually unknown case of 'subaltern genocide' global perspective on the links between modernity and the Holocaust Social theorists and historians alike will find this a must-read.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Fatal Misconception* Matthew Connelly, 2010-03-30 Connelly tells the disturbing story of a quest to remake ourselves by policing national borders and breeding better people. With its transnational scope and exhaustive research, this critique uncovers the cost inflicted by a misguided humanitarian movement and urges renewed commitment to the reproductive rights of all people.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Ordinary Person's Guide To Empire* Arundhati Roy, 2006-03 In *Her Ordinary Person's Guide*, Roy's Perfect Pitch And Sharp Scalpel Are, Once Again, A

Wonder And A Joy To Behold. No Less Remarkable Is The Range Of Material Subjected To Her Sure And Easy Touch, And The Surprising Information She Reveals At Every Turn Noam Chomsky This Second Volume Of Arundhati Roy S Collected Non-Fiction Writing Brings Together Fourteen Essays Written Between June 2002 And November 2004. In These Essays She Draws The Thread Of Empire Through Seemingly Unconnected Arenas, Uncovering The Links Between America S War On Terror, The Growing Threat Of Corporate Power, The Response Of Nation States To Resistance Movements, The Role Of Ngos, Caste And Communal Politics In India, And The Perverse Machinery Of An Increasingly Corporatized Mass Media. Meticulously Researched And Carefully Argued, This Is A Necessary Work For Our Times. The Scale Of What Roy Surveys Is Staggering. Her Pointed Indictment Is Devastating New York Times Book Review She Raises Many Vital Questions [In This Book], Which We Can Ignore Only At Our Peril Statesman With Fierce Erudition And Brilliant Reasoning, Roy Dwells On Western Hypocrisy And Propaganda, Vehemently Questioning The Basis Of Biased International Politics Asian Age Whether You Agree With Her Or Disagree With Her, Adore Her Or Despise Her, You Ll Want To Read Her Today Reading Arundhati Roy Is How The Peace Movement Arms Itself. She Turns Our Grief And Rage Into Courage Naomi Klein

mike davis late victorian holocausts: W.G. Sebald and the Writing of History Anne Fuchs, Jonathan James Long, 2007 Summary: W.G. Sebald, frequently mentioned in the same breath as Franz Kafka and Vladimir Nabokov, is one of the most important European writers of recent decades. He has been lauded by such major cultural commentators as Susan Sontag and Paul Auster, and he has combined wide public appeal with universal critical acclaim. His work is concerned with questions of memory, exile, representation, and, above all else, history. But his approach to history is strikingly different from conventional historiographical writing on the one hand, and from the historical novel on the other. His texts are hybrid in nature, mixing fiction, biography, historiography, travel-writing and memoir, and incorporating numerous photographic images. This volume seeks to respond to the complexities of Sebald's image of history by presenting essays by a team of international scholars, all of whom are acknowledged Sebald experts. It offers a unique and exciting perspective on the dazzling work of one of the major literary figures of our times.--Publisher description.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: Peasants and Globalization A. Haroon Akram-Lodhi, Cristóbal Kay, 2012-08-21 In 2007, for the first time in human history, a majority of the world's population lived in cities. However, on a global scale, poverty overwhelmingly retains a rural face. This book assembles an unparalleled group of internationally-eminent scholars in the field of rural development and social change in order to explore historical and contemporary processes of agrarian change and transformation and their consequent impact upon the livelihoods, poverty and well-being of those who live in the countryside. The book provides a critical analysis of the extent to which rural development trajectories have in the past and are now promoting a change in rural production processes, the accumulation of rural resources, and shifts in rural politics, and the implications of such trajectories for peasant livelihoods and rural workers in an era of globalization. Peasants and Globalization thus explores continuity and change in the debate on the 'agrarian question', from its early formulation in the late 19th century to the continuing relevance it has in our times, including chapters from Terence Byres, Amiya Bagchi, Ellen Wood, Farshad Araghi, Henry Bernstein, Saturnino M Borrás, Ray Kiely, Michael Watts and Philip McMichael. Collectively, the contributors argue that neoliberal social and economic policies have, in deepening the market imperative governing the contemporary world food system, not only failed to tackle to underlying causes of rural poverty but have indeed deepened the agrarian crisis currently confronting the livelihoods of peasant farmers and rural workers. This crisis does not go unchallenged, as rural social movements have emerged, for the first time, on a transnational scale. Confronting development policies that are unable to reduce, let alone eliminate, rural poverty, transnational rural social movements are attempting to construct a more just future for the world's farmers and rural workers.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: Genocide Adam Jones, 2010-09-13 Genocide: A

Comprehensive Introduction is the most wide-ranging textbook on genocide yet published. The book is designed as a text for upper-undergraduate and graduate students, as well as a primer for non-specialists and general readers interested in learning about one of humanity's enduring blights. Fully updated to reflect the latest thinking in this rapidly developing field, this new edition: provides an introduction to genocide as both a historical phenomenon and an analytical-legal concept, including an extended discussion of the concept of genocidal intent, and the dynamism and contingency of genocidal processes discusses the role of state-building, imperialism, war, and social revolution in fueling genocide supplies a wide range of full-length case studies of genocides worldwide, each with an accompanying box-text explores perspectives on genocide from the social sciences, including psychology, sociology, anthropology, political science/international relations, and gender studies considers The Future of Genocide, with attention to historical memory and genocide denial; initiatives for truth, justice, and redress; and strategies of intervention and prevention. Written in clear and lively prose, liberally sprinkled with over 100 illustrations and maps, and including personal testimonies from genocide survivors, *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction* has established itself as the core textbook of the new generation of genocide scholarship. An accompanying website (www.genocidetext.net) features a broad selection of supplementary materials, teaching aids, and Internet resources.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Fanaticism* Alberto Toscano, 2017-08-29 A genealogy of fanaticism—unearthing its long history, before it became a tool in the Clash of Civilizations It is commonplace to hear fanaticism described as a deviant or extreme variant of an already irrational set of religious beliefs, an assertion that helps to demonize convictions outside political orthodoxy. Alberto Toscano's compelling and erudite counter-history explodes this accepted convention by exploring the critical role fanaticism played in the formation of modern politics and the liberal state. Showing how fanaticism results from a failure to formulate an adequate emancipatory politics, this illuminating history sheds new light on an idea that continues to dominate debates about faith and secularism. This expanded edition includes new material that revisits the idea of fanaticism as it operates at the limits of the liberal political imaginary, highlighting its relation to fraternal violence, political purity and the refusal of compromise, as well as its centrality to times of social crisis and international conflict.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Nineteenth-Century Literature in Transition: The 1890s* Dustin Friedman, Kristin Mahoney, 2023-09-07 The 1890s were once seen as marginal within the larger field of Victorian studies, which tended to privilege the realist novel and the authors of the mid-century. In recent decades, the fin de siècle has come to be viewed as one of the most dynamic decades of the Victorian era. Viewed by writers and artists of the period as a moment of opportunity, transition, and urgency, the 1890s are pivotal for understanding the parameters of the field of Victorian studies itself. This volume makes a case for why the decade continues to be an area of perennial fascination, focusing on transnational connections, gender and sexuality, ecological concerns, technological innovations, and other current critical trends. This collection both calls attention to the diverse range of literature and art being produced during this period and foregrounds the relevance of the Victorian era's final years to issues and crises that face us today.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *His Majesty's Opponent* Sugata Bose, 2011-05 The man whom Indian nationalists perceived as the "George Washington of India" and who was President of the Indian National Congress in 1938-1939 is a legendary figure. Called Netaji ("leader") by his countrymen, Subhas Chandra Bose struggled all his life to liberate his people from British rule and, in pursuit of that goal, raised and led the Indian National Army against Allied Forces during World War II. His patriotism, as Gandhi asserted, was second to none, but his actions aroused controversy in India and condemnation in the West. Now, in a definitive biography of the revered Indian nationalist, Sugata Bose deftly explores a charismatic personality whose public and private life encapsulated the contradictions of world history in the first half of the twentieth century. He brilliantly evokes Netaji's formation in the intellectual milieu of Calcutta and Cambridge, probes his thoughts and relations during years of exile, and analyzes his ascent to the peak of nationalist

politics. Amidst riveting accounts of imprisonment and travels, we glimpse the profundity of his struggle: to unite Hindu and Muslim, men and women, and diverse linguistic groups within a single independent Indian nation. Finally, an authoritative account of his untimely death in a plane crash will put to rest rumors about the fate of this "deathless hero." This epic of a life larger than its legend is both intimate, based on family archives, and global in significance. His Majesty's Opponent establishes Bose among the giants of Indian and world history.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Sites of Genocide* Adam Jones, 2022-05-17 Genocide may be the most powerful word in the English language. What is the significance and relevance of this formative concept today? In an extraordinarily wide-ranging collection of essays and interviews, Adam Jones, one of the world's leading genocide scholars, explores the uses and controversies surrounding the term that Raphael Lemkin coined during the Second World War to describe and prohibit mass atrocities against defined human groups. In a style that is learned but always accessible and engaging, Jones addresses key historical and contemporary issues, such as: What were the motivations and proclaimed justifications for genocide in the long nineteenth century that shaped our modern world? How can humanitarian interventions in genocide avoid sliding into new imperialism? What are the connections between religion and genocide? How can the gender variable in genocide perpetration and victimization be understood? A wide range of historical and contemporary genocides and crimes against humanity, from the eighteenth-century slave rebellion in Haiti to Myanmar's destruction of the Rohingya, and to the forms of structural and systemic violence that Jones argues should be encompassed by any global-historical understanding of genocide. *Sites of Genocide* is illustrated with photos from Jones's own collection and other sources. It will be of interest to all students and scholars of human rights and for general readers seeking a point of entry to the rich and provocative debates in comparative genocide studies.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *The Divide* Jason Hickel, 2017-05-04
'There's no understanding global inequality without understanding its history. In *The Divide*, Jason Hickel brilliantly lays it out, layer upon layer, until you are left reeling with the outrage of it all.' - Kate Raworth, author of *Doughnut Economics* · The richest eight people control more wealth than the poorest half of the world combined. · Today, 60 per cent of the world's population lives on less than \$5 a day. · Though global real GDP has nearly tripled since 1980, 1.1 billion more people are now living in poverty. For decades we have been told a story: that development is working, that poverty is a natural phenomenon and will be eradicated through aid by 2030. But just because it is a comforting tale doesn't make it true. Poor countries are poor because they are integrated into the global economic system on unequal terms, and aid only helps to hide this. Drawing on pioneering research and years of first-hand experience, *The Divide* tracks the evolution of global inequality - from the expeditions of Christopher Columbus to the present day - offering revelatory answers to some of humanity's greatest problems. It is a provocative, urgent and ultimately uplifting account of how the world works, and how it can change for the better.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Select Proceedings of the European Society of International Law, Volume 1 2006* Hélène Ruiz Fabri, Emmanuelle Jouannet, Vincent Tomkiewicz, 2008-05-29 This is the first volume of proceedings arising from the biennial conference of the European Society of International Law/Société européenne de droit international, edited by Emmanuelle Jouannet, Hélène Ruiz Fabri and Vincent Tomkiewicz. The volume presents the highlights of the Paris Conference 2006, and the papers are evenly divided between English and French language contributions. It is envisaged that this will be the first volume of a series, with future volumes following on from each major ESIL/SEDI event.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Floods, Famines, and Emperors* Brian Fagan, 2009-02-10 In 1997 and early 1998, one of the most powerful El Niños ever recorded disrupted weather patterns all over the world. Europe suffered through a record freeze as the American West was hit with massive floods and snowstorms; in the western Pacific, meanwhile, some island nations literally went bone dry and had to have water flown in on transport planes. Such effects are not new: climatologists now know the El Niño and other climate anomalies have been disrupting weather

patterns throughout history. But until recently, no one had asked how this new understanding of the global weather system related to archaeology and history. Droughts, floods, heat and cold put stress on cultures and force them to adapt. What determines whether they adapt successfully? How do these climate stresses affect a people's faith in the foundations of their society and the legitimacy of their rulers? How vulnerable is our own society to climate change? In this dazzlingly original new book, archaeologist Brian Fagan shows that short-term climate shifts have been a major -- and hitherto unrecognized -- force in history. El Nino-driven droughts have brought on the collapse of dynasties in Egypt; El Nino monsoon failures have caused historic famines in India; and El Nino floods have destroyed whole civilizations in Peru. Other short-term climate changes may have caused the mysterious abandonment of the Anasazi dwellings in the American Southwest and the collapse of the ancient Maya empire, as well as changed the course of European history. This beautifully written, groundbreaking book opens a new door on our understanding of historical events.

mike davis late victorian holocausts: *Common Ground* Geneviève Massard-Guilbaud, Stephen Mosley, 2010-10-12 Today's environmental problems—climate change, loss of biodiversity, polluted air, land, and water—all have their origins to a greater or lesser extent in how we have lived, played and worked. At a time when societies are confronted with the often dramatic consequences of past choices made in the fields of energy, technology, industry, agriculture, urbanisation and consumption, we need a history that casts more light on the ways in which unsustainable human-nature relationships came into being. This means forging stronger connections between social and environmental history. *Common Ground* opens up a dialogue between two sub-disciplines that to date have remained largely parallel endeavours, bringing together both established and younger scholars from both fields to explore how people's everyday lives have connected to their environments—and with what effects. The book is organised in six sections: leisure and environment; nature and conservation; environmental conflicts; folk and scientific knowledge; environmental disasters; and energy, industry and urban infrastructure. By exploring the complex interplay between people's day-to-day activities and ecological change, especially the values, beliefs and environmental experiences of ordinary men and women, we can better understand our past relationships with nature and perhaps make more informed planning and policy choices in the future.

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