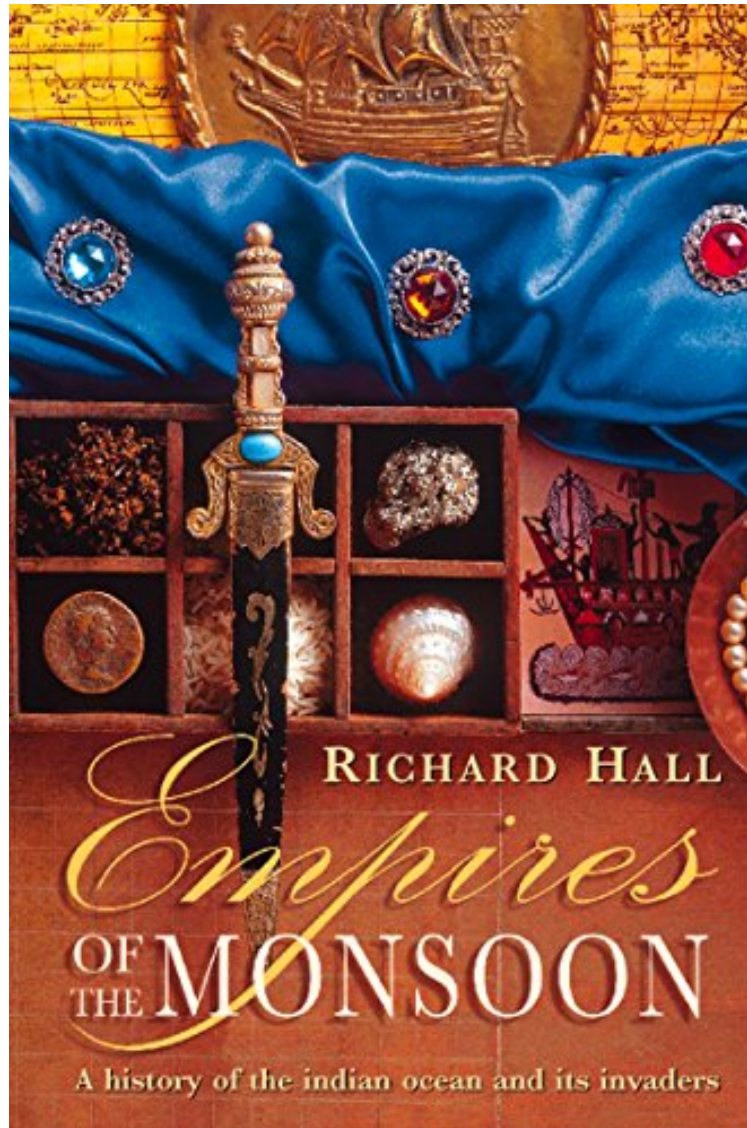


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## Empires of the Monsoon (Text Only)

Von Richard Hall

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**Von Richard Hall : Empires of the Monsoon (Text Only)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Empires of the Monsoon (Text Only):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Best book I read in 2011 Von M. Schweiger Empires of the Monsoon is a highly comprehensive, informative and entertaining history of trade routes and colonization of the coastal regions of East Africa, India and the islands of the Indian Ocean. It kicks off with the early quests of the Indonesian people of the Waqwaqs colonizing Madagascar, the travels of Marco Polo and Ibn Battuta, the expeditions of the massive Chinese star fleets opening up trade with India,

Arabia and East Africa under admiral Zheng He at the beginning of the fifteenth century. The second part is dedicated to the ascent and descent of the Portuguese maritime empire - mostly due to the invention of the caravel under Prince Henry the Navigator - a ship better suited to the currents and winds of the Atlantic Ocean than the commonly used galley in the Mediterranean. In 1497 Vasco da Gama leaves Portugal for Calicut, passing the Cape of Good Hope. He is followed by Don Francisco de Almeida in 1503 bringing the expansion of the Osman empire to a halt at the battle at Diu (1509) and Afonso de Albuquerque. In the first half of the sixteenth century the Portuguese also start venturing into Ethiopia searching for 'Prester John', the legendary Christian King in the East. The Portuguese struggle for maritime dominance of trade in the Indian Ocean is ruthless but short-lived. As early as 1622 they are driven out of Hormuz and lose Ceylon to the Dutch in 1658 as the ascent of the East India Company begins. The third part of Richard Hall's masterpiece describes the struggle of the British against the French in the early nineteenth century and the banishing of the slave trade (Abolition Act of 1807) - with its far reaching consequences to the foremost British ally in the Indian Ocean - Sultan Seyyid Said of Oman. Aside from the political events the steamer (1829 first steamer travelling from Suez to Bombay) and the Suez Canal entirely change the traditional trade routes round the Cape of Good Hope. The book's final chapters end with the big 'scramble for Africa' starting 1886 when Germany, Britain and France split parts of the continent among themselves.

0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. wann erscheint dieses buch endlich in deutscher bersetzung? Von Tuulikki Marja Laehdesmaekidas buch ist das fasziniendste buch, das ich ber die geschichte von afrikas osten und ber die kolonialisierung dieses erdteils je gelesen habe, allerdings mu man sagen, da leider nicht allzuviel berhaupt ber die geschichte afrikas geschrieben worden ist. Auerdem ist das buch ungewhnlich spannend und mit vielen quellenhinweisen gestattet, die zum nachlesen animieren, soda der leser mglicherweise mit stbern in bchern fr monate beschftigt ist. Ich habe z.B. "Tausend und eine Nacht" nochmal mit anderen augen gelesen.

**Kurzbeschreibung** A triumph: a first class comprehensive narrative of the impact upon the people of the Indian Ocean of those who penetrated it. It is hard to believe that this account of a European epic has any rival. J.M. ROBERTS, author of the Penguin History of the World Until Vasco da Gama discovered the sea-route to the East in 1497-9 almost nothing was known in the West of the exotic cultures and wealth of the Indian Ocean and its peoples. It is this civilisation and its destruction at the hands of the West that Richard Hall recreates in this book. Halls history of the exploration and exploitation by Chinese and Arab travellers, and by the Portuguese, Dutch and British alike is one of brutality, betrayal and colonial ambition. It is history told with the true gift of a storyteller and a keen eye for the exotic. It is a compelling and instructive epic.

Pressestimmen`Empires of the Monsoon is a panoramic study of the history of the Indian Ocean and the destruction of its traditional trade by colonial Europe... Its major achievement is to weave into a coherent whole the histories of a kaleidoscope of civilisations and peoples... Empires of the Monsoon reads like some mediaeval Book of Wonders, rich with exotic improbabilities... It is all gripping stuff, dizzily ambitious in its scope and full of some of the oddest facts imaginable.'William Dalrymple, Independent`Empires of the Monsoon is an example of popular history at its best... It is the story of many marvels and many great adventures.'J.D.F. Jones, Financial Times`A panoramic account of the Indian Ocean and its invaders... combining scholarly zeal with a good journalist's flair for selection and narrative. The book is full of fascinating information.'John Grigg, Sunday Telegraph`Hall's lively compendium is rich in bloodthirsty sultans, swashbuckling pirates, hypocritical imperialists and serendipitous Sinbads... He is an enthusiastic storyteller who can hold you with his glittering eye.'Felipe Fernandez-Armesto, Sunday Times`A vast and fascinating history... I found it both absorbing and instructive.'Robert Carver, Scotsman

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