



## FROM COMMITTEES OF RUSA

# Best Bibliographies in History

*RUSA Bibliography and Indexes Committee*

**W**ith this list, the Bibliography and Indexes Committee continues its project to honor outstanding, English-language, book-length bibliographies in the field of history. We hope to encourage both the work of scholars in this field and the support of publishers for this important activity. This year's titles were published in either 1997 or 1998.

All members of the library profession are invited to submit titles to the project editor for consideration. The committee will consider titles that deal with any geographic area or period in history. The focus is on first editions, but a subsequent publishing will be considered if there is substantial revision of a previous edition. For 2000, the committee will review works published in 1998 or 1999. Titles for consideration, with appropriate bibliographic information, may be sent to: Cynthia H. Krolikowski, Librarian II, Purdy/Kresge Library, Wayne State University, 5265 Cass Ave., Detroit, MI 48202; e-mail: ac4979@wayne.edu. The deadline for submitting titles for consideration is December 1, 1999.

*Contributing members:* James M. Doyle, Nancy M. Godleski,

Phoebe Janes, Betty L. Jenkins (Editor), Cynthia H. Krolikowski, Theresa Mudrock, James P. Niessen, Edward C. Oetting, Carla Rickerson, Jennifer Schaffner, Joseph E. Straw, Louis A. Vyhnanek, Hope H. Yelich.

Boilard, Steve D. *Reinterpreting Russia: An Annotated Bibliography of Books on Russia, the Soviet Union, and the Russian Federation, 1991-1996*. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow, Pasadena, Calif.: Salem, 1997. 283p. \$47 (ISBN 0-8108-3298-4) Magill Bibliographies.

Research and writing about Russia have undergone considerable change since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. This bibliography examines more recent scholarship by describing six hundreded English-language books about Russia published between 1991 and 1996. The work is arranged in five parts. The first lists general reference works and books that cover Russian history in its entirety. The remaining parts cover the different historical manifestations of Russia: Medieval Russia, Imperial Russia, the Soviet Union, and the current Russian Federation. Aimed at scholars and the educated reader,

this bibliography belongs in academic libraries that support strong Russian studies collections.—*Joseph E. Straw, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio*

Chidester, David, and others. *Christianity in South Africa: An Annotated Bibliography*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1997. 489p. \$95 (ISBN 0-313-30473-4) Bibliographies and Indexes in Religious Studies, no.43.

Unraveling the strands and bonds of religion, culture, and politics in the turbulent history of South Africa comes as second nature to this estimable bibliography. Crisply written and exhaustively researched, this work provides content and contrast illustrating the context for Christianity within South African society. Organized into three sections—covering Christian missions, Christian denominations, and African-initiated churches—the work is enriched with authoritative bibliographic essays and extensive annotations. The textual portions alone serve as a well-researched narrative of South African Christianity. A name and subject index provides access to this fascinating history. Unique in scope, caliber, and authority,

*Christianity in South Africa* is appropriate for academic libraries supporting programs in the history of religion or African history and politics (including apartheid).—Edward C. Oetting, *Arizona State University, Tempe*

Clark, Suzanne M. *New England in U.S. Government Publications, 1789–1849: An Annotated Bibliography*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1998. 598p. \$125 (ISBN 0-313-28128-9) Bibliographies and Indexes in American History, vol.36.

Clark, who has worked as a documents librarian, provides nearly four thousand citations to U.S. government documents relating to the six New England states—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. In compiling this bibliography, the author used many sources, including the *Annals of Congress*, *Register of Debates*, the *Congressional Globe*, *American State Papers* and the *U.S. Serial Set*, *Public Statutes at Large*, as well as the CIS microfiche sets for the *U.S. Senate Executive Documents and Reports*, the *U.S. Congressional Committee Hearings*, and the *U.S. Congressional Committee Prints*. She was unable to access the extensive CIS *Executive Branch Documents* set. The volume is organized into chapters by state, with a final chapter on New England as a whole. Each chapter is then divided chronologically by Congress and session, and the citations all have short annotations a sentence or two in length. There are two useful indexes: a subject index and an author index of personal and corporate names. Readers should note that the bibliographies compiled by the Committee on New England Bibliography do not include government documents, making this work particularly valuable. Recommended for academic libraries.—Hope H. Yelich, *The College of*

*William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia*

Cohen, Morris L. *Bibliography of Early American Law*. Buffalo: S. Hein, 1998. 6 vols. \$1,695, includes CD-ROM version. (ISBN 1-575-88233-7)

The *Bibliography of Early American Law (BEAL)* is a comprehensive bibliography of American legal literature, including material on foreign, comparative, and international law printed in the United States from the earliest years of this nation to 1860. Cohen identifies and arranges more than fourteen thousand monographs, civil trials, criminal trials, and special proceedings by genre. There are comprehensive indexes by author, title, subject, jurisdiction, parties, place and publisher, year, and language. Each entry has been scrupulously examined. In addition to the bibliographic listing, Cohen provides notes on the structure, contents, and history of the publication, as well as biographical information on the author. He also refers researchers to standard bibliographies, such as the *National Union Catalog*, Evans, Shaw and Shoemaker, and Sabin. Other meticulous details include scope notes for each subject category and cross-references to other categories. This bibliography should quickly become a standard for all research libraries.—Nancy M. Godleski, *Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut*

Dolamore, Susan M. *French Autobiographical Writing 1900–1950: An Annotated Bibliography*. London: Grant & Cutler, 1997. 425p. \$55 (ISBN 0-729-30396-9) Research Bibliographies and Checklist Series, vol.52.

Autobiographical writings are essential historical sources that are often difficult to identify. Dolamore provides a remedy for French autobiographical writings,

which include memoirs, correspondence, and selected autobiographical novels published roughly between 1900 and 1950. She includes more than fifteen hundred entries to published autobiographies of both well-known and lesser-known writers. Most entries are annotated and all are categorized by type of writing, such as literary autobiography or journal, and by subject area, such as literature or war. Dolamore further notes whether she has actually read a given work, lists sources, and gives locations (British and French libraries). Included are three indexes: by category of writing, wars, and names (of people and organizations). Recommended for academic libraries with strong programs in French literature and history.—Theresa Mudrock, *University of Washington, Seattle*.

Fredriksen, John C. *War of 1812 Eyewitness Accounts: An Annotated Bibliography*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1997. 313p. \$79.50 (ISBN 0-313-30291-X) Bibliography and Indexes in Military Studies, no. 8.

"I confess that when the grapeshot from the first broadside was fired into us, the strange whizz of the balls as they whirred about my ears made me wince not a little" is one of the intriguing quotes found in Fredriksen's useful annotations. Besides a quote from the text, in each of his 870 entries Fredriksen includes the chronology covered in each text, the corporate body to which the author is affiliated (e.g., ship, tribe, regiment), their rank of responsibility, and a description of the contents. Besides military narratives, accounts by politicians, women, merchants, and Native Americans may be found in this list. Fredriksen's bibliography would easily serve as a reader's advisor to anyone wanting to read about the War of 1812, as well as

an essential guide for a researcher looking for primary sources on the war.—*Carla Rickerson, University of Washington, Seattle*

Harris, Elree I. and Shirley R. Scott. *A Gallery of Her Own: An Annotated Bibliography of Women in Victorian Painting*. New York: Garland, 1997. 373p. \$75. (ISBN 0-815-30040-9) Women's History and Culture Series, vol.12.

This work provides citations and annotations for 1,004 English-language books and articles on women in Victorian painting that appeared between 1842 and 1995. It also mentions various women artists in nineteenth-century Britain. References include periodicals, exhibition catalogs, reviews, and newspaper articles. The authors make no claim to have exhausted their subject; however, they have surveyed many contemporary publications in depth. Annotations are one sentence to three pages in length. Rather than summarize the entire contents of the cited item, each annotation specifies only the parts of the item that make reference to Victorian women artists. Annotations also list reproductions within the cited works, but these are not indexed. The book is divided into four chapters: "Victorian Women Painters," "Exhibitions," "Models," and "Criticism, Art Schools, and Reviews." Each chapter consists of an introduction that generalizes upon the material that has been identified, then presents the entries in chronological order from earliest to most recent publications. There are two indexes: one for all names that refer back to the citation numbers and the second for all artists, models, and critics. These list exhibition, birth, and death dates where available. The book offers access points for many artists and works that are poorly documented in modern scholarship.—*James P. Niessen, Texas Tech University, Lubbock*

Klooster, H. A. J. *Bibliography of the Indonesian Revolution: Publications from 1942-1994*. Leiden: The Netherlands, Royal Institute of Linguistics and Anthropology, 1997. 666p. \$56.30 (ISBN 9-067-18089-0) Bibliographical series (Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal-, Landen Volkenkunde (Netherlands), vol. 21

Based on collections in the Royal Institute of Linguistics and Anthropology, this work is the best printed source to access information on Indonesian culture and politics during and since World War II. There are 7,014 citations pointing to a wide range of material, including popular and scholarly books, pamphlets, journals, newspapers, memoirs, and fiction. The scope of the bibliography is political, cultural, social, governmental, and military issues. An 84-page survey of Indonesian historiography is complemented by an extensive introductory bibliographic essay. The citations are not annotated. Indexing is by entry number. This is a good acquisition for university libraries.—*James M. Doyle, Macomb Community College, Warren, Michigan*

Kurutz, Gary F. *The California Gold Rush: A Descriptive Bibliography of Books and Pamphlets Covering the Years 1848-1853*. San Francisco: The Book Club of California, 1997. 771p. \$110 members, \$150 non-members.

This is now the definitive bibliography for first-person reports of the California Gold Rush, successor to Carl Wheat's *Books of the California Gold Rush* (1949). Kurutz, of the California State Library, traveled the continent to examine books and pamphlets in U.S. and Canadian libraries with Gold Rush collections. Materials include diaries, journals, reminiscences, letters, guidebooks, sermons, reports of mining companies, satirical works, fiction,

poems, plays, and city directories with significant eyewitness Gold Rush content. The entries, arranged alphabetically by author, include descriptive bibliographical information. Kurutz's extensive annotations often include summaries, a discussion of the publishing history, and lists libraries owning a particular item. This book belongs in every local American history reference collection in academic and public libraries next to Merrill Mattes' *Platte River Road Narratives* (1988) and Henry Wagner and Robert Becker's *The Plains & the Rockies* (1982). While those books cover overland journeys, this work includes all Gold Rush routes, both overland and by sea.—*Jennifer Schaffner, California Historical Society, San Francisco*

Long, Roger D. *The Founding of Pakistan: An Annotated Bibliography*. Lanham, Md: Scarecrow, Pasadena, Calif.: Salem, 1998. 336p. \$45 (ISBN 0-8108-3557-6) Magill Bibliographies.

Unfortunately, the materials celebrating Pakistan's fiftieth anniversary of independence were published too late to be included in this volume. However, *The Founding of Pakistan: An Annotated Bibliography* is a welcome contribution to the literature. It covers a wide variety of perspectives on the history of Pakistan, including British constitutional scholars, historians of every political stripe, and even a few novelists.

The majority of evaluative annotations cover English language materials published between 1960 and 1990. Citations to both monographs and journal articles are included. The book is divided into five chapters. The first chapter is general in nature, highlighting reference works. The following two chapters target political studies and provincial studies, the latter examining seven geographical perspectives. An entire chapter is devoted to writings by and about

Mohammad Ali Jinnah, leader of the All-India Muslim League and the first governor-general of Pakistan. The final chapter is a wonderful resource for locating primary source materials on the seventy individuals considered significant to Pakistan's history. The book has a subject and author index. Undergraduate students seeking introductory material and graduate students needing specialized information on regional perspectives or individuals will find this work useful.—*Phoebe Janes, University of California, Berkeley*

McCarthy, Ronald M. and Gene Sharp. *Nonviolent Action: A Research Guide*. New York: Garland, 1997. 720p. \$125 (ISBN 0-815-31577-5) Garland Reference Library of Social Science, vol. 940.

This research guide was nearly forty years in the making, initiated by Gene Sharp in the late 1950s and completed by Ronald M. McCarthy in 1997. It shows that nonviolent action has a long history in human affairs, much longer than contemporary images of striking auto workers, student unrest, and the civil rights protests of the twentieth century. The work is divided into two parts: case studies presented in four chapters that subdivide the world into regions and countries and two chapters that explain the more theoretical aspects of nonviolent action. Each heading within a chapter begins with an explanation of the relevance of the entry. When appropriate, "see also" entries are noted. The theory and actions of both Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Mohandas Gandhi are highlighted. The guide has 2,747 annotated citations. There is a detailed table of contents, a comprehensive introductory essay, and subject/author indexes. Academic and research libraries, especially those supporting conflict or dispute resolution programs, will want to acquire this volume.

—*Cynthia H. Krolkowski, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan*

McConnell, Elizabeth Huffmaster and Laura J. Moriarty. *American Prisons: An Annotated Bibliography*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1998. 321p. \$75 (ISBN 0-313-30616-8) Bibliographies of the History of Crime and Criminal Justice, vol. 1.

This work fulfills a definite need for a recent bibliography of literature about American prisons. Compiled by two criminal justice faculty members, the work is a supplement to the publisher's earlier work, the *Encyclopedia of American Prisons* (1996). Designed to assist individuals seeking additional information about certain subjects in the *Encyclopedia*, the work contains more than one hundred alphabetically arranged topics, such as AIDS, chain gangs, private prisons, and women inmates. There is also coverage of important figures in the corrections field and specific prisons like the Ossining Correctional Facility (Sing Sing). Annotations within each of the topics covered focus on books, articles in leading criminal justice journals, and key court cases. Each annotation gives a summary and overview of the source. The work contains more than twelve hundred entries and a detailed author, case, and subject index. It is recommended for academic and research libraries with strong Criminal Justice programs.—*Louis Vyhnanek, Washington State University, Pullman*

Mulder, John M., and others. *Woodrow Wilson: A Bibliography*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1997. 438p. \$95 (ISBN 0-313-28185-8) Bibliographies of the Presidents of the United States, 27.

Rupp, Robert O. *James A. Garfield: A Bibliography*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1997. 185p. \$65 (ISBN 0-313-28178-5) Bibli-

ographies of the Presidents of the United States, 20.

The works cited above constitute two additional entries in Greenwood's impressive Bibliographies of the Presidents of the United States series. Each title follows a standard format: chapters with detailed subdivisions covering manuscript, archival, and reference sources; writings and speeches; biographical publications; chronology of the president's life from childhood to post-presidency; iconography and media.

*Woodrow A. Wilson: A Bibliography* is a comprehensive guide to the secondary literature about the president. The compilers and their associates worked for a decade to record and annotate forty-two hundred entries that thoroughly examine Wilson's scholarship, career in higher education, and politics. They achieved their goal of producing a work to complement the sixty-nine-volume *Papers on Woodrow Wilson*, edited by Arthur Link between 1966 and 1994, and one that would be "the most complete coverage of literature on Wilson published thus far" (p. 10).

The second bibliography, *James A. Garfield: A Bibliography*, documents Garfield's presidency, which lasted only 200 days, (he was shot 120 days after his inauguration). It focuses on his military and public service career as a representative in the Ohio state legislature and on his terms both in the U.S. Congress and as president, which spanned pivotal periods in American history from the Civil War to the Gilded Age. This guide to the Garfield literature, concisely annotated, provides the resources to study the complex intersection of public policy, business, race, and sectional tensions during these times. Both bibliographies have author and subject indexes and are recommended for libraries serving strong American history programs.—*Betty L. Jenkins, The City College, New York* ■