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Commodity Frontiers and Global Capitalist Expansion Social, Ecological and Political Implications from the Nineteenth Century to the Present Day

Edited by Sabrina Joseph

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Sabrina Joseph Editor

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
	Sabrina Joseph	
2	Making Cheap Nature on High Altitude:	
	A World-Ecological Perspective on Commodification,	
	Communities and Conflict in the Andes	15
	Hanne Cottyn	
3	Agricultural Commodities on the Philippine Frontier:	
	State-Sponsored Resettlement and Ecological Distress	
	in the 1930s	57
	Karen R. Miller	
4	Gendering Farmer Producer Companies at the	
	Agricultural Frontier of India: Empowerment or Burden?	79
	Indrakshi Tandon	

5	Ecosystems as Commodity Frontiers—Challenges Faced by Land Set Aside as Protected Areas (PAs) in the Dubai Emirate, United Arab Emirates (UAE) Brigitte Howarth, Tamer Khafaga, Greg Simkins and Sabrina Joseph	111
6	From the Amazon to the Congo Valley: A Comparative Study on the Violent Commodification of Labour During the Rubber Boom (1870s–1910s) Louise Cardoso de Mello and Sven Van Melkebeke	137
7	Chilean Expansion and Southern South America's Integration into the Modern Capitalist System, 1879–1931 <i>James Lockhart</i>	183
8	Red Fever: Natural Resource Companies and the Global Copper Mining Frontier 1890–1939 <i>Robrecht Declercq</i>	215
9	A Toxic Development: Pollution and Change in an Amazonian Oil Frontier <i>Deborah Delgado Pugley</i>	255
10	Conclusion Sabrina Joseph	279
Index		287

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Dr. Brigitte Howarth is an ecologist with extensive experience in desert ecology. Her first degree was in applied ecology (B.Sc. (Hons)), and her Ph.D. in ecological entomology. She is currently Associate Professor of Ecology at Zayed University in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) where she teaches courses in both ecology and biology. Having spent 20 years in the Middle East, she has a good understanding of the local species biodiversity and researches the insect biodiversity of the various terrestrial habitats found in the UAE. Dr. Howarth's research has expanded to include environmental history, specifically to investigating how and why ecosystems have altered through land use change and development, and is currently assessing how these changes are impacting species biodiversity in the United Arab Emirates. She is a lifetime member of the Al Ain Chapter of the roles in the ENHG being that of curator and custodian of the ENHG's entomological collection.

Dr. Sabrina Joseph is Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Professor of History at the American University in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. Her research interests are in the field of Middle Eastern and Ottoman history, encompassing work on land use, environmental management, women, and inter-faith relations during the early modern and modern periods. She is the author of *Islamic Law on Peasant Usufruct in Ottoman Syria: 17th to Early 19th Century* (Brill, 2012). Her most recent research focuses on the political economy of land and water resources in the United Arab Emirates during the first half of the twentieth century. She has published her work in numerous journals including: British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies; Environment and History; Frontiers: A Journal of Women's Studies; Islam and Christian–Muslim Relations; Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs; and Rural History: Economy, Society, Culture.

Tamer Khafaga is an ecologist with more than 20 years of experience in ecology and conservation management as well as sustainable development. His M.Sc. focused on taxonomy and biodiversity with a thesis entitled "Impact of grazing on floral diversity in high altitude mountains in St. Katherine protectorate, South Sinai - Egypt". His work in the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency as an Environmental researcher in St. Katherine Protectorate (May 1998 till August 2006) complimented his interest and skills in the understanding of biodiversity conservation and protected area management. As team leader, his responsibilities included surveys of target species and ecosystems as well as the ecological aspects of EIAs (environmental impact assessment), culminating in the implementation of biodiversity monitoring and management interventions. Currently, he is a senior conservation manager with his role focussing on conservation and protected area research planning at the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve. He is in the process of completing his Ph.D. (Faculty of Science, Malaga University-Spain) with his research focusing on plant functional diversity responses to grazing in an Arabian hyper-arid protected inland desert ecosystem.

Dr. James Lockhart specializes in the history of American foreign relations, global security and intelligence, and Latin American history. A member of the Cambridge, MA—based Scholars Strategy Network, he has published on the history of the CIA in the developing world, contributed to *War on the Rocks*, an online platform for analysis, commentary, debate on national security and foreign policy, and been interviewed by American and Emirati journalists. His first book, *Chile, the CIA, and the Cold War: A Transatlantic Perspective*, will be published by Edinburgh University Press. Before joining the faculty at the American University in Dubai, he lectured at the Embry-Riddle College of Security and Intelligence and at the University of Arizona, where he earned his Ph.D.

Dr. Karen R. Miller is Professor of History at LaGuardia Community College and at the Graduate Center, CUNY. She is author of *Managing Inequality: Northern Racial in Interwar Detroit* [nyupress. org] (NYU Press, 2014). Dr. Miller's articles and reviews have appeared in the Journal of American History, The Middle West Review, The International Journal of Critical Pedagogy, The Michigan Quarterly Review, Michigan Feminist Studies, and Against the Current as well as Groundwork: Local Black Freedom Struggles in America. Her article, "'Thin, Wistful, and White': James Fugate and Colonial Bureaucratic Masculinity in the Philippines, 1900-1938," is forthcoming in December 2019 in American Quarterly. Dr. Miller's current work examines internal migration in the Philippines over the course of the twentieth century.

Greg Simkins is the conservation manager for the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve (DDCR). He is a member of the Middle East & West Asia Expert group for the green list (EAGL) and the IUCN World Commission of protected areas (WCPA) and has worked in the field of conservation and protected areas management since 2001. Simkins began his career as a Field Guide with the Emirates Group in 1999 at the newly opened Al Maha Desert Resort & Spa. In 2001, he became a Reserve Officer and was heavily involved in the planning and implementation of eco-tourism activities within the protected area of the DDCR, which was created in 2002.

In 2003, Simkins was appointed to his current position at the DDCR. He is responsible for the overall management of the Reserve and has been at the forefront of its development from conception in 2003 to its current international recognition. Simkins also manages the wildlife at the reserve looking after a number of different species including the re-introduced Arabian Oryx, Arabian Gazelles, and Houbara Bustard. He plays a major role in conducting key conservation research studies throughout the DDCR.

Dr. Indrakshi Tandon holds a Ph.D. from the Department of Anthropology at SUNY Albany. Dr. Tandon's interests include the integration of gender into development policy, participatory development,

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