Medieval slavery has received little attention relative to slavery in ancient Greece and Rome and in the early modern Atlantic world. This imbalance in the scholarship has led many to assume that slavery was of minor importance in the Middle Ages. In fact, the practice of slavery continued unabated across the globe throughout the medieval millennium. This volume – the final volume in The Cambridge World History of Slavery – covers the period between the fall of Rome and the rise of the transatlantic plantation complexes by assembling twenty-three original essays, written by scholars acknowledged as leaders in their respective fields. The volume demonstrates the continual and central presence of slavery in societies worldwide between 500 CE and 1420 CE. The essays analyze key concepts in the history of slavery, including gender, trade, empire, state formation and diplomacy, labor, childhood, social status and mobility, cultural attitudes, spectrums of dependency and coercion, and life histories of enslaved people.

Craig Perry is Assistant Professor in the Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies and the Tam Institute for Jewish Studies at Emory University. His research on slavery in the medieval Middle East has been supported by fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Oxford University, and the Foundation for Jewish Culture.

David Eltis is Emeritus Professor of History at Emory University, and has held visiting appointments at Harvard, Oxford, and Yale Universities. He is author of four prize-winning books and articles on slavery and the slave trade.

Stanley L. Engerman is Emeritus Professor of Economics and former Professor of History at the University of Rochester. He has held visiting appointments at Harvard, Oxford, and Cambridge Universities, and has written over one hundred essays and co-authored or co-edited 25 books on slavery and related subjects. He is a recipient of the Bancroft Prize and the Guggenheim Fellowship.

David Richardson is founder and former director (2004–2012) of the Wilberforce Institute for the study of Slavery and Emancipation, Hull University. He has held visiting positions at Harvard and Yale Universities. He has written extensively on transatlantic slavery and its impacts and more recently on contemporary slavery in historical perspective. He authored (with David Eltis) the award winning Atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade (2010).
THE CAMBRIDGE WORLD HISTORY OF SLAVERY

General editors
David Eltis, *Emory University*
Stanley L. Engerman, *University of Rochester*

Volume I: The Ancient Mediterranean World
Edited by Keith Bradley and Paul Cartledge

Volume II: AD 500–AD 1420
Edited by Craig Perry, David Eltis, Stanley L. Engerman, and David Richardson

Volume III: AD 1420–AD 1804
Edited by David Eltis and Stanley L. Engerman

Volume IV: AD 1804–AD 2016
Edited by David Eltis, Stanley L. Engerman, Seymour Drescher, and David Richardson
THE CAMBRIDGE WORLD HISTORY OF SLAVERY

VOLUME 2
AD 500–AD 1420

CRAIG PERRY
Emory University

DAVID ELTIS
Emory University

STANLEY L. ENGERMAN
University of Rochester

DAVID RICHARDSON
University of Hull
CONTENTS

List of Figures, Maps, and Tables
List of Contributors

1 Slavery in the Medieval Millennium
   CRAIG PERRY, DAVID ELTIS, STANLEY L. ENGERMAN, AND DAVID RICHARDSON

PART I: CAPTIVITY AND THE SLAVE TRADE

2 The Greater Mediterranean Slave Trade
   JEFF FYNNE-PAUL

3 Captivity, Ransom, and Manumission, 500–1420
   HUSSEIN FANCY

4 Forced Migrations and Slavery in the Mongol Empire
   (1206–1368)
   MICHAL BIRAN

5 The Trade in Slaves in the Black Sea, Russia, and Eastern Europe
   HANNAH BARKER

6 Slavery and the Slave Trade in the Western Indian Ocean
   World
   CRAIG PERRY

PART II: RACE, SEX, AND EVERYDAY LIFE

7 Child Enslavement in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages
   JUDITH EVANS GRUBBS
## CONTENTS

8 Intersections of Gender, Sex, and Slavery: Female Sexual Slavery  
**SHAUN MARMON**  
185

9 Attitudes toward Blackness  
**STEVEN A. EPSTEIN**  
214

10 Slavery and Agency in the Middle Ages  
**CRAIG PERRY**  
240

PART III: EAST AND SOUTH ASIA  

11 Slavery in Medieval China  
**DON J. WYATT**  
269

12 Slavery in Medieval Korea  
**SEUNG B. KYE**  
271

13 Slavery and Dependency in Medieval South India  
**LESLIE C. ORR**  
313

PART IV: THE ISLAMIC WORLD  

14 Slavery in the Islamic Middle East (c. 600–1000 CE)  
**MATTHEW S. GORDON**  
335

15 Military Slavery in Medieval North India  
**ALI ANOOSHAHR**  
337

16 Slavery in the Mamluk Sultanate  
**STEPHAN CONERMANN**  
362

17 Slavery in the Early Modern Ottoman Empire  
**NUR SOBERS-KHAN**  
406

PART V: AFRICA, THE AMERICAS, AND EUROPE  

18 Slavery in the Carolingian Empire  
**ALICE RIO**  
429

19 Slavery in the Byzantine Empire  
**NOEL LENSKI**  
431
CONTENTS

20  Slavery in Northern Europe (Scandinavia and Iceland) and the British Isles, 500–1420  482
    DAVID WYATT

21  Slavery in Medieval Iberia  508
    DEBRA BLUMENTHAL

22  Slavery in Africa c. 500–1500 CE: Archaeological and Historical Perspectives  531
    PAUL J. LANE

23  Slavery in Precontact America  553
    CAMILLA TOWNSEND

Index  571
FIGURES

Figures

3.1 Mosaic in the church of San Tommaso in Formis, Rome (c. 1210)  page 54
9.1 Saint Maurice, Magdeburg Cathedral (thirteenth century)  222
9.2 Mosaic from Vercelli, Italy (eleventh century)  223
9.3 Mosaic in the church of San Tommaso in Formis, Rome (c. 1210)  226
19.1 Slave prices in the Byzantine Empire, c. 300–1453 (in fourth-century solidi equivalent)  468
19.2 Attested slave sales in the Byzantine Empire by gender, 300–1400  469

Maps

5.1 Major locations connected to the Black Sea slave trade  106
22.1 Location of key sites and places in the trans-Saharan slave trade  537
23.1 Mesoamerican political relations, c. 1500  556

Tables

9.1 Women slaves in Genoa by ethnicity and price, 15–30 years old  235
19.1 The frequency of mentions of slaves and slavery in Byzantine law codes  476
CONTRIBUTORS

Ali Anooshahr, Department of History, University of California at Davis
Hannah Barker, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies, Arizona State University
Michal Biran, Department of Asian Studies and the Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Debra Blumenthal, Department of History, University of California at Santa Barbara
Stephan Conermann, Department of Near Eastern History and Languages, University of Bonn
David Eltis, Department of History, Emory University
Stanley L. Engerman, Department of Economics, University of Rochester
Steven A. Epstein, Department of History, University of Kansas
Judith Evans Grubbs, Department of History, Emory University
Hussein Fancy, Department of History, University of Michigan
Jeff Fynn-Paul, Institute for History, Leiden University
Matthew S. Gordon, Department of History, Miami University
Seung B. Kye, Department of History, Sogang University
Paul J. Lane, Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge
Noel Lenski, Departments of Classics and History, Yale University
Shaun Marmon, Department of Religion, Princeton University
Leslie C. Orr, Department of Religions and Cultures, Concordia University
Craig Perry, Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies and the Tam Institute for Jewish Studies, Emory University
LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

David Richardson, Wilberforce Institute for the Study of Slavery and Emancipation, University of Hull

Alice Rio, Department of History, King’s College London

Nur Sobers-Khan, Department of Asian and African Collections, The British Library

Camilla Townsend, Department of History, Rutgers University

David Wyatt, School of History, Archaeology and Religion, Cardiff University

Don J. Wyatt, Department of History, Middlebury College