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## THE FREEDMAN IN THE ROMAN WORLD

Freedmen occupied a complex and often problematic place in Roman society between slaves on the one hand and freeborn citizens on the other. Playing an extremely important role in the economic life of the Roman world, they were also a key instrument for replenishing and even increasing the size of the citizen body. This book presents an original synthesis, for the first time covering both republic and empire in a single volume. While providing up-to-date discussions of most significant aspects of the phenomenon, the book also offers a new understanding of the practice of manumission, and its role in the organisation of slave labour and the Roman economy, as well as the deep-seated ideological concerns to which it gave rise. It locates the freedman in a broader social and economic context, explaining the remarkable popularity of manumission in the Roman world.

HENRIK MOURITSEN is Professor of Roman History at King's College London. He has published widely on Roman history, including local politics, Pompeii and Ostia, freedmen, Latin epigraphy, Roman Italy, and republican politics. His other books include *Elections, Magistrates and Municipal Elite: Studies in Pompeian Epigraphy* (1988), *Italian Unification: A Study in Ancient and Modern Historiography* (1998), and *Plebs and Politics in the Late Roman Republic* (2001).

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