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0521856256 - Barbarism and Religion, Volume Four: Barbarians, Savages and Empires

J. G. A. Pocock

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BARBARISM AND RELIGION
Volume Four
Barbarians, Savages and Empires

This fourth volume in John Pocock's great sequence on *Barbarism and Religion* focuses on the idea of barbarism. Barbarism was central to the history of western historiography, to the history of Enlightenment, and to Edward Gibbon himself: as a concept it was central to understanding its converse, civility, and deeply problematic to enlightened historians seeking to understand their own civil societies in the light of exposure to newly discovered civilisations hitherto beyond the reach of history. The troubled relationship between philosophy and history is addressed squarely in this fourth volume, and as before John Pocock grounds his arguments in intensive analyses of a number of major texts by which Gibbon was particularly influenced; those of Goguet, de Guignes, Robertson and Raynal in particular. As *Barbarism and Religion* develops, its full stature becomes apparent: in the end, it will stand not just as a remarkable analysis of the making of Gibbon's *Decline and Fall*, but as the definitive history of history-writing in what David Hume famously called 'the historical age'.

J. G. A. POCOCK was born in London and brought up in Christchurch, New Zealand, and educated at the Universities of Canterbury and Cambridge. He is now Harry C. Black Emeritus Professor of History at the Johns Hopkins University. His many seminal works on intellectual history include *The Ancient Constitution and the Feudal Law* (1957, second edition 1987), *Politics, Language and Time* (1971), *The Machiavellian Moment* (1975, second edition 2003), *Virtue, Commerce and History* (1985) and four volumes in an ongoing sequence, initiated in 1999, on *Barbarism and Religion*. He has also edited *The Political Works of James Harrington* (1977) and Burke's *Reflections on the Revolution in France* (1987), as well as the collaborative study *The Varieties of British Political Thought* (1995). A Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy and of the Royal Historical Society, Professor Pocock is also a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the American Philosophical Society. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of New Zealand Merit in 2002.

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Sans doute il est importante aux générations futures de ne pas perdre le tableau de la vie et des mœurs des sauvages. C'est peut-être à cette connoissance que nous devons tous les progrès que la philosophie morale a faits parmi nous.

Denis Diderot [?] in the *Histoire des deux Indes*

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In pursuing this volume, the scholarship of the eighteenth century has carried me into many fields where the expertise of the twenty-first century exceeds mine. I could not have written it without the help of many readers who bear no responsibility for the use I have made of their kindness. I particularly thank Sam Adshead, Jorge Cañizares Esguerra, Minghui Hu, Richard Kagan, Sankar Muthu, Nicholas Phillipson and Jonathan Spence.

I also wish to thank Caleb McDaniel and Alana Bevan, for their work in preparing the typescript, and as always Felicity Pocock, for viva voce aid in proofreading as well as for everything else.

Baltimore, Maryland
November 2004

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations have been used in this book. For other references, by author's name and date of publication, the Bibliography of works cited should be consulted.

- A *The Autobiographies of Edward Gibbon, Printed Verbatim from Hitherto Unpublished MSS, with an Introduction by the Earl of Sheffield*. Edited by John Murray. Second edition. London, John Murray, 1897.
- Carte, 1747 *Thomas Carte: A General History of England. Containing an Account of the First Inhabitants of the Country, and the Transactions in it, from the Earliest Times to the Death of King John, AD MCCXVI*. London.
- DF Edward Gibbon: *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. Cited by volume, chapter and note; for page references, see Womersley, 1994.
- DNB *Concise Dictionary of National Biography, volume 1, to 1900*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, repr. 1948.
- EEG J. G. A. Pocock: *Barbarism and Religion, volume 1: The Enlightenments of Edward Gibbon*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1999.
- EGLH Patricia Craddock: *Edward Gibbon, Luminous Historian*. Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989.
- FDF J. G. A. Pocock: *Barbarism and Religion, volume III: The First Decline and Fall*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2003.

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- Goguet, 1758 Antoine-Yves Goguet: *De l'Origine des Loix, des Arts, et des Sciences: et de leurs progrès chez les anciens peuples*. Paris.
- Goguet, 1761 Antoine-Yves Goguet: *The Origin of Laws, Arts and Sciences, and their Progress among the Most Ancient Nations, Translated from the French of the President de Goguet*. Edinburgh. Reprinted New York, AMS Press, 1976.
- HDI Guillaume-Thomas Raynal: *Histoire philosophique et politique des établissements et du commerce des Européens dans les deux Indes*. Geneva, 1780. HDI, 1775: edition of that date.
- HHTM Joseph de Guignes: *Histoire générale des Huns, des Turcs, des Mogols, et des autres peuples Tartares occidentaux*. Paris, 1756–8.
- Journal A* D. M. Low (ed.): *Gibbon's Journal to January 28th, 1763: My Journal, I, II, III, and Ephemerides*. London, Chatto and Windus, 1929.
- Journal B* Georges A. Bonnard (ed.): *Le Journal de Gibbon à Lausanne, 17 Août 1763–19 Avril 1764*. Lausanne, Librairie de l'Université, 1945.
- Justamond *Philosophical and Political History of the Settlements and Trade of the Europeans in the East and West Indies . . . by the Abbé Raynal, Newly Translated from the French by J. O. Justamond, F.R.S.* (Six volumes, London, 1798.) Reprinted New York, Negro Universities Press, 1969.
- Letters* J. E. Norton (ed.): *The Letters of Edward Gibbon*. London, Cassell, 1956.
- Library* Geoffrey Keynes (ed.): *The Library of Edward Gibbon*. Second edition. London, St Paul's Bibliographies, 1980.
- MW Lord Sheffield (ed.): *The Miscellaneous Works of Edward Gibbon, Esq., with Memoirs of his Life and Writings, Composed by Himself; Illustrated from his Letters, with Occasional Notes and Narrative. A new edition, with considerable additions*. London, John Murray, 1814.

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1994David Womersley (ed.): *Edward Gibbon: The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. London: Allan Lane, The Penguin Press.

Works

The Works of William Robertson, D.D., with an Account of his Life and Writings. London, 1824.

YEG

Patricia Craddock: *Young Edward Gibbon, Gentleman of Letters*. Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1982.