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978-1-107-08920-4 - Fiscal Regimes and the Political Economy of Premodern States

Edited by Andrew Monson And Walter Scheidel

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FISCAL REGIMES AND THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF PREMODERN STATES

Inspired by the New Fiscal History, this book represents the first global survey of taxation in the premodern world. What emerges is a rich variety of institutions, including experiments with sophisticated instruments such as sovereign debt and fiduciary money, challenging the notion of a typical premodern stage of fiscal development. The studies also reveal patterns and correlations across widely dispersed societies that shed light on the basic factors driving the intensification, abatement, and innovation of fiscal regimes. Twenty scholars have contributed perspectives from a wide range of fields besides history, including anthropology, economics, political science, and sociology. The volume's coverage extends beyond Europe, the Mediterranean, and the Near East to East Asia and the Americas, thereby transcending the Eurocentric approach of most scholarship on fiscal history.

ANDREW MONSON is Associate Professor of Classics at New York University. While co-editing this volume, he has held the Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship for Experienced Researchers at the University of Heidelberg as well as the Charles A. Ryskamp Fellowship of the American Council of Learned Societies. He is the author of *From the Ptolemies to the Romans: Political and Economic Change in Egypt* (2012) and *Agriculture and Taxation in Early Ptolemaic Egypt: Demotic Land Surveys and Accounts* (2012).

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surprising strength and duration of the classical efflorescence and the capture of the city-state ecology by imperial Macedon.

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