

Contents

Decline, Erosion, Implosion and Fall, or Just Transformation?	
Diverging Ends of Empires Through Time and Space	1
Michael Gehler, Robert Rollinger, and Philipp Strobl	
 Part I Antiquity	
Der Zusammenbruch des mesopotamischen Staates von Akkade	49
Hans Neumann	
The Decline of the Ur III Dynasty: The End of an Empire and Its Afterlife in the Collective Memory of Mesopotamian Societies	63
Martin Lang	
The Collapse of the Hittite Kingdom	81
Stefano de Martino	
The End of New Kingdom Egypt	97
Henning Franzmeier	
The End of the Neo-Assyrian Empire	121
Simonetta Ponchia	
The “End” of the Achaemenid-Persian Empire: Caesura and Transformation in Dialogue	143
Julian Degen and Robert Rollinger	
The End of the Roman Empire: Civil Wars, the Imperial Monarchy, and the End of Antiquity	191
Henning Börm	
The End of the Parthian Arsacid Empire	213
M. Rahim Shayegan	
The End of the Ērānšāhar: The Decline of the Sasanian Empire	249
Touraj Daryaei	

The End of the Kushan Empire	261
Josef Wiesehöfer and Kai Ruffing	
 Part II Islam/Muslim World	
From Universalism to Regionalism: The Question of the Break-Up of the Abbasid Empire Revisited	281
Lutz Berger	
The End of the Mongol Empire	293
Jürgen Paul	
The End of the Timurid Empire	309
Bert G. Fragner	
 Part III Africa, Asia, China	
The Decline and Collapse of the Kingdom of Aksum (6th-7th CE): An Environmental Disaster or the End of a Political Process?	321
Gianfrancesco Lusini	
What Role Did Climate Change Play in the Decline of the Tang Dynasty?	337
Hans van Ess	
An Opinion on the Decentralization of the Mughal Empire	351
Stephan Popp	
How Do Empires Fall? Two Case Studies from Pre-Modern Southeast Asia	369
Tilman Frasch	
 Part IV The Americas	
The Decline and Fall of the Inca Empire	393
Doris Kurella	
The Downfall of Aztec Rule, 1519–1521	405
Felix Hinz	
 Part V Middle Age and Modern History	
The Fall of the Napoleonic Empire	431
Michael Broers	

Das Ende des spanischen Kolonialreiches	449
Walther L. Bernecker	
The End of the Portuguese Colonial Empire	471
David Schriff	
Das Ende des polnisch-litauischen Großreichs als Diskussionsfrage	491
Bogusław Dybaś	
 Part VI The End of World War I	
Structural Problems, Personal Failure or Just Contingency?	
The End of the Russian Empire	513
Matthias Stadelmann	
The End of the German Empire	529
Ewald Frie	
The End of the Habsburg Monarchy	541
Matthias Stickler	
The Long Lasting End of the Ottoman Empire	561
Lutz Berger	
 Part VII The End of World War II and the Cold War	
Das Ende des faschistischen Imperiums	571
Carlo Moos	
The Rise and Fall of Hitler's Empire (1933–1945)	595
Arnold Suppan	
The End of the USSR	631
Wolfgang Mueller	
A Never-Ending Empire? The Decline of the United Kingdom	675
Michael Gehler and Tjark Strich	
The Decline of the American Empire	697
Hans-Jürgen Schröder	