

How do we do history in an age of globalization? How do we write about the history of a place, a person, an event or an idea in its context in the world?

**Writing the History of the Global** brings together a number of the major historians now entering the field and rethinking the way they write their histories. No longer satisfied with traditional national histories and area studies, they are pursuing histories of subjects affected by environmental change, migration, slavery, trade, and travel. They are 'going beyond borders' and pursuing wider concepts of connectedness and of cosmopolitanism.

We read the reflections of China experts, historians of India and Japan, of Latin America, Africa, and Europe on their past writing, and the new directions in which global history is taking them. They illustrate the rapid advances in the field from early and inspiring accounts of encounters between East and West, of the wealth and poverty of nations and the crises of empires, to new thinking on global material cultures, on composite zones and East Asian development paths.

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## Challenges for the 21st Century

