

Contents

CHAPTER 1	
Introduction.....	8
CHAPTER 2	
Military Technology, Geopolitics and Economic Development	19
1. Mass Factor and Relativist Concern	19
2. Geopolitics and Economic Performance.....	26
3. Major Military Technological Revolutions	33
4. Southeast Asia, Africa, America and Oceania	36
5. The Three Strands of Hume-Kant Hypothesis	42
CHAPTER 3	
Ancient Middle Eastern Leadership.....	45
1. Introduction.....	45
2. Writing.....	45
3. Bronze.....	48
4. Chariots and Iron.....	53
5. Conclusions	57
CHAPTER 4	
Classical Pluralism	59
1. Introduction.....	59
2. Light Cavalry.....	59
3. The Middle East	61
4. Greece and Carthage	64
5. India.....	70

6. China	73
7. Conclusions	77
CHAPTER 5	
Gupta Efflorescence	79
1. Introduction.....	79
2. Heavy Infantry	79
3. Roman, Persian and Chinese Empires	80
4. South Asia	88
5. Eurasia	91
6. Conclusions	92
CHAPTER 6	
Abbasid Golden Age and Sung Puzzle	95
1. Introduction.....	95
2. Heavy Cavalry	96
3. Middle East	100
4. South Asia	105
5. The Byzantine Empire	106
6. Europe.....	107
7. China	110
8. Japan	120
9. Eurasia	121
10. Conclusions.....	124
CHAPTER 7	
The Rise of the West	127
1. Introduction.....	127
2. The Gunpowder Military Revolution.....	128
3. The Gunpowder Empires	130
4. Eurasia	144
5. Europe	148
6. Conclusions	160
EPILOGUE	
The Contemporary Global State System	163
Bibliography	167
Index.....	185

