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EAST AND WEST



The irreverent  
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views the seesaw of power between  
Occident and Orient—  
from ancient Sumeria to modern Russia.

*"This book is a delight, . . .  
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# EAST AND WEST

C. Northcote Parkinson



A MENTOR BOOK

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The impious historian

C. NORTHCOTE PARKINSON

takes a new look at the conflict between

# EAST AND WEST

In this fast-paced history he traces the rise and fall of civilizations—from ancient Sumeria to the present day—and he shows how power has alternately shifted from East to West in a seesaw pattern of dominance down through the ages. Mr. Parkinson's conclusions are often unorthodox, his predictions sometimes startling. Not only does he tell what he thinks about communism, democracy, Western decadence, technology, the United Nations, one world, but he also tells why he believes that Russia is historically destined to align herself with the Western powers against the advance of the East.

"Since we live in a time of perpetual crisis, revolutionary change, and general pessimism, it is hardly surprising that many learned and thoughtful men have tried to present a pattern in history that might explain the present and predict the future. Arnold Toynbee is only the most famous of these philosophers of history. Equally challenging in his ideas and far more competent as a writer of decent English is C. Northcote Parkinson. . . . It is possible that Mr. Parkinson's new book will provoke serious controversy. It deserves to. *East and West* is a historical study that presents a theory of history. . . . in a new and provocative light."

—Orville Prescott, *New York Times*