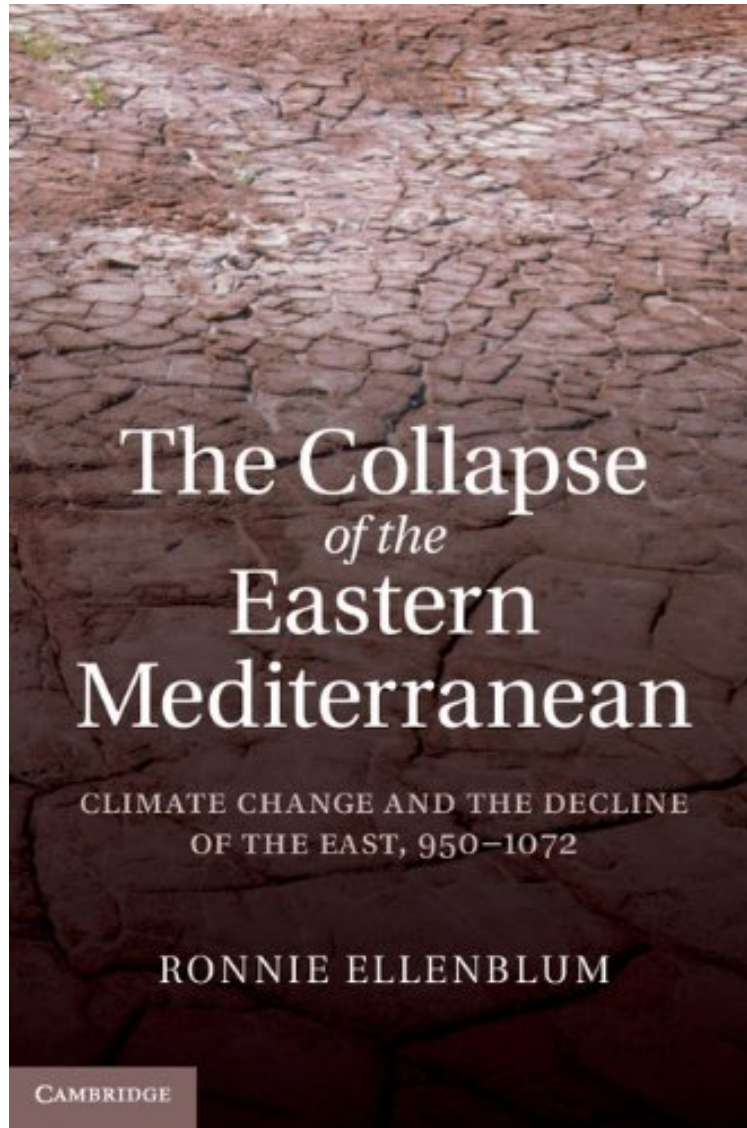


[Free pdf] The Collapse of the Eastern Mediterranean

The Collapse of the Eastern Mediterranean

Von Ronnie Ellenblum

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Von Ronnie Ellenblum : The Collapse of the Eastern Mediterranean before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Collapse of the Eastern Mediterranean:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Interessanter Ansatz Von Dr. Stefan Moeller Ellenblum ist ein hochgeschätzter Fachmann der archologischen Feldforschung der Kreuzzugszeit in Israel und Autor wichtiger Bücher zu dieser Problematik. Im vorliegenden, für eine breitere Leserschaft bestimmten Buch, wird der Einfluss von Klimafaktoren auf die Krise der Staatenwelt des vorderen Orients im 11. Jahrhundert untersucht. Mit Ausnahme eigener Grabungsbefunde in Israel, werden nur historische

Quellen und weitere Sekundärliteratur zur Charakterisierung einer Klimakatastrophe mit ihren Folgen (Hungersnöte, staatliche Instabilität, Normadenwellen) herangezogen, ohne Quellenkritik zu betonen. Dadurch entsteht ein recht dramatisches, manchmal wie im Falle von Byzanz wohl auch stimmiges Bild; die Zustände im fatimidischen Ägypten und im Iran und Irak der Buyiden bleiben, wohl zwangsläufig, verschwommen. Auch bleibt die Geldwirtschaft als wichtiger Marker des Wirtschaftslebens mit Ausnahme von Byzanz fast unbeachtet. Dennoch: trotz der Mängel ein interessantes, flüssig geschriebenes Buch, welches gut zum Verständnis der Vorkreuzzugszeit beitragen kann.

Kurzbeschreibung As a 'Medieval Warm Period' prevailed in Western Europe during the tenth and eleventh centuries, the eastern Mediterranean region, from the Nile to the Oxus, was suffering from a series of climatic disasters which led to the decline of some of the most important civilisations and cultural centres of the time. This provocative study argues that many well-documented but apparently disparate events - such as recurrent drought and famine in Egypt, mass migrations in the steppes of central Asia, and the decline in population in urban centres such as Baghdad and Constantinople - are connected and should be understood within the broad context of climate change. Drawing on a wealth of textual and archaeological evidence, Ronnie Ellenblum explores the impact of climatic and ecological change across the eastern Mediterranean in this period, to offer a new perspective on why this was a turning point in the history of the Islamic world. *Pressestimmen* 'We have long been familiar with the famines that struck Egypt in the mid-1000s, but Ellenblum is the first to show how these are part of a broad regional pattern. This comprehensive and clearly argued book advances our understanding of the complex political, social, and economic processes of the late tenth and eleventh century in SW Asia and, more broadly, our capacity to link these processes to those underway in other parts of Eurasia.' Stephen Humphreys, University of California, Santa Barbara 'To climatologists who study the past by looking into geological and chemical evidence imprinted in silent natural archives, Ellenblum's work adds the missing element of contemporaneous human observation, experience, and response. His thorough synthesis of numerous documents that reported the occurrence of extreme climate events, weaved together across space and time with records of related conflict and civic system response, adds an invaluable resource for understanding how climate varied in the past and how it has affected humanity.' Yochanan Kushnir, Lamont Research Professor, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory 'Ellenblum has mined sources from many languages, ancient and modern, especially those of chroniclers writing in Arabic, to construct a powerful story: from northeastern Africa through Central Asia severe droughts and extreme cold conditions in the tenth and eleventh centuries resulted in famines, migrations, anarchy, wars, the fall of states, and all manner of social, economic, and political dislocations. No study on 'collapse' and its consequences is as persuasive as this one.' Norman Yoffee, Professor Emeritus, University of Michigan 'Fluent, persuasive, iconoclastic and provocative' *History Today* 'This book contains a gold mine of written descriptions for the time period that should be useful for scholars.' *Journal of Historical Geography* 'The study of environmental history in the early Middle Ages is still very much in its infancy; thus Ronnie Ellenblum's contribution, not least because it argues so lucidly for a real climatic impact in various areas of human activity, is to be welcomed wholeheartedly.' Mark Humphries, *Early Medieval Europe* *über das Produkt* This provocative study argues that many well-documented but apparently disparate events of the tenth and eleventh centuries - including drought and famine in Egypt, mass migrations in the steppes of central Asia, and population decline in urban centres such as Baghdad and Constantinople - were triggered by climatic and ecological change.