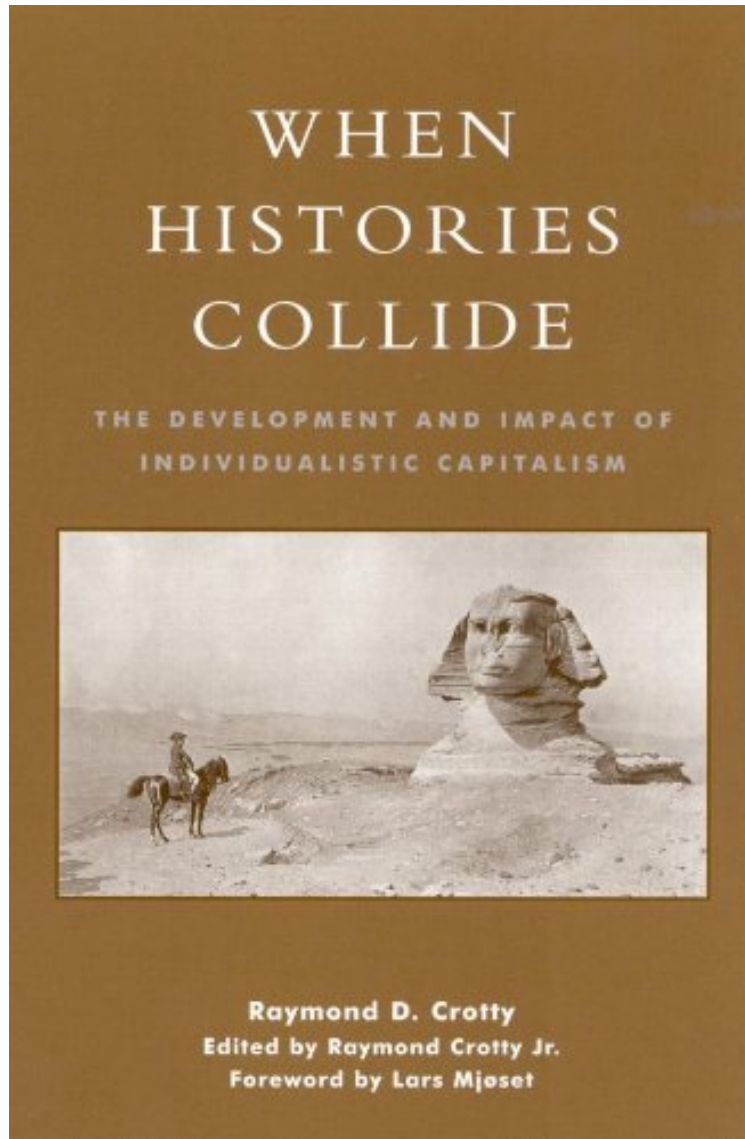


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Raymond Crotty

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The late economic historian, Raymond Crotty, a specialist on economic development in Ireland, left a challenging

work that addresses the processes of world history from the neolithic revolution up to the end of the 20th century. On the way, Crotty tried to explain phenomena as diverse as the role of pastoral migrations, India's holy cows, the decline of the Roman empire, feudalism, slavery, Britain's early modern development, the patterns of Western colonization, the lack of socio-economic development in the contemporary third world, and the developmental success of Japan and China. Crotty's interdisciplinary framework combines elements agricultural economics, nutritional science, development studies, and demography into a comprehensive theory of history that will challenge and intrigue historians, social scientists, and their students.

This is an original and challenging work. It seeks to explain Irish development dilemmas by looking at the role of pastoral production throughout human history. It requires vigorous-minded, non-timid readers, who will find it both unusual and exciting. (Immanuel Wallerstein, Fernand Braudel Center, Yale University) This is an extraordinary book by an extraordinary man... Once in a blue moon, backgrounds like this enable someone to write a book that we professors, weighed down by disciplines and schools of thought, could never write... this book is an original... a must-read... Crotty uses his distinctive brand of biological and economic materialism to very powerful effect... all social scientists and historians with broad comparative interests, especially in the economy, demography, and human health of the South of the world, should read this book and reflect long on it. (Michael Mann, University of California, Los Angeles Contemporary Sociology, Vol. 33, No. 2) This is a highly original and engaging book... It offers nothing less than a philosophic history of humanity. (John A. Hall, McGill University American Historical) Crotty's [book] is a rewarding long historical analysis and a serious alternative (or addition) to others. (Journal Of World-Systems Research) Raymond Crotty had the knack of seeing from the ground up processes that others only viewed from the top down. He had the agronomic and comparative experience to recognize what he was seeing. The result is a fresh, challenging, at times astonishing set of insights into relations between agriculture and civilization. (Charles Tilly, Joseph L. Bottenwieser Professor of Social Science, Columbia University) About the Author The late Raymond Crotty taught agricultural economics at Trinity College, Dublin, and wrote extensively on Ireland. Lars Mjose is a sociologist at University of Oslo.