

# [PDF] Empires Of The Sea: The Final Battle For The Mediterranean, 1521-1580

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## Books Details:

Title: Empires of the Sea: The Final

Author:

Released: 2009-06-04

Language:

Pages: 368

ISBN:

ISBN13:

ASIN: B0030EK4N6



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## Description:

**From** Is the West engaged in a “clash of civilizations” with the Islamic peoples of the Middle East? According to Crowley, that clash occurred in the sixteenth century, when Islam, under the leadership of the Ottoman Turks, seemed poised to dominate most of Europe. The “impregnable city” of Constantinople had been taken in 1453, and by the beginning of the sixteenth century, the Turks were ensconced in the Balkans. The key to the struggle between the Turks and the Christian West was control of the eastern rim of the Mediterranean Sea. The Turks had a formidable fleet, while the divided, quarreling Christian states seemed particularly vulnerable. Yet, through a combination of valor, military skill, and blind luck, the Christian West prevailed. Crowley’s exciting saga shows this struggle as grim, heroic, and inspiring. At the siege of Malta, a few hundred knights,

remnants of a crusading order, held off 30,000 invading Turks. At Lepanto, Christians and Turks engaged in a naval bloodbath that decisively stemmed the Islamic tide. A beautifully written chronicle of a great and seminal struggle. --Jay Freeman

**Review** "A masterly narrative that captures the religious fervor, brutality and mayhem of this intensive contest for the 'center of the world.'" ---Kirkus Starred Review

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