# The JOURNAL of ECONOMIC HISTORY

VOLUME 85 MARCH 2025 NUMBER 1

# PUBLISHED FOR THE ECONOMIC HISTORY ASSOCIATION

WANG

The Electric Telegraph, News Coverage, and Political Participation

CASSAN, IYER, AND MIRZA

Enfranchisement, Political Participation, and Political Competition:

Evidence from Colonial and Independent India

MOHAMMED AND MOHNEN

Black Economic Progress in the Jim Crow South: Evidence from Rosenwald Schools

ELI, HAUSMAN, AND RHODE

The Model T

JAREMSKI AND WHEELOCK

Interbank Networks and the Interregional Transmission of Financial Crises:

Evidence from the Panic of 1907

CUMMINS AND Ó GRÁDA

The Irish in England

ABSELL

The Price and Welfare Consequences of the British Sugar Act of 1846

Kumon

Adoption, Inheritance, and Wealth Inequality in Pre-industrial Japan and Western Europe



# THE JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC HISTORY ISSN 0022-0507

Published for the Economic History Association by Cambridge University Press

### **EDITORS**

BISHNUPRIYA GUPTA CAROLYN MOEHLING

### BOOK REVIEW EDITORS

Juan Flores Zendejas Matthew Jaremski

### EDITORIAL STAFF

LILY WELCH, EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
SALLY SZTRECSKA, PRODUCTION EDITOR
MICHAEL HAUPERT, EHA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### EDITORIAL BOARD

Cihan Artunç, Middlebury College
Sascha Becker, Monash University
Thor Berger, Lund University
Zhiwu Chen, Hong Kong University
Denis Cogneau, Paris School of Economics
Mark Dincecco, University of Michigan
Shari Eli, University of Toronto

Katherine Eriksson, University of California, Davis

Michela Giorcelli, University of California, Los Angeles

Amanda Gregg, Middlebury College
Walker Hanlon, Northwestern University
James Kung, University of Hong Kong
Éric Monnet, Paris School of Economics
Suresh Naidu, Columbia University
Greg Niemesh, Miami University
Sheilagh Ogilvie, Oxford University
Laura Panza, University of Melbourne

Gary Richardson, University of California, Irvine

Aims and Scope: The Journal of Economic History seeks to promote the scholarly study of economic aspects of the human past from a diversity of perspectives, notably those of economists and historians. By encouraging careful formulation of issues and clear exposition of methods, the JOURNAL hopes to stimulate discourse among scholars with varied interests and modes of inquiry. The JOURNAL is abstracted in EconLit, e-JEL, Sociological Abstracts, Elsevier Geo Abstracts, and Scopus. Back issues of the JOURNAL (5-years-old and older) are available on-line to JSTOR subscribers. Http://JSTOR.ORG.

**Instructions for Contributors**: Articles on economic history and related aspects of history or economics will be considered for publication by the Editors on the understanding that the articles have not previously been published and are not under consideration elsewhere. Papers should indicate the wider significance of detailed original research findings as well as the logic and limitations of specialized techniques of analysis. Comments and shorter notes will be considered. The JOURNAL does not accept unsolicited book reviews, nor can it honor requests to review particular works. Contributions should be kept within 35 double-spaced pages, inclusive of footnotes, references, figures, and tables-approximately 14,000 words. A submission fee, payable to the Economic History Association, of \$60.00 or a year's membership (fee schedule below) is required from nonmembers of the Association.

How to Submit a Paper for Consideration: Log into http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jeh and follow the instructions there. Choose Editor Bishnupriya Gupta for submissions dealing with the Eurasian Land Mass; choose Editor Carolyn Moehling for submissions dealing with the Americas, Africa, and Australasia. Upload files (completely blinded of identifying information) as Word, Pdf, WordPerfect, or Excel documents

Editorial Office Addresses: Bishnupriya Gupta, Editor; *Journal of Economic History*; B.Gupta@warwick.ac.uk; University of Warwick, Department of Economics, Coventry CV4 7AL, United Kingdom. Carolyn Moehling, Editor; *Journal of Economic History*; moehling@rutgers. edu; Rutgers University - New Brunswick, Department of Economics, 75 Hamilton Street, New Brunswick, 08901-1248. *For general inquiries*: Lily Welch, Editorial Assistant; *Journal of Economic History*; lily.welch@colorado.edu.

Association Office Address and Membership Information: Individuals who are members of the Economic History Association receive online access to the JOURNAL as part of their annual dues. Membership rates (in U.S. dollars) are \$100.00\* for those with income above \$50,000 a year; \$32.00 for those with income below \$50,000; \$32.00 for students and for professors emeriti\* who have been members of the Association for ten years. Payment of additional \$32.00 permits joint membership with the Economic History Society (UK). Applications and inquiries concerning membership should be addressed to the Economic History Association, Department of Economics, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, La Crosse, WI 54601. Telephone 608-785-6863. E-mail: TaylorLand@eh.net. EHA members should send changes of address to the association office. \*Regular and Emeriti members wishing to receive the printed version of the JOURNAL may pay an additional \$50 annually.

Subscription, Publishing, and Advertising Office Address: Cambridge University Press, One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, U.S.A.; or Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8RU, England.

**Subscription Information**: *The Journal of Economic History* is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December. Annual institutional print-and-electronic subscription rate (2025) is US \$618 in the U.S.A., Canada, and Mexico, UK £379 + VAT elsewhere. Annual institutional electronic-only subscription rate (2025) is US \$362, UK £224 + VAT elsewhere. Annual institutions print-only subscription rate (2025) is US \$629, UK £389 + VAT elsewhere. Individuals subscribe by becoming a member of the EHA. Prices include surface postage and insurance.

# THE JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC HISTORY

Volume 85 March 2025 Number 1

ARTICLES

Tianyi Wang
The Electric Telegraph, News Coverage, and Political
Participation 1

Guilhem Cassan, Lakshmi Iyer, and Rinchan Ali Mirza
Enfranchisement, Political Participation, and
Political Competition: Evidence from Colonial and
Independent India

33

A. R. Shariq Mohammed and Paul Mohnen

Black Economic Progress in the Jim Crow South:

Evidence from Rosenwald Schools

72

SHARI ELI, JOSHUA K. HAUSMAN, AND PAUL W. RHODE

The Model T

110

Matthew Jaremski and David C. Wheelock Interbank Networks and the Interregional Transmission of Financial Crises: Evidence from the Panic of 1907

NEIL J. CUMMINS AND CORMAC Ó GRÁDA

The Irish in England

180

CHRISTOPHER DAVID ABSELL

The Price and Welfare Consequences of the British Sugar Act
of 1846

215

Yuzuru Kumon
Adoption, Inheritance, and Wealth Inequality in Pre-industrial
Japan and Western Europe 250

EDITORS' NOTES 287

# **REVIEWS OF BOOKS**

## EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES

Waldenström. Richer and More Equal: A New History of Wealth in the West	J. Mejia	296
Prados de la Escosura. A Millennial View of Spain's Development. Essays in Economic History	D. G. Agudo	297
MISCELLANEOUS		
SGARD. The Debt Crisis of the 1980s: Law and Political	U. Panizza	299