## **Table of Contents**

Walter Pohl Editor's Introduction: Empires – Elements of Cohesion and Signs of Decay	2
Mayke de Jong The Empire that was always Decaying: The Carolingians (800-888)	6
Simon MacLean Cross-Channel Marriage and Royal Succession in the Age of Charles the Simple and Athelstan (c. 916-936)	26
Andrew J. Newman  >Great Men<, >Decline< and Empire: Safavid Studies and a Way Forward?	45
Jeroen Duindam Dynasties	59
Susan Reynolds Nations, Tribes, Peoples, and States	79
Glenn Bowman Lieux Saints Partagés: An Analytical Review	89
Ongoing Research Project	
Johannes Preiser-Kapeller Calculating the Middle Ages? The Project »Complexities and Networks in the Medieval Mediterranean and Near East« (COMMED)	100