national territory. Yet the imposition of such systems of courts on "uncivilised" States too weak to resist such demands was a striking feature of the foreign policy of the European powers in the nineteenth century. In the Ottoman Empire, Egypt, Siam and China foreign courts, staffed by foreign judges and administering foreign law, dealt with disputes between foreign nationals or between foreigners and locals.

British Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction in the Gulf is a study of one such system. The book presents an account of British extraterritorial jurisdiction in the Gulf States of Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the Trucial States and Muscat and Oman. To a large extent it is an adjunct to the author's earlier book *The Arabian Gulf States: Their Legal and Political Status and Their International Problems* (2nd rev. edn, Beirut, 1975). All these States, with the exception of Muscat and Oman (which was regarded as an independent State in close treaty relations with the British government), were British Protected States. In each State British courts were established. Mr al Baharna is particularly interesting on the legal basis of such extra-territorial jurisdiction, in both international and municipal law. His study of the operation of the courts themselves does, however, tend to concentrate on the late 1950s and 1960s.

Altogether, the author provides a snapshot of an interesting aspect of imperial history. On one subject, however, there is a small, but significant editorial error. In the *Muscat Dhows* arbitration between the United Kingdom and France, the Hague Court of Arbitration held that, prior to the coming into force of the General Act of Brussels in 1892, the granting of ships papers to carry out commercial trade under the French flag to Omani subjects was *not* contrary to any international obligation of France (cf. J. B. Scott (Ed.), *The Hague Court Reports*, New York, 1916, p.99).

MATTHEW HAPPOLD

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