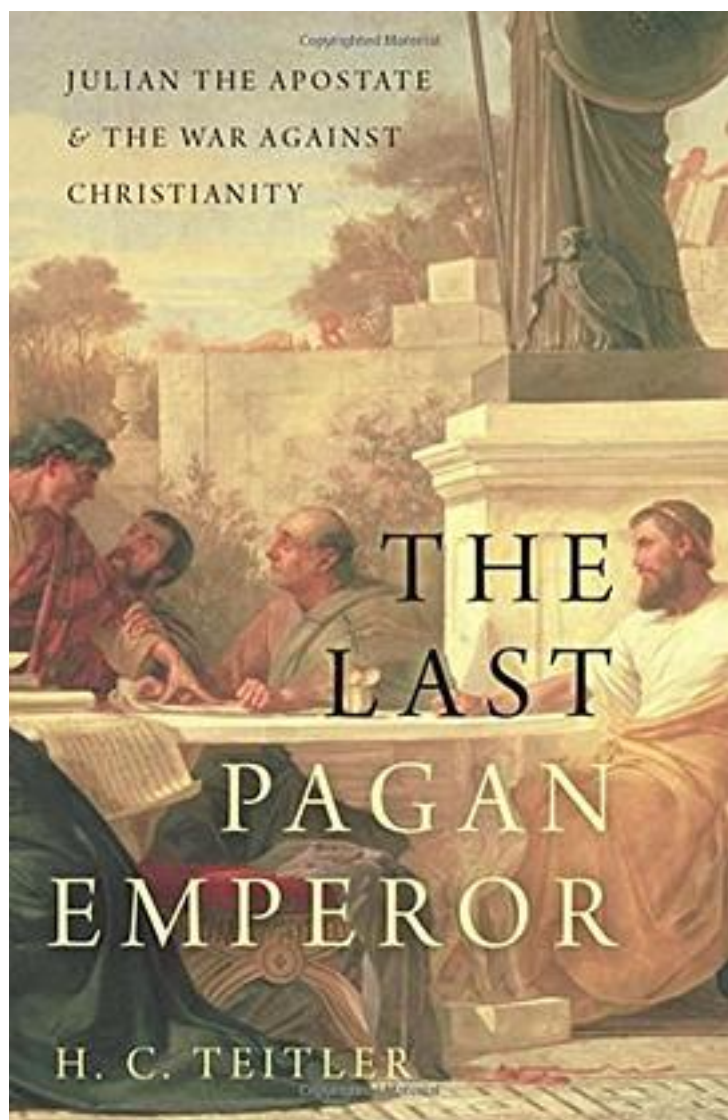


The Last Pagan Emperor



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Flavius Claudius Julianus was the last pagan to sit on the Roman imperial throne (361-363). Born in Constantinople in 331 or 332, Julian was raised as a Christian, but apostatized, and during his short reign tried to revive paganism, which, after the conversion to Christianity of his uncle Constantine the Great early in the fourth century, began losing ground at an accelerating pace. Having become an orphan when he was still very young, Julian was taken care of by his cousin Constantius II, one of Constantine's sons, who permitted him to study rhetoric and philosophy and even made him co-emperor in 355. But the relations between Julian and Constantius were strained from the beginning, and it was only Constantius' sudden death in 361 which prevented an impending civil war.

As sole emperor, Julian restored the worship of the traditional gods. He opened pagan temples again, reintroduced animal sacrifices, and propagated paganism through both the spoken and the written word. In his treatise *Against the Galilaeans* he sharply criticised the religion of the followers of Jesus whom he disparagingly called 'Galilaeans'. He put his words into action, and issued laws which were displeasing to Christians--the most notorious being his School Edict. This provoked the anger of the Christians, who reacted fiercely, and accused Julian of being a persecutor like his predecessors Nero, Decius, and Diocletian. Violent conflicts between pagans and Christians made themselves felt all over the empire. It is disputed whether or not Julian himself was behind such outbursts. Accusations against the Apostate continued to be uttered even after the emperor's early death. In this book, the feasibility of such charges is examined.

作者介绍:

H. C. Teitler, born in Surabaya in the Dutch East Indies--now Indonesia--and raised in Den Helder and Amsterdam in the Netherlands, studied Classics at the University of Amsterdam. He served as Assistant Professor of Ancient History at Utrecht University from 1975 until his retirement in 2002.

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标签

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评论

2018年看完的第一本正经书，传记不像传记说是论文吧又几乎没有论证，应该归类为作者的读书笔记，以疑罪从无的角度对鸡肚教满天飞的尤皇黑料作了列举和否定，全书都是这个调调就有点审美疲劳了，而且这本书比较坑注释比正文还长，正文只有不到150页……唯一可取之处大概是作者作为真爱粉查阅的资料多值得我学习，继续补阿米安。

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书评

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