

Andre Gunder Frank

# **The Centrality of Central Asia**

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# THE CENTRALITY OF CENTRAL ASIA

Eurasian history writing has invariably focused on the civilizations of China, India, Persia, Arabia and Europe.

Geographically these regions encircle the wide area of Central Asia, which appears as a sort of black hole in the middle of the world, the home of migrants, monks and mullahs and above all of barbarians.

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However, the outlying civilizations were formed and even defined through interaction with Central Asia.

Therefore, the intent of this study is to demand due recognition of the centrally important role of Central Asians in the history of their neighbours and thus their place in world system history as a whole.

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Andre Gunder Frank is professor of Development Economics and Social Science at the University of Amsterdam.

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