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Review of *The Dust Rose Like Smoke: The Subjugation of the Zulu and the Sioux* by James O. Gump

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The Dust Rose Like Smoke: The Subjugation of the Zulu and the Sioux, James O. Gump. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1994. Maps, illustrations, index, and bibliography. xii + 178 pp. \$25.00.

Comparisons have often been made between the 1876 Sioux victory at the Little Big Horn and the 1879 Zulu victory at Isandhlwana, but James O. Gump's *The Dust Rose Like Smoke* goes beyond examination of these two battles. In fact, the discussion of the battles takes up only one chapter while the main body of the book examines events prior to and subsequent to these famous battles. This is a thorough survey that traces the Sioux and Zulu histories from the time before contact with the conquering powers and continues through the aftermath of the battles into the twentieth century.

Gump masterfully switches back and forth between the Zulu and the Sioux narratives. Each segment is long enough to maintain a connection with the complementary segment and together they create a continuity in the overall narrative. Instead of focusing on just the similarities, as is true of some comparisons, Gump emphasizes the differences in order to connect the striking similarities in the Zulu and Sioux histories. For example, The Zulu and the Sioux used divergent methods to achieve the same end. Both native groups dominated their territory at the time of Isandhlwana and the Little Big Horn. The Sioux rose to prominence through decentralization into numerous small bands under a variety of capable leaders, while the Zulu dominated through strong centralization under one leader with absolute authority.

The subjugation of the natives after their stunning victories had similarities but was marked by major differences. These differences grew out of different needs and goals of the conquering powers. The British needed the Zulu labor, not just their land, and thus the Zulu presented an inherent value to the British government that the Sioux did not present to the American government which merely wanted the Sioux land. The Sioux labor was superfluous.

Gump includes several maps which are useful to the reader who is unfamiliar with the terrain. These maps are effective and change as the native territories change. But a general map of each territory on the front and back inside cover would have allowed the reader to follow along without looking back in the text to find the maps.

The Dust Rose Like Smoke is an excellent comparative study. It avoids certain pitfalls of comparative studies. Gump avoided the tendency to focus on one narrative and almost as an afterthought compare the other story to the first. In *The Dust Rose Like Smoke* each group's story is complete and could stand alone if the story lines were separated; the two groups received equal attention and significance in this narrative. Gump avoids excessive explanation of the significance of the similarities and differences. The points are clear to the reader without further explanation and the narrative style is not broken by an omniscient author telling the reader what to make of this information. *The Dust Rose Like Smoke* flows with style that makes the narrative easy and enjoyable to read. It is an excellent addition to any library. **Lynn Williams**, *Department of History, University of Nebraska-Lincoln*.