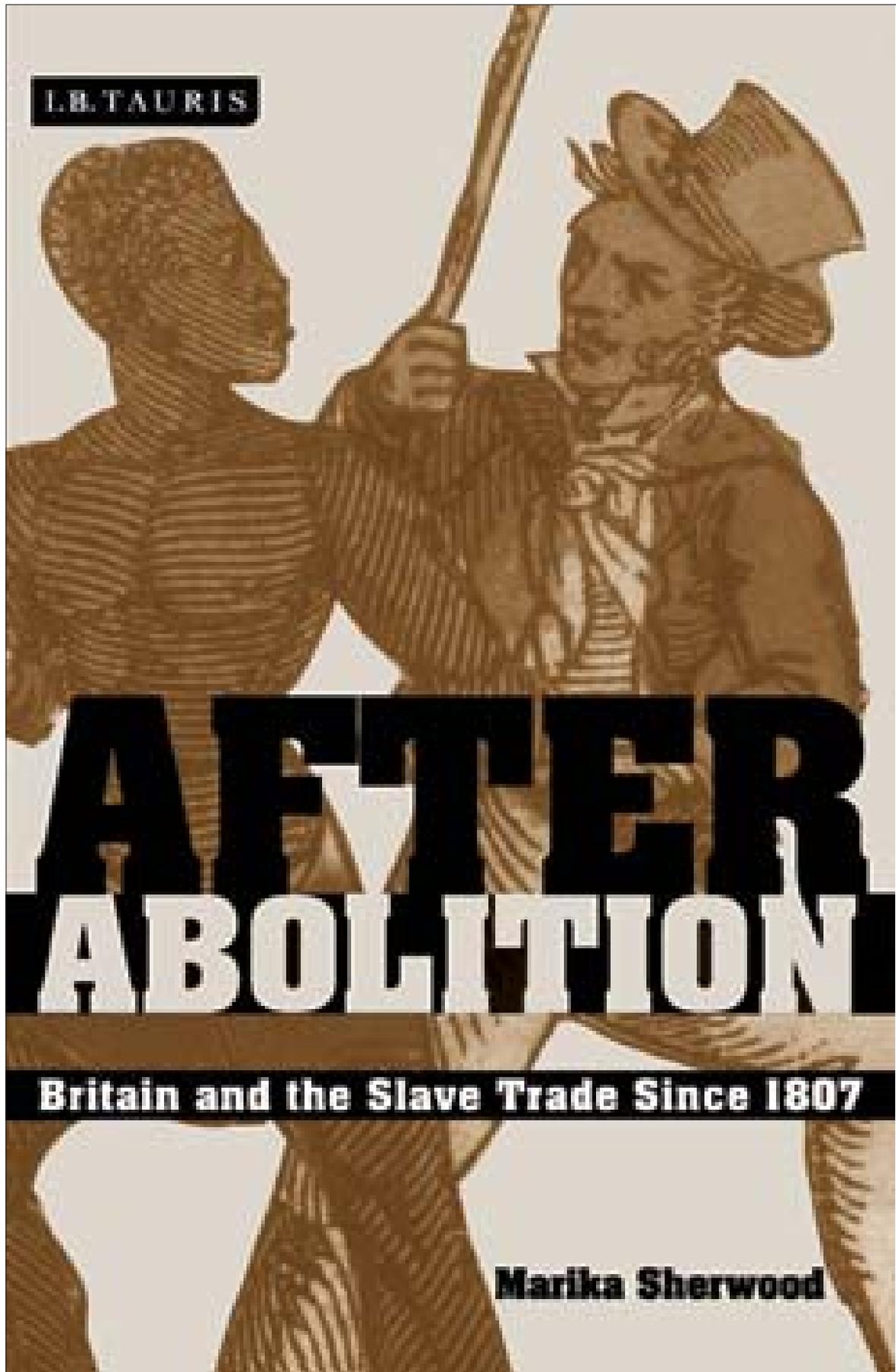


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AFTER ABOLITION

Britain and the Slave Trade Since 1807

Marika Sherwood

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AFTER ABOLITION

Britain and the Slave Trade Since 1807

Marika Sherwood



With the abolition of the slave trade in 1807 and the Emancipation Act of 1833, Britain washed its hands of slavery. Not so, according to Marika Sherwood, who sets the record straight in this provocative new book. In fact, Sherwood demonstrates Britain continued to contribute to and profit from the slave trade well after 1807, even into the twentieth century. Drawing on government documents and contemporary reports as well as published sources, she describes how slavery remained very much a part of British investment, commerce and empire, especially in funding and supplying goods for the trade in slaves and in the use of slave-grown produce. She also examines some of the causes and repercussions of continued British involvement in slavery and describes many of the shady characters, as well as the heroes, connected with the trade - at all levels of society. *After Abolition* contains important revelations about a darker side of British history which will provoke real questions about Britain's perceptions of its past.

A highly provocative and iconoclastic text, which poses critical and discomfiting questions. It forces us to rethink or question many long-held assumptions about the slave trade and its abolition and presents us with incontrovertible evidence of hypocritical acts, half-hearted measures and false promises on the part of the British state, business community and civil society. After Abolition is highly recommended to the academic and general reader for the light it sheds on Britain's involvement in the slave trade and its abolition.

- Ayodeji Olukoju, Professor of History and Dean of Arts, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Marika Sherwood is a founder member of the Black & Asian Studies Association & editor of the *BASA Newsletter*. The author of numerous books and articles on the history of black peoples in the UK, as well as on education, she is honorary senior research fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London.

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