



The History of the World: From the Dawn of Humanity to the Modern Age

Frank Welsh

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In a narrative beginning almost 1.5 million years ago with the emergence of Homo erectus, Frank Welsh takes the reader from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment, from the Industrial Revolution to the age of terrorism.

Using his masterly storytelling skills, he recounts the epic story of human growth, survival and achievement across all continents and ages.

Providing insight into the lives of ordinary people in every corner of the globe, this comprehensive book is the perfect introduction to the human history of our planet.

The History of the World: From the Dawn of Humanity to the Modern Age Details

Date : Published August 9th 2016 by Quercus Publishing (first published October 1st 2011)

ISBN : 9781782061090

Author : Frank Welsh

Format : Paperback 467 pages

Genre : History, Nonfiction



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From Reader Review The History of the World: From the Dawn of Humanity to the Modern Age for online ebook

Alex says

Concise and informative, if not groundbreaking.

J.D. says

I think maybe it was too much of a task to fulfill in 500 pages or so. However, it is still something feasible with the appropriate approach and this was not it for sure. This is also affected by the blatant lack of bibliographical references and biased narration.

The author tries to cover too much and ends up with too many details with no discernible integration. The book was quite unclear at times, and at others, particularly when the details were accompanied with a thread of a story, it was pretty good. Some sections are quite appealing and clear. For me that was the story of the origin of Islam. But other sections, such as Ancient Greece, a topic which I adore and am familiar with, was not at all clear and dealt with way too quickly.

The book would've been great if it focused only in certain civilizations and eras, instead of everything. That's one star. The other is because of the bias.

Now, partiality is common and it's ok in history. It is perfectly fine and almost necessary to actually have a particular view or understanding, but bias is different. Bias is unsubstantiated and arbitrary. Now, since this author deals with too many details, facts, he (not so often, I admit) mixes his opinions in between factual data, with no particular justification or explanation, and goes on. Data, of course, is also biased in its presentation—presenting one and ignoring other pieces of information, but that's less worrisome. I know this is not a proper history book, there's barely any bibliographical reference at all, but still it is expected some degree of academic standards. That's the other star.

Peter Certo says

engagingly written for a popular history, and best (unsurprisingly) when the author slows down to tell a story. provides some useful context otherwise, and can help you fit the pieces together of overlapping bits of history you were already familiar with. but the attention paid to any one subject is often too cursory, and too crowded with the names of people or events that haven't been properly introduced, to make much new material stick. (of course, i don't know why i would have expected one relatively compact volume to bring me up to speed on all the world history i'd missed.)

Daniel Kukwa says

A solid, concise, easy to ready collection of everything that ever happened. There's nothing remarkable to

find here, other than a first rate research tool that is ready to access at a moment's notice.

Rashid Saif says

I have a lot of gripes with this book but I'll start with some of the good things. The book is very accessible, its great to build a historical framework and to form historical literacy. It spans the time from when Homo-sapiens first appear to the Arab Spring, he mentions all the dates and events with accuracy. All of this is under 500 pages, so it's great for value.

My misgivings are that he is incredibly reductive at times and tends to trivialise certain events while overstating others. I see this with regards to Middle Eastern history, perhaps because I'm more familiar with it, where he gives unfounded conclusions as to why certain events might have occurred or what was the motivation behind them. For example, he says this "*Morrocco, founded by a descendant of Ali, and therefore Shia.*" he says that the fact that the Idrisids are descendants of Ali, therefore, they where Shia even though the founder of the dynasty, Idris I, professed to be a Sunni of the Maliki rite. This was just one example of many, however, I think that such details might be of issue for a serious student of history, say studying for a degree; but for everyone else, I think that such details are minuscule and aren't that much of a problem.

All in all, I think that if you have zero historical literacy and want to build a framework without reading multiple books, then this book will be alright for you.

James says

A whistle-stop tour of world history is the ambition of Frank Welsh in this medium sized volume and he largely achieves what he sets out to do! However, the professional or even amateur historian may find themselves left feeling somewhat unsatisfied with the brevity a book like this requires in order to meet its objective, certain key periods seem merely glossed-over (Industrial Revolution, westward expansion of the US, Spanish Civil War etc) but given the limits Welsh has set himself this is entirely understandable.

Overall I found it a pleasing and somewhat informative read and certainly useful in giving me some knowledge of periods or regions with which I was not overly familiar (e.g. Ming dynasty China)and would certainly give the reader some titbits of historical information that might be useful for a dinner party conversation or other social occasion. The brief introduction to unfamiliar historical eras may also spur the casual reader on to taking a greater interest in that particular epoch or culture which is never a bad thing!

Pranay T says

Since it was my first book in this genre and now I am reading other books , I can always say Frank welsh has set up a foundation for telling history and its facts in an interesting way. The book is very detailed and covers all the civilizations . Although the major focus is Greek, Sumerian but the amount of information one can get is immense

Ali says

Great Book

Olivia says

Such an easy to read yet thorough telling of the world's history. This was very enjoyable and really informative. I'd recommend it to anyone.

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Hilmi Isa says

The History of the World: From the Dawn of Humanity to the Modern Age hasil tulisan *Frank Welsh* merupakan sebuah buku yang membincangkan sejarah dunia secara ringkas tetapi padat. Walaupun demikian,saya berpandangan bahawa walaupun buku ilmiah ini menarik untuk dibaca oleh mereka yang mungkin mempunyai tahap pengetahuan sejarah dunia yang sikit atau asas. Tetapi,bagi mereka yang mungkin mahukan penyelidikan sejarah dunia yang lebih teliti dan komprehensif,mungkin perlu membaca buku yang lain.

Bermula dari bab pertama,penulis menyatakan bahawa peradaban manusia bermula pada 6000 tahun Sebelum Masihi (S.M.) dengan penemuan bukti-bukti artifak di Lembangan Danube (yang terletak di tengah dan timur Eropah) yang menunjukkan bahawa manusia sudah mula tinggal secara tetap (penempatan). Perbincangan berakhir di bab yang terakhir dengan penulis mengemukakan beberapa cabaran yang perlu dihadapi oleh manusia pada zaman moden atau kini untuk meneruskan kemandirian (*survival*) manusia sejagat.

Asad Awan says

There should've been a word 'concise' somewhere between 'the' and 'history'. But, overall brilliantly written in good prose. Not so good for a person without a prior exposure to the world history.

Mariano Abilleira says

His style makes reading trough ancient history feel less like a chore, with some interesting pieces of datum thrown in from time to time.

A casual read; more so for someone with a certain understanding and previous experience with other historical works (so you do not have to check references and names every two or three lines).

Heba says

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