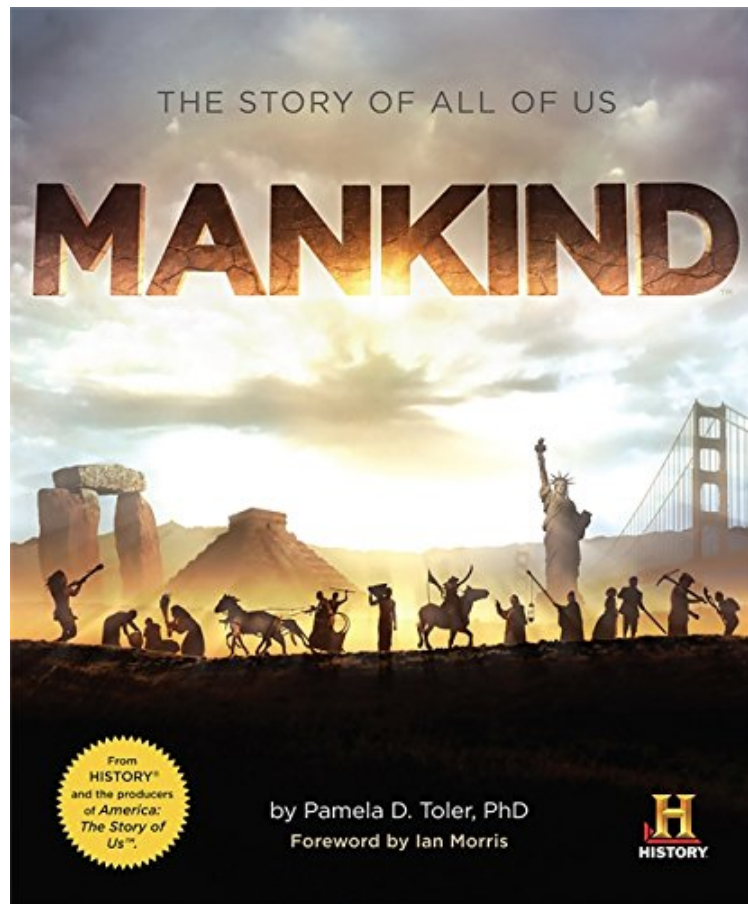


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Mankind: The Story of All Of Us

Pamela D. Toler

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Pamela D. Toler : Mankind: The Story of All Of Us before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mankind: The Story of All Of Us:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Criticisms, Positive: - The text is well written ...By Carol Criticisms, Positive:- The text is well written and summarizes human history in a sweeping pageantry. It holds the reader's interest and is not difficult to read;- It tells human history as a compelling story rather than a collection of dry facts;- The photographs are well-chosen and interesting and they enhance the text. Criticisms, Negative: The book seems to have a number of editorial deficiencies.- Major Criticism: There is neither a subject index nor an index of the maps and subject boxes. Any non-fiction book should have an index. In frustration I finally made one of my own;- There are a total of 29 maps in the book, the last being on page 269; there are no maps on the last 160 pages except for a faded photograph of a map on page 300; where are the maps for more than the last third of the book?- Some of the photographs and maps are devoid of a legend and are displaced from the text to which they belong by one or more pages, which can be confusing;- The photograph and insert about pictographs on pages 28 and 29 are after a page about the art of the last Ice Age and would seem to be more appropriately placed before or after page 37 commenting

on the development of written language;- On page 43 under WHY the sentence seems to be missing the word solstices after the word winter;- Pages 80 and 81: On page 80, the first sentence of the first paragraph states, The Qin (pronounced Chin) dynasty of northwest China was considered less cultured than its rivals However, the map on page 81 (which has no legend) depicts Qin region in what seems to be southwest China. The map at the top of page 81 would be more appropriate on page 79, especially since it has no legend to explain what it intends to demonstrate;- On page 74, the map seems to be titled Phoenician States (within the borders of the map and not as a legend) but does not depict any of the Phoenician city-states (Byblos, Sidon, Tyre). The words Phoenician States is probably not a map title but a label for the yellow area immediately to the north of the Kingdom of Israel, but the font size and position on the map seem to make it a title for the whole map. If the map did have a legend or title, it would perhaps be Neighboring Tribes of Israel, c. 1000 BCE;- Page 167, last paragraph: In the sentence, A second form, the pneumatic plague, was less common, used the incorrect word pneumatic; the correct word should be pneumonic;- Page 173: On page 173 malaria and typhus are listed with a group of epidemic diseases, caused by either bacterial or viral agents that are spread through direct human contact. Malaria is a protozoan parasitic infection that is spread by anopheline mosquitoes that have bitten an animal or human infected with the Plasmodium protozoa (usually P. malariae) then bites an uninfected individual. It not normally spread directly from one person to another (except through sharing hypodermic needles, for example). Thus, it is more common in swampy areas and controlling the mosquito population controls the spread of the disease.- There is not mention of the early space exploits of either the United States or the Soviet Union; the Apollo 11 landing on the moon is not mentioned; but there are over 8 pages devoted to the wreck of the Titanic; there are only 5 pages covering the exploration of space; even the American Revolution got only 7 pages.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Interesting but with editorial flawsBy Neuro ProfThis book is as difficult to review as it is to read. The principle reason is due to very poor editing combined with careless attention to details and accuracy. Another reviewer detailed many of the specific errors - there are numerous others.The author should have a serious conversation with the publisher about withdrawing her book and having it edited by someone more competent. I have enjoyed the author's fluid writing style, however, I should not be laughing at the poor editing or grimacing at the factual errors. Her comments about the big bang are terribly misleading for readers not familiar with the material.There are simply too many better books available that I can not recommend this book.22 of 24 people found the following review helpful. An incredible experienceBy Bobby BritnellI was introduced to this book by an excerpt in the Nov/Dec issue of History magazine, and immediately ordered the Kindle version. However, I think the hard cover book's larger format would be better for this work, so I will order that version for my second reading. I tried to watch the TV show but couldn't get interested, so I turned it off after 10 minutes. (in my poverty-blessed youth, the public library took the place of the TV my parents couldn't afford; I was past the age of 21 before I regularly watched TV) Negatives: the Kindle version seems to have been rushed into production; I found misspellings, incomplete sentences, and other grammatical errors. There are many "side-stories" inserted into the text in half-size type; hard-but-not-impossible to read. However, these side notes are often followed by another side note of half again down sized type that is certainly hard to read. Positives: the author tackled the ambitious project of covering the evolution of mankind from beginning to now, in one volume; she succeeded well beyond my expectations. The narrative is fast-paced, informative, and flows smoothly from topic to topic, moving easily across centuries without losing context. Ms Toler tells the stories and covers major events of history without passing judgement; she covers such events as Hiroshima and the violence of the Selma AL civil rights march without resorting to the self-flagellating condemnation of America that is so prevalent today, even by those who enjoy the blessings of this great nation. Another positive: the illustrations - photographs, paintings, etc; zoomable on my Kindle Fire, and beautifully HD. This was a challenging project, well executed, and well worth the price in any format. Get This Book!

It takes more than 10 billion years to create just the right conditions on one planet for life to begin. It takes another three billion years of evolving life forms until it finally happens, a primate super species emerges: mankind.In conjunction with History Channel's hit television series by the same name, Mankind is a sweeping history of humans from the birth of the Earth and hunting antelope in Africa's Rift Valley to the present day with the completion of the Genome project and the birth of the seven billionth human. Like a Hollywood action movie, Mankind is a fast-moving, adventurous history of key events from each major historical epoch that directly affect us today such as the invention of iron, the beginning of Buddhism, the crucifixion of Jesus, the fall of Rome, the invention of the printing press, the Industrial Revolution, and the invention of the computer.With more than 300 color photographs and maps, Mankind is not only a visual overview of the broad story of civilization, but it also includes illustrated pop-out sidebars explaining distinctions between science and history, such as why there is 700 times more iron than bronze buried in the earth, why pepper is the only food we can taste with our skin, and how a wobble in the earth's axis helped bring down the Egyptian Empire. This is the most exciting and entertaining history of mankind ever produced.

About the AuthorPamela D. Toler, Ph.D., a member of the World History Association and the American Society of Journalists and Authors, is regularly published in national journals specializing in history and culture, including

"American History," "Calliope," "History," the "Quarterly Journal of Military History," and "Saudi" "Aramco World." She is a contributor and author of several books including "The Everything Guide to Understanding Socialism" (Adams, 2011). She is particularly interested in the times and places where two cultures meet and change each other. History, the award-winning A E channel that connects history with viewers in an informative, immersive, and entertaining manner across many platforms, has earned four Peabody Awards, 11 Primetime Emmy Awards, and 12 News Documentary Emmy Awards. It received the prestigious Governors Award from the Academy of Television Arts Sciences for the network's Save Our History campaign, dedicated to historic preservation and history education.