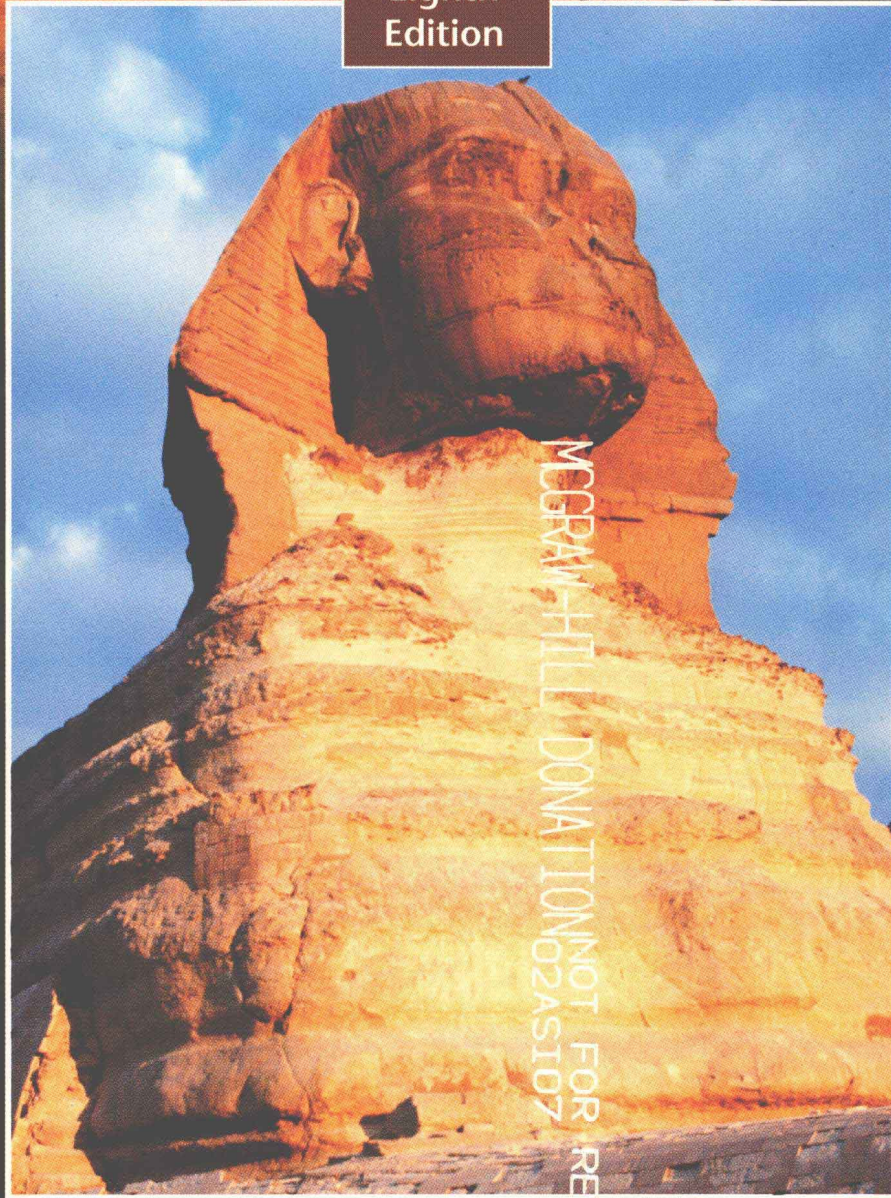


ANNUAL EDITIONS

World History

Volume 1—Prehistory to 1500

Eighth
Edition



McGraw-Hill Education
NOT FOR RESALE

World History

Volume 1 Prehistory to 1500

Eighth Edition

EDITORS

Joseph R. Mitchell

History Instructor, Howard Community College

JOSEPH R. MITCHELL is a history instructor at Howard Community college in Columbia, Maryland, and a popular regional speaker. He received a M.A. in history from Loyola College in Maryland and a M.A. in African American History from Morgan State University, also in Maryland. He is the principal coeditor of *The Holocaust: Readings and Interpretations* (McGraw-Hill/Dushkin, 2001).

Helen Buss Mitchell

Professor of Philosophy, Howard Community College

HELEN BUSS MITCHELL is a professor of philosophy and director of the women's studies program at Howard Community college in Columbia, Maryland. She is the author of *Roots of Wisdom* and *Readings From the Roots of Wisdom*. Both books were published by Wadsworth Publishing Company and are now in their fourth and third editions respectively. She has also created, written, and hosted a philosophy telecourse, *For the Love of Wisdom*, which is distributed throughout the country by PBS. She has earned numerous degrees, including a Ph.D. in women's history from the University of Maryland.

McGraw-Hill/Dushkin

2460 Kerper Blvd., Dubuque, Iowa 52001

Visit us on the Internet

<http://www.dushkin.com>

Credits

1. Natural History and the Spread of Humankind

Unit photo—© PhotoDisc, Inc.

2. The Beginnings of Culture, Agriculture, and Cities

Unit photo—© Getty Images/PhotoLink

3. The Early Civilizations to 500 B.C.E.

Unit photo—© Getty Images/PhotoLink

4. The Later Civilizations to 500 C.E.

Unit photo—© Getty Images/Hisham F. Ibrahim

5. The Great Religions

Unit photo—© Getty Images/Spike Mafford

6. The World of the Middle Ages, 500-1500

Unit photo—© CORBIS/Royalty-Free

7. 1500: The Era of Global Expansion

Unit photo—© Getty Images/Harnett/Hanzon

Copyright

Cataloging in Publication Data

Main entry under title: Annual Editions: World History, Vol. I: Prehistory to 1500. 8/e.

1. World History—Periodicals. 2. Civilization, Modern—Periodicals. 3. Social problems—Periodicals. I. Mitchell, Joseph R. Buss, Helen
comp. II. Title: World history, vol. I: Prehistory to 1500

ISBN 0-07305377-5

ISSN 1054-2779

© 2005 by McGraw-Hill/Dushkin, Dubuque, IA 52001, A Division of The McGraw-Hill Companies.

Copyright law prohibits the reproduction, storage, or transmission in any form by any means of any portion of this publication without the express written permission of McGraw-Hill/Dushkin, and of the copyright holder (if different) of the part of the publication to be reproduced. The Guidelines for Classroom Copying endorsed by Congress explicitly state that unauthorized copying may not be used to create, to replace, or to substitute for anthologies, compilations, or collective works.

Annual Editions® is a Registered Trademark of McGraw-Hill/Dushkin, A Division of The McGraw-Hill Companies.

Eighth Edition

Cover image © PhotoLink/Getty Images

Printed in the United States of America 1234567890QPDQPD987654 Printed on Recycled Paper

Editors/Advisory Board

Members of the Advisory Board are instrumental in the final selection of articles for each edition of ANNUAL EDITIONS. Their review of articles for content, level, currentness, and appropriateness provides critical direction to the editor and staff. We think that you will find their careful consideration well reflected in this volume.

EDITORS

Joseph R. Mitchell

Howard Community College

Helen Buss Mitchell

Howard Community College

ADVISORY BOARD

Joseph S. Block

California State Polytechnic University

Beverly A. Blois

Northern Virginia Community College

Melanie Byrd

Valdosta State University

James T. Gillam

Spelman College

Wendel Griffith

Okaloosa Walton Community College

Craig E. Harline

Brigham Young University

Ted M. Kluz

Air War College

Dorothy Vogel Krupnik

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Patricia O. O'Neill

Central Oregon Community College

David S. Payne

Northern Kentucky University

Shelley A. Sinclair

University of Wisconsin, La Crosse

George E. Snow

Shippensburg University

Rachel L. Stocking

*Southern Illinois University at
Carbondale*

Bart Talbert

Salisbury State University

Stephen Varvis

Fresno Pacific University

Staff

EDITORIAL STAFF

Larry Loeppke, Managing Editor

Susan Brusch, Senior Developmental Editor

Jay Oberbroeckling, Developmental Editor

Lenny J. Behnke, Permissions Coordinator

Lori Church, Permissions Coordinator

Shirley Lanners, Permissions Coordinator

Bonnie Coakley, Editorial Assistant

TECHNOLOGY STAFF

Craig Purcell, eContent Coordinator

PRODUCTION STAFF

Beth Kundert, Production Manager

Trish Mish, Production Assistant

Karl Voss, Lead Typesetter

Jean Smith, Typesetter

Karen Spring, Typesetter

Sandy Wille, Typesetter

Tara McDermott, Designer

To the Reader

In publishing ANNUAL EDITIONS we recognize the enormous role played by the magazines, newspapers, and journals of the public press in providing current, first-rate educational information in a broad spectrum of interest areas. Many of these articles are appropriate for students, researchers, and professionals seeking accurate, current material to help bridge the gap between principles and theories and the real world. These articles, however, become more useful for study when those of lasting value are carefully collected, organized, indexed, and reproduced in a low-cost format, which provides easy and permanent access when the material is needed. That is the role played by ANNUAL EDITIONS.

History is a dialogue between the past and the present. As we respond to events in our own time and place, we bring the concerns of the present to our study of the past. It has been said that where you stand determines what you see. Those of us who stand within the Western world have sometimes been surprised to discover peoples and cultures long gone that seem quite “modern” and even a bit “Western.” Other peoples and cultures in the complex narrative of World History can seem utterly “foreign.”

At times, the West has felt that its power and dominance made only its own story worth telling. History, we are reminded, is written by the winners. For the Chinese, the Greeks, the Ottoman Turks, and many other victors from the past, the stories of other civilizations seemed irrelevant, and certainly less valuable than their own triumphal saga. From our perspective in the present, however, all these stories form a tapestry. No one thread or pattern tells the whole tale, and all seem to be equally necessary for assembling a complete picture of the past.

As we are linked by capital, communications, and conflict with cultures whose histories, value systems, and goals challenge our own, World History can offer keys to understanding. As businesspeople and diplomats have always known, negotiations require a deep knowledge of the other's worldview. In an increasingly interconnected world, we ignore the rest of the world at our own peril. As the dominant world power, we touch the lives of millions by decisions we make in the voting booth. Once powerful cultures that have fallen can offer cautionary advice. Those that survived longer than their neighbors offer hints.

When we read the newspaper or surf the internet, we find confusing political, economic, religious, and military clashes that make sense only within the context of lived history and historical memory. The role of the United States in Afghanistan and Iraq, the perennial conflicts in the Middle East, China's emerging role as an economic superpower, the threat posed by religious fundamentalism, Africa's political future, the possibility of viral pandemics—these concerns of the global village have roots in the past. Understanding the origins of conflicts offers us the possibility of envisioning their solutions.

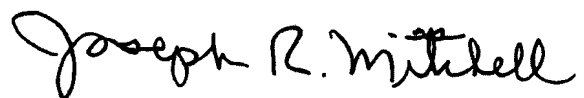
Periodization, or the marking of turning points in history, cannot be done universally. Cultures mature on different timetables and rise and fall independently. We have followed a somewhat traditional structure, beginning with natural history, considering early civilizations to 500 B.C.E., later civilizations to 500 C.E., and the world to 1500, pausing to examine the origins of the world's religions, and ending with exploration. Within this structure, one can read revisionist views of

Nubians, Native Americans, Vikings, and Mayans. Warfare and methods of surviving it; the origins of hospitals, writing, cash, and gold artwork; engineering marvels and planned cities—all of these commonplaces of modern life have ancient historical roots. The lives of women and female deities in ancient Sumer are juxtaposed with those of men. We see Jews, Christians, and Muslims playing their parts on the world stage, as partners or adversaries.

The articles have been selected for balance, readability, and interest. They are offered to the instructor to broaden and deepen material in the assigned text as well as to provide a variety of focuses and writing styles. Our intention has been to offer the most current articles available. If you know of good articles that might be used in future editions, please use the prepaid *article rating form* at the back of this book to make your suggestions. The Topic Guide will help instructors navigate the volume and choose the readings that best complement a unit of study.

We would like to thank David McComb for providing a framework with so many fine readings in the previous edition of *Annual Editions: World History, Volume I*. And, Steven Varvis of the Editorial Board suggested and contributed a number of other very useful additions.

Joseph R. Mitchell
Editor



Helen Buss Mitchell
Editor



Topic Guide

This topic guide suggests how the selections in this book relate to the subjects covered in your course. You may want to use the topics listed on these pages to search the Web more easily.

On the following pages a number of Web sites have been gathered specifically for this book. They are arranged to reflect the units of this *Annual Edition*. You can link to these sites by going to the DUSHKIN ONLINE support site at <http://www.dushkin.com/online/>.

ALL THE ARTICLES THAT RELATE TO EACH TOPIC ARE LISTED BELOW THE BOLD-FACED TERM.

Africa

1. Stand and Deliver: Why Did Early Hominids Begin to Walk on Two Feet?
8. Time and the River: Life in Ancient Egypt Was Geared to the Annual Nile Flood
13. Empires in the Dust
14. Out of Africa: The Superb Artwork of Ancient Nubia
17. Cleopatra: What Kind of a Woman Was She, Anyway?
35. 1492: The Prequel

Agriculture

11. Indus Valley, Inc.
13. Empires in the Dust
32. The Age of the Vikings

Americas

4. First Americans
28. The New Maya
29. Chaco Death Squads
37. The Far West's Challenge to the World, 1500–1700 A.D.

Asian civilization

2. The Scavenging of "Peking Man"
4. First Americans
11. Indus Valley, Inc.
20. Ancient Jewel
25. Confucius
35. 1492: The Prequel

Buddhism

20. Ancient Jewel

Christianity

22. The Dome of the Rock: Jerusalem's Epicenter
24. Women in Ancient Christianity: The New Discoveries
26. The Legacy of Abraham
27. The Survival of the Eastern Roman Empire
30. The Ideal of Unity
33. The Fall of Constantinople
36. The Other 1492: Jews and Muslims in Columbus's Spain

Economics

10. The Cradle of Cash
15. Scythian Gold
18. Secrets of a Desert Metropolis
37. The Far West's Challenge to the World, 1500–1700 A.D.
41. After Dire Straits, an Agonizing Haul Across the Pacific

Egyptian civilization

8. Time and the River: Life in Ancient Egypt Was Geared to the Annual Nile Flood
13. Empires in the Dust
14. Out of Africa: The Superb Artwork of Ancient Nubia
17. Cleopatra: What Kind of a Woman Was She, Anyway?

Environment

1. Stand and Deliver: Why Did Early Hominids Begin to Walk on Two Feet?

8. Time and the River: Life in Ancient Egypt Was Geared to the Annual Nile Flood
11. Indus Valley, Inc.
13. Empires in the Dust
29. Chaco Death Squads

Europe

15. Scythian Gold
16. In Classical Athens, a Market Trading in the Currency of Ideas
27. The Survival of the Eastern Roman Empire
30. The Ideal of Unity
31. The Arab Roots of European Medicine
32. The Age of the Vikings
33. The Fall of Constantinople
34. Clocks: Revolution in Time
36. The Other 1492: Jews and Muslims in Columbus's Spain
37. The Far West's Challenge to the World, 1500–1700 A.D.
38. Columbus and the Labyrinth of History
40. A Taste of Adventure
41. After Dire Straits, an Agonizing Haul Across the Pacific

Geography

1. Stand and Deliver: Why Did Early Hominids Begin to Walk on Two Feet?
3. Mapping the Past
5. Japanese Roots
13. Empires in the Dust
17. Cleopatra: What Kind of a Woman Was She, Anyway?
25. Confucius
27. The Survival of the Eastern Roman Empire
33. The Fall of Constantinople
37. The Far West's Challenge to the World, 1500–1700 A.D.
38. Columbus and the Labyrinth of History

Greek civilization

15. Scythian Gold
16. In Classical Athens, a Market Trading in the Currency of Ideas
33. The Fall of Constantinople

Hinduism

20. Ancient Jewel

Historiography

5. Japanese Roots
7. Writing Gets a Rewrite
13. Empires in the Dust

Indian civilization

11. Indus Valley, Inc.
13. Empires in the Dust
20. Ancient Jewel
40. A Taste of Adventure

Islamic civilization

20. Ancient Jewel
22. The Dome of the Rock: Jerusalem's Epicenter
26. The Legacy of Abraham
31. The Arab Roots of European Medicine
33. The Fall of Constantinople

Judalism

- 19. It Happened Only Once in History
- 22. The Dome of the Rock: Jerusalem's Epicenter
- 26. The Legacy of Abraham
- 35. 1492: The Prequel
- 36. The Other 1492: Jews and Muslims in Columbus's Spain
- 40. A Taste of Adventure
- 41. After Dire Straits, an Agonizing Haul Across the Pacific

Middle East

- 7. Writing Gets a Rewrite
- 8. Time and the River: Life in Ancient Egypt Was Geared to the Annual Nile Flood
- 9. Poets and Psalmists: Goddesses and Theologians
- 10. The Cradle of Cash
- 12. Five Ways to Conquer a City
- 13. Empires in the Dust
- 18. Secrets of a Desert Metropolis
- 19. It Happened Only Once in History
- 20. Ancient Jewel
- 22. The Dome of the Rock: Jerusalem's Epicenter
- 26. The Legacy of Abraham
- 31. The Arab Roots of European Medicine

Politics

- 16. In Classical Athens, a Market Trading in the Currency of Ideas
- 25. Confucius
- 28. The New Maya
- 30. The Ideal of Unity
- 38. Columbus and the Labyrinth of History

Population

- 3. Mapping the Past
- 4. First Americans
- 13. Empires in the Dust
- 19. It Happened Only Once in History
- 32. The Age of the Vikings

Prehistoric culture

- 1. Stand and Deliver: Why Did Early Hominids Begin to Walk on Two Feet?
- 2. The Scavenging of "Peking Man"
- 3. Mapping the Past
- 6. Prehistory of Warfare
- 29. Chaco Death Squads

Religion

- 20. Ancient Jewel
- 21. What Is the Koran?
- 22. The Dome of the Rock: Jerusalem's Epicenter
- 24. Women in Ancient Christianity: The New Discoveries
- 25. Confucius
- 26. The Legacy of Abraham
- 27. The Survival of the Eastern Roman Empire
- 33. The Fall of Constantinople

Roman civilization

- 20. Ancient Jewel
- 27. The Survival of the Eastern Roman Empire
- 37. The Far West's Challenge to the World, 1500–1700 A.D.

Technology

- 11. Indus Valley, Inc.
- 31. The Arab Roots of European Medicine
- 34. Clocks: Revolution in Time
- 35. 1492: The Prequel

Urbanization

- 10. The Cradle of Cash
- 11. Indus Valley, Inc.
- 12. Five Ways to Conquer a City

- 16. In Classical Athens, a Market Trading in the Currency of Ideas
- 18. Secrets of a Desert Metropolis
- 22. The Dome of the Rock: Jerusalem's Epicenter
- 27. The Survival of the Eastern Roman Empire
- 28. The New Maya
- 33. The Fall of Constantinople

Warfare

- 6. Prehistory of Warfare
- 12. Five Ways to Conquer a City
- 15. Scythian Gold
- 27. The Survival of the Eastern Roman Empire
- 29. Chaco Death Squads
- 32. The Age of the Vikings
- 33. The Fall of Constantinople

Western civilization

- 16. In Classical Athens, a Market Trading in the Currency of Ideas
- 30. The Ideal of Unity
- 31. The Arab Roots of European Medicine
- 32. The Age of the Vikings
- 36. The Other 1492: Jews and Muslims in Columbus's Spain
- 37. The Far West's Challenge to the World, 1500–1700 A.D.
- 40. A Taste of Adventure
- 41. After Dire Straits, an Agonizing Haul Across the Pacific

Women

- 9. Poets and Psalmists: Goddesses and Theologians
- 15. Scythian Gold
- 17. Cleopatra: What Kind of a Woman Was She, Anyway?
- 24. Women in Ancient Christianity: The New Discoveries

World Wide Web Sites

The following World Wide Web sites have been carefully researched and selected to support the articles found in this reader. The easiest way to access these selected sites is to go to our DUSHKIN ONLINE support site at <http://www.dushkin.com/online/>.

AE: World History, Volume I

The following sites were available at the time of publication. Visit our Web site—we update DUSHKIN ONLINE regularly to reflect any changes.

General Sources

History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

<http://echo.gmu.edu/center/>

A database of information on science, technology, and medicine with alphabetical listing of resources, this site has search features and multiple links.

Hyperhistory on Line

<http://www.hyperhistory.com>

At this Web site, click on “hyperhistory” and navigate through 3,000 years of world history. Links to important historical persons, events, and maps are also here.

International Network Information Systems at University of Texas

<http://inic.utexas.edu>

This gateway has pointers to international study sites for Africa, India, China, Japan, and many other countries.

Humanities Links

<http://www.sul.stanford.edu/depts/hasrg/>

Philosophical, cultural, and historical worldwide links, including archives, history sites, and an electronic library of full texts and documents are included on this Web site. The resources are useful for research in history and the humanities.

WWW Virtual Library—Humanities

<http://www.hum.gu.se/w3vl/VL.html>

This main subject index leads to many humanities-related research subjects, many of which relate to historical studies.

UNIT 1: Natural History and the Spread of Humankind

The Ancient World

<http://www.omnibusol.com/ancient.html>

The first part of this online book, *The Amazing Ancient World of Western Civilization*, begins with the dinosaurs and moves to Stonehenge.

Fossil Hominids

<http://www.talkorigins.org/faqs/homs/>

Information and links concerning hominid fossils and paleoanthropology can be found on this page created by The Talk Origins Archive. Visit here to investigate the diversity of hominids.

The Origin and Evolution of Life

<http://cmex-www.arc.nasa.gov/VikingCD/Puzzle/EvoLife.htm>

This site contains NASA's Planetary Biology Program, which is chartered to investigate the origin and evolution of life.

Peking Man

<http://www.talkorigins.org/faqs/homs/peking.html>

Compare Peking Man with *Homo erectus* on this site and view creationist arguments about Peking Man.

Talk-Origins

<http://www.talkorigins.org>

This is the site of a newsgroup devoted to debate on the biological and physical origins of the world. Many articles are archived here, and there are links to other Web sites. Be sure to click on “The Origin of Humankind,” a comprehensive source for students of human evolution, which has the latest news about new discoveries, a link to an exhibition of human prehistory, and links to many other related sites, including Yahoo's creation/evolution material.

WWW-VL Prehistoric Web Index

<http://easyweb.easynet.co.uk/~aburnham/database/index.htm>

An index to prehistoric, megalithic, and ancient sites in Europe can be accessed on this site.

UNIT 2: The Beginnings of Culture, Agriculture, and Cities

Ancient World Web

http://www.julen.net/ancient/Language_and_Literature/

Early language is explored at this Web site, which includes Akkadian, Ogham (Celtic/Irish), Mesoamerican writing systems, ancient Berber script, and even 5500-year-old pottery shards found at Harappa in Pakistan.

Assyria-on-Line

<http://www.aina.org/aol/>

All there is to know about ancient Assyria, including the epic of Gilgamesh and Hammurabi's Code, can be found here.

Diotima: Women and Gender in the Ancient World

<http://www.stoa.org/diotima/>

Historical information about women in the ancient world is available at this site, which also includes search possibilities.

Civilization of the Olmec

<http://loki.stockton.edu/~gilmorew/consorti/1bcenso.htm>

Robert Knaak is the curator of this complete Olmec site, which includes history and origins, achievements, and archaeological sites of this “hearth culture” of Central America, whose traditions have carried over through the centuries.

Oriental Institute

<http://www.etana.org/abzu/>

Click on *ABZU.htm* in the index of the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute for information about ancient Near East archaeology and a bibliographic reference on women in the areas covered.

UNIT 3: The Early Civilizations to 500 B.C.E.

Ancient City of Athens

<http://www.stoa.org/athens/>

Look in the Index for images of ancient Athens as well as insights into Greek history and links to other Greek historical sites.



Exploring Ancient World Cultures

<http://eawc.evansville.edu>

Eight ancient world cultures can be explored from this starting point. They include Ancient China, Egypt, India, Greece, Rome, Near East, Early Islam, and Medieval Europe.

Reeder's Egypt Page

<http://www.egyptology.com/reeder/>

Click on the tomb opening to reveal a wealth of historical and archaeological information about Egypt, including a tour of the tombs of Niankhkhnum and Khnumhotep.

UNIT 4: The Later Civilizations to 500 C.E.

Britannica.com: Scythian Art

<http://www.britannica.com/eb/article?eu=68148>

The Encyclopedia Britannica provides this description and information about Scythian art and culture.

The Institute of Egyptian Art and Archaeology

<http://www.memphis.edu/egypt/main.html>

This site offers an exhibit of artifacts, a color tour of Egypt, and links to other Web sites about Egypt.

UNIT 5: The Great Religions

Confucius

<http://www.crystalinks.com/confucious.html>

This Web site on Confucius includes a biography, an overview of Confucius's teachings, and quotations.

Major World Religions

<http://www.omsakthi.org/religions.html>

Information at this site provides short introductions to the major world religions. There are also links to great books on religion and spirituality.

Religion Search Engines: Christianity and Judaism

http://www.suite101.com/article.cfm/search_engines/13501/

Paula Dragutsky's collection of search engines will lead to a wide-ranging directory of Christian Web sites. Shamash is a comprehensive search engine for Jewish information.

Religion Search Engines: Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Baha'i

http://www.suite101.com/article.cfm/search_engines/14603/

Specialized search engines reviewed on this page can be very helpful in leading to original and interpretive documents that explain the philosophy and practices of Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Baha'i.

UNIT 6: The World of the Middle Ages, 500–1500

Labyrinth Home Page to Medieval Studies

<http://www.georgetown.edu/labyrinth/>

Complete information about medieval studies on the Web can be found here. Site also has a search capability.

Lords of the Earth: Maya/Aztec/Inca Exchange

<http://www.mayalords.org/>

History, geography, and art about the indigenous inhabitants of the Americas before the arrival of Columbus is available here.

The Maya Astronomy Page

http://www.michielb.nl/maya/astro_content.html?t2=1021391248914

The focus here is on Mayan civilization, especially astronomy, mathematics, and the Mayan calendar. There are also links to other Maya-related sites. Click on the "Maya Astronomy Page."

WWW Medieval Resources

<http://ebbs.english.vt.edu/medieval/medieval.ebbs.html>

This site has links to different resources concerning medieval times.

UNIT 7: 1500: The Era of Global Expansion

Gander Academy's European Explorers Resources on the World Wide Web

<http://www.stemnet.nf.ca/CITE/explorer.htm>

Access to resources for each of the European explorers of the "new world" can be made here. It is organized by country that each explored.

NOVA Online: The Vikings

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/vikings/>

This is a companion site to NOVA's two-hour "The Vikings" program. It contains a video, a map, a time line, information on the runes, and discussion on who the Vikings were and the secrets of Norse ships.

We highly recommend that you review our Web site for expanded information and our other product lines. We are continually updating and adding links to our Web site in order to offer you the most usable and useful information that will support and expand the value of your Annual Editions. You can reach us at: <http://www.dushkin.com/annualeditions/>.

UNIT 1

Natural History and the Spread of Humankind

Unit Selections

1. **Stand and Deliver: Why Did Early Hominids Begin to Walk on Two Feet?**, Ian Tattersall
2. **The Scavenging of “Peking Man”**, Noel T. Boaz and Russell L. Ciochon
3. **Mapping the Past**, Adam Goodheart
4. **First Americans**, Karen Wright
5. **Japanese Roots**, Jared Diamond

Key Points to Consider

- Why was bipedalism such a crucial factor in the evolutionary survival game?
- Why is “Peking Man” important to the study of humankind origins? How has his role in human development changed as a result of recent archaeological findings?
- How has DNA analysis affected the study of archaeology? What new findings might come as a result of its continued use?
- How have recent discoveries changed the answer to the question, “Who were the First Americans?” What effect has this had on the archaeological world?
- What makes the origins of the Japanese “mysterious”? How do mythology and history conspire to keep the mystery alive?



Links: www.dushkin.com/online/

These sites are annotated in the World Wide Web pages.

The Ancient World

<http://www.omnibusol.com/ancient.html>

Fossil Hominids

<http://www.talkorigins.org/faqs/homs/>

The Origin and Evolution of Life

<http://cmex-www.arc.nasa.gov/VikingCD/Puzzle/EvoLife.htm>

Peking Man

<http://www.talkorigins.org/faqs/homs/peking.html>

Talk-Origins

<http://www.talkorigins.org>

WWW-VL Prehistoric Web Index

<http://easyweb.easynet.co.uk/~aburnham/database/index.htm>

Contents

To the Reader

iv

Topic Guide

xii

Selected World Wide Web Sites

xiv



UNIT 1

Natural History and the Spread of Humankind

Five articles discuss how humans may have evolved and what impact the environment had on the shaping of early human society.

Unit Overview

xvi

1. Stand and Deliver: Why Did Early Hominids Begin to Walk on Two Feet?, Ian Tattersall, *Natural History*, November 2003

What got **humankind** started on its unique **evolutionary** trajectory? The ability to walk upright on two feet—**bipedalism** is what it's called—allowed **hominids** to outshine their **prehistoric** cousins. As their environment changed, they adapted. Once they had the ability to hunt and tasted red meat, the competition was over. Bipedalism was here to stay! So was meat!

2

2. The Scavenging of "Peking Man", Noel T. Boaz and Russell L. Ciochon, *Natural History*, March 2001

The most important archaeological site in **China** is Dragon Bone Hill, 30 miles southwest of Beijing. Excavations from 1921 to 1982 uncovered the remains of 45 individuals with their tools and debris dating from 300,000 to 600,000 years ago. These remains of **Peking Man**, once thought to reveal the use of fire and cannibalism, may show that early man was eaten by hyenas.

6

3. Mapping the Past, Adam Goodheart, *Civilization*, March/April 1996

Genetic historians are using **DNA analysis** to track the migration of human beings. **American Indians** can be traced to a region of Mongolia and **Polynesians** have been tracked to southeast Asia. DNA markers may eventually provide a "map" of the entire human species.

9

4. First Americans, Karen Wright, *Discover*, February 1999

Long thought that the **first humans** in the New World crossed the **Bering Strait** at the end of the **Ice Age**, recent **archaeological** evidence seems to indicate that none of this may be true. Scientists continued to search for clues pertaining to who, how, and when the earliest **Americans** arrived.

15

5. Japanese Roots, Jared Diamond, *Discover*, June 1998

The origins of the **Japanese people** offer a mystery. Genetically they are similar to other Asians, especially Koreans, but their language is distinctly different. Interpretations of Japanese origins are complicated by myth and long-standing enmities.

20

The concepts in bold italics are developed in the article. For further expansion, please refer to the Topic Guide and the Index.



UNIT 2

The Beginnings of Culture, Agriculture, and Cities

Five selections examine early milestones in the history of humankind: the origin of writing, the beginnings of agriculture, and urbanization.

Unit Overview

28

6. **Prehistory of Warfare**, Steven A. LeBlanc, *Archaeology*, May/June 2003

According to Steven LeBlanc, humans have been at each others' throats since the **prehistoric era**. This predilection for organized **violence** has been largely ignored by previous archaeologists, even though LeBlanc finds evidence in every corner of the world. **Wars** in prehistoric times—should we be surprised?

30

7. **Writing Gets a Rewrite**, Andrew Lawler, *Science*, June 29, 2001

The commonly-held belief that **writing** began in **Mesopotamia** five thousand years ago is being challenged by researchers today. Evidence gathered in recent years indicates that it may have developed simultaneously in **Mesopotamia**, **Egypt**, and the **Indus River valley**. But the findings, while promising, are not conclusive enough to make a case for that theory. Perhaps future discoveries will shed new light on this important question.

34

8. **Time and the River: Life in Ancient Egypt Was Geared to the Annual Nile Flood**, John Baines, *Unesco Courier*, September 1988

Most early civilizations developed around **rivers**, their histories inextricably tied to a river's bounty—none more so than **Egypt**. The **Nile River** not only provided Egypt with economic sustenance and political unity, but also shaped Egypt's **mythology** and **worldview**.

37

9. **Poets and Psalmists: Goddesses and Theologians**, Samuel Noah Kramer, from *The Legacy of Sumer: Invited Lectures on the Middle East at the Univ. of Texas*, Umdena Publications, 1976

Was Sumerian society really **male-dominated**? Were women **second-class citizens** in civic, economic, legal, educational, and theological matters? Not according to recent **archeological** discoveries. At least, prior to 2000 B.C.E., we have strong evidence that women of the ruling class enjoyed social and economic **equality** with men. And, in the **heavenly** realm, the Goddess Inanna retained her status as "Queen of Heaven." Enheduanna, daughter of Sargon the Great, presided over the temple in the city of Ur, as **high priestess** and resident **liturgical** poet.

40

10. **The Cradle of Cash**, Heather Pringle, *Discover*, October 1998

With the growth of **cities and markets** there arose a need for a standard way to express the value of varied items. Simple barter became impossible. Silver rings, gold, and ingots provided this necessary **medium of exchange** in Mesopotamia as early as 2500 B.C.E.

44



UNIT 3

The Early Civilizations to 500 B.C.E.

Five articles consider the growing diversity of human life as civilization evolved in the ancient world.

Unit Overview

50

11. **Indus Valley, Inc.**, Shanti Menon, *Discover*, December 1998

Starting around 3300 B.C.E., the **Indus Valley civilization** built some of the earliest planned **cities** at Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro, and they flourished for 700 years. Streets were laid out in a grid, and houses were constructed with standardized bricks. Practical and business-like, the remains of the civilization reflect little warfare or elaborate burials.

52

12. **Five Ways to Conquer a City**, Erika Bleibtreu, *Biblical Archaeology Review*, May/June 1990
Archaeological excavations and drawings of **Assyrian** palaces built from 883–627 B.C.E. reveal themes of **warfare and conquest**. Ladders, fire, siege, battering, and burrowing were all methods of attack against a walled city. 56
13. **Empires in the Dust**, Karen Wright, *Discover*, March 1998
4000 years ago, some **Bronze Age cultures—Minoan, Egyptian, Indian, and Accadian**—disintegrated. Was **political strife** and **social unrest** responsible? Or did a change in **climate**, bring about severe **droughts**? The jury is still out. 60
14. **Out of Africa: The Superb Artwork of Ancient Nubia**, David Roberts, *Smithsonian*, June 1993
Due to prejudice, undeciphered writing, lack of archaeological exploration, inhospitable climate, and information that came mainly from enemies, the **Nubian civilization** is largely unknown except through recent displays of art. It was once thought to be an offshoot of Egyptian culture, but this black civilization flourished at the same time as Egypt's and once conquered all of **Egypt** around 730 B.C.E. 65
15. **Scythian Gold**, Doug Stewart, *Smithsonian*, March 2000
The **Scythians** were a nation of warring **nomads** who dominated the European Steppe from the seventh to the third century B.C.E. They did not write or build cities, but they brought from the **Greeks** a lightweight gold artwork designed to be worn by a man on horseback. This article investigates a great warrior culture and its remarkable art. 70



UNIT 4

The Later Civilizations to 500 C.E.

Four articles discuss some of the dynamics of culture in the New World, Egypt, and Greece.

- Unit Overview 74
16. **In Classical Athens, a Market Trading in the Currency of Ideas**, John Fleischman, *Smithsonian*, July 1993
The agora was the heart of **urban life** for **Greek** city-states. In this public plaza, people met to trade, gossip, argue, and vote. An open space surrounded by civic buildings and religious sites, the **agora of Athens** was the place where Socrates taught and died. 76
17. **Cleopatra: What Kind of a Woman Was She, Anyway?**, Barbara Holland, *Smithsonian*, February 1997
Cleopatra, the queen of **Egypt** in the first century B.C.E., has been one of the most fascinating **women** of history. Characterized in various ways by Afrocentrists, Hollywood movies, George Bernard Shaw, William Shakespeare, and Plutarch, she never had the chance to tell her own story. 80
18. **Secrets of a Desert Metropolis**, Evan Hadingham, *Scientific American Discovering Archaeology*, September/October 2000
The Arabian Desert traders known as Nabataeans built at **Petra** in southern Jordan an **oasis city** of 30,000 that had graceful temples, shops, and an Olympic-sized pool supplied by an aqueduct. Long thought to have withered after the Romans changed the trade routes, or to have been deserted after devastating earthquakes, the city is now thought to have prospered until the Islamic conquest of the 7th century A.D. 85

19. **It Happened Only Once in History**, Max I. Dimont, *Jews, God, and History*, 1994

Historically, Jews have represented less than one percent of the world's **population**. Yet, they have managed to make significant contributions to every aspect of the **civilizations** in which they lived, in spite of suffering from **discrimination** and **persecution**. Max Dimont recounts how the Jews responded to the challenges hurled at them throughout history, and how they not only survived, but prospered.

88



UNIT 5 The Great Religions

Seven articles discuss the beginnings of the world's great religions, including Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism.

Unit Overview

92

20. **Ancient Jewel**, T. R. (Joe) Sundaram, *The World & I*, October 1996

Indian civilization is more than 6,000 years old. Its culture produced **Hinduism** and **Buddhism** and influenced philosophical thinking. Ideas about cycles of life and acceptance of diversity are only a part of the Indian contribution to the world.

94

21. **What Is the Koran?**, Toby Lester, *The Atlantic Monthly*, January 1999

Orthodox Muslims believe that the **Koran** has reached us today as the perfect and unchanged word of God. Comparisons with older versions of the Koran that indicate changes and attempts to place the Koran in a **historical context** thus far have raised disturbing questions. Yet, this is necessary for an understanding of the **Islamic civilization** and all of its permutations.

99

22. **The Dome of the Rock: Jerusalem's Epicenter**, Walid Khalidi, *Aramco World*, September/October 1996

Jerusalem is as sacred to **Muslims** as it is to **Jews** and **Christians**. The Dome of the Rock, an octagonal sanctuary covering the rock from which Muhammad is believed to have ascended to heaven, dominates the skyline of the old city. It is a point where humanity is joined to God.

107

23. **2000 Years of Jesus**, Kenneth L. Woodward, *Newsweek*, March 29, 1999

After two millennia, about one-third of the world's population claim to be **Christian**, and the world measures time by the birthday of Jesus. His teachings have influenced art, culture, politics, and ethics in the West. The religion gave **women** greater protection and the concept of personal salvation gave worth to the **individual**.

111

24. **Women in Ancient Christianity: The New Discoveries**, Karen L. King, *Frontline*, April 6, 1998

What role did **women** play in the early **Christian church**? Was it a **subordinate** one or one that reflected **gender equality**? Karen L. King cites ancient sources that reveal women actively participating in early **Christianity**—as disciples, prophets, preachers, and teachers. The leadership roles of these early Christian women were **suppressed** for centuries until the rediscovery of original source texts has allowed us to re-enter the **first centuries** of Christianity.

117

25. **Confucius**, Jonathan D. Spence, *The Wilson Quarterly*, Autumn 1993

Despite attacks upon **Confucian ideas** in this twentieth century, there has been a resurgence of interest in this fifth century B.C.E. teacher during the past two decades. **Confucius** did not speak about life after death, but his compelling humanity and belief in the importance of culture and learning make him worthy of contemporary study.

121

26. **The Legacy of Abraham**, David Van Biema, *Time*, September 30, 2002

Abraham, the Biblical and Quranic **patriarch**, is acknowledged as a **spiritual father** in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. While this offers possible point of convergence and even the potential for **unity**, the reality is that Abraham also divides Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Each **faith** has used him to buttress their own claims to **truth**, while, at the same time, disputing the truth claims of the other two religions. Is there still room for **interfaith dialogue** with Abraham as its focal point?

127



UNIT 6

The World of the Middle Ages, 500–1500

Eight selections examine the development of world cultures during this period: in the Western Hemisphere, flourishing Mesoamerican cities; in the West, feudalism and the growth of the nation-state; in the East, the golden age of peak development.

Unit Overview

132

27. **The Survival of the Eastern Roman Empire**, Stephen Williams and Gerard Friell, *History Today*, November 1998

In the **5th century C.E.**, the **Roman Empire** had become divided into two parts, the western one centered in **Rome**, the eastern one in **Constantinople**. Both were subjected to **barbarian** attacks; the western empire succumbed to those attacks, the eastern empire lasted for another thousand years. This article tells why.

134

28. **The New Maya**, T. Patrick Culbert, *Archaeology*, September/October 1998

Having dispelled the **myth** of a model **Maya** society led by gentle **priest-kings**, scholars are piecing together a fresh picture of the rise and fall of a complex **civilization**. As their research continues, more light will be shed upon this **Mesoamerican** civilization that, in its glory days, rivalled that of ancient Egypt.

139

29. **Chaco Death Squads**, Stephen H. Lekson, *Archaeology*, May/June 1999

Tourists visiting Chaco Canyon, Mesa Verde, and other prehistory **Pueblo sites** have traditionally been told about peaceful, farming, democratic ancient Indians. Recent studies argue, however, that **warfare** and, perhaps, **cannibalism** were common features in Southwestern life.

142

30. **The Ideal of Unity**, Russell Chamberlin, *History Today*, November 2003

With **Europe** increasingly united and centrally controlled, one wonders if there has ever been a precedent for such an ambitious endeavor as the European Union. In the **Middle Ages**, there was one such attempt as the **Holy Roman Emperors** attempted to unify the **continent**. They ultimately failed; this story tells why.

147

31. **The Arab Roots of European Medicine**, David W. Tschanz, *Aramco World*, May/June 1997

Following the end of the Roman Empire and the rise of Islam, **Arab physicians** benefited from translations of **Greek** medical works. The Arabs established the first hospitals and pharmacies and, beginning in the ninth century, they contributed their own ideas. In the tenth century translations from Arabic to Latin began to educate European physicians.

151

32. **The Age of the Vikings**, Arne Emil Christensen, *Scientific American Discovering Archaeology*, September/October 2000

The **Norsemen** were more than feared warriors. They were also colonizers, city-builders, lawgivers, architects, explorers, and merchants. They terrorized England and France for 250 years. Eventually, they settled with their families in England, Normandy, Scotland, Russia, Greenland, and Newfoundland.

158

33. **The Fall of Constantinople**, Judith Herrin, *History Today*, June 2003

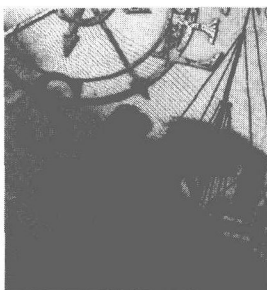
In what many regard as one of history's turning points, the **Ottoman Turks** captured the **Byzantine Empire's** capital city of **Constantinople** in 1453. The background to this epic struggle and the valiant defense of the city in the face of insurmountable odds are recounted here.

163

34. **Clocks: Revolution in Time**, David Landes, *History Today*, January 1984

The mechanical clock was the key machine of the industrial revolution. This **technology** from the **Middle Ages** differentiated Europe from the rest of the world.

168



UNIT 7

1500: The Era of Global Expansion

Seven articles examine the enormous global impact of the voyages of discovery, essentially by the Europeans.

Unit Overview

176

35. **1492: The Prequel**, Nicholas D. Kristof, *The New York Times Magazine*, June 6, 1999

Between 1405 and 1433 **Zheng He** of China led sailing expeditions to the west that reached the east coast of Africa. He could have sailed around Africa to Europe, but there was little reason to reach that "backward region of the world." Economic and intellectual complacency within China stopped the **explorations**. This set a course for the later domination by the West.

178

36. **The Other 1492: Jews and Muslims in Columbus's Spain**, Fouad Ajami, *The New Republic*, April 6, 1992

Christopher Columbus's three ships left Spain for their **world-changing** voyage to the **Americas**. The day before, the last ships carrying expelled Jews also left Spain under somewhat different conditions. An account of the latter **exodus** chronicles Spanish **antisemitism**, which includes the 1481 **Inquisition** and the 1492 **Edict of Expulsion**.

182

37. **The Far West's Challenge to the World, 1500–1700 A.D.**, William H. McNeill, from *The Rise of the West: A History of the Human Community*, 1991

During the era of **global expansion**, the **Western** nations were able to exert their will over those with whom they had contact. Why were they able to do this? William H. McNeill offers some reasons to account for the West's growing power to dominate the rest of the world.

186

38. **Columbus and the Labyrinth of History**, John Noble Wilford, *The Wilson Quarterly*, Autumn 1991

The assessment of **Christopher Columbus** and his accomplishments has changed with time and politics. The quincentenary of his 1492 voyage brought controversy, with Columbus seen as a symbol of oppression, but there can be little denial about the **historical impact of the voyage**.

191

39. **How Many People Were Here Before Columbus?**, Lewis Lord, *U.S. News & World Report*, August 18 – 25, 1997

With the exception of a city or two in Europe, no one was counting **population** at the time of Columbus, so there are only guesses about the **numbers of Indians** in North America. The high estimate is 112.5 million; the low estimate is 8.4 million. The only consensus is that the death rate in the 150 years after Columbus was catastrophic.

203

40. A Taste of Adventure, <i>The Economist</i>, December 19, 1998	
When Vasco da Gama's men at last reached Calicut in India in 1498, they shouted as they came ashore, "For Christ and spices!" With trails leading to India and the Spice Islands of Indonesia, the <i>global spice trade</i> reaches back in time at least to 2600 B.C.E., when Egyptians fed spices to the builders of the pyramids. The allure of spices continues to the present time.	207
41. After Dire Straits, an Agonizing Haul Across the Pacific, Simon Winchester, <i>Smithsonian</i>, April 1991	
Following the wake of Christopher Columbus, other European explorers set forth. One of Magellan's ill-starred ships succeeded in the <i>first circumnavigation</i> of Earth.	213
Index	219
Test Your Knowledge Form	222
Article Rating Form	223

The concepts in bold italics are developed in the article. For further expansion, please refer to the Topic Guide and the Index.