



A History of Civilizations

By Fernand Braudel

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Written from a consciously anti-ethnocentric approach, this fascinating work is a survey of the civilizations of the modern world in terms of the broad sweep and continuities of history, rather than the "event-based" technique of most other texts.

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A History of Civilizations By Fernand Braudel Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Braudel was the most prominent member of the *Annales* school of history in post-World War II France. This history, originally published in 1963 as part of curriculum reform for French secondary students, was eventually judged by French school teachers as too hard for their students and was withdrawn. More than half the book is devoted to the development of Western civilization, and despite the judgment of French school teachers, it is suitable for serious high school students along with undergraduate and public libraries. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

A leader of the *Annales* school, which reacted against the prominence of politics and personalities in historiography, Braudel wrote based on *la longue durée*, emphasizing the material basis of daily life--the routine workings of commerce as it changes over the long term. This outlook has gradually permeated the profession, and, as so often happens when a good idea proves unstoppable, its proponent takes a turn at textbook writing. This is the late Braudel's 1962 lesson for French university students on the origin of European, Islamic, Indian, Asian, and New World civilizations. As a text it wasn't widely adopted, perhaps because France was then in a political uproar, pitting its colonialists--heirs to the civilizing mission of the nineteenth century--against decolonizers. And the book bears that sign of its time: The colonial motif pops up everywhere, presented as a timeless feature of ways of life in collision. So it was at the Battle of Tours in 732, which stopped the Muslim juggernaut; and so it is now in the anti-Western sentiments in the Arab world. Whether the conflict split religion and religion, town and country, or liberty and right, the colonial view benefits from Braudel's phenomenal depth of knowledge and synthesizing agility, and his palpable curiosity enlivens the sometimes deadly textbook form. For serious history collections. *Gilbert Taylor*

Language Notes

Text: English

Original Language: French

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frank Barcomb:

This A History of Civilizations book is just not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you obtain by reading this book is actually information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper you read a lot of information you will get. This kind of A History of Civilizations without we comprehend teach the one who reading it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't become worry A History of Civilizations can bring any time you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' grow to be full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even phone. This A History of Civilizations having fine arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

Joyce Burke:

As people who live in the actual modest era should be up-date about what going on or facts even knowledge to make these people keep up with the era which can be always change and progress. Some of you maybe may update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice in your case but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know which one you should start with. This A History of Civilizations is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and need in this era.

Mathew Jones:

The book untitled A History of Civilizations contain a lot of information on the idea. The writer explains your ex idea with easy method. The language is very clear and understandable all the people, so do not worry, you can easy to read it. The book was published by famous author. The author brings you in the new period of time of literary works. You can actually read this book because you can read on your smart phone, or program, so you can read the book inside anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can available their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice examine.

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