

Hunters Farmers And Civilizations Old World Archaeology Readings From Scientific American

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around 4000 years ago the advanced urban civilizations in egypt mesopotamia and india suddenly collapsed what happened did a prolonged drought cause the breakdown of social order recent discoveries from all over the world strongly support the suspected link of the collapse with climate the volume presents the findings of more than 40 researchers and provides a review on the relevant information it appears that a major shift of the precipitation pattern affected many parts of the world at approximately the same time with disastrous effects on the nomadic populations of asia africa and eastern europe can a similar climate shift with a serious adverse impact on society happen again in a world facing global warming there could be many lessons to be learned from the experiences of ancient societies

regional approaches to past human adaptations have generated much new knowledge and understanding researchers working on problems of adaptations in the holocene from those of simple hunter gatherers to those of complex sociopolitical entities like the state have found this approach suitable for comprehension of both ecological and social aspects of human behavior this research focus has however until recently left virtually un touched a major spatial and

temporal segment of prehistory the old world during the pleistocene extant literature on this period by and large presents either detailed site specific accounts or offers continental or even global syntheses that tend to compile site specific information but do not integrate it into whole constructs of functioning sociocultural entities this volume presents our current state of knowledge about a variety of regional adaptations that characterized prehistoric groups in the old world before 10 000 b p the authors of the chapters consider the behavior of humans rather than that of objects or features and present data and models for various aspects of past cultures and for culture change these presentations integrate findings and understandings derived from a number of related disciplines actively involved in researching the past data and interpretations are offered on a range of old world regions during the paleolithic including africa asia australia and europe and chronological coverage spans from the early to late pleistocene

these 27 readings are concerned with the phenomenon of man as revealed in his artifacts the earliest of these discovered artifacts the stone deposits found by leakey at olduvai gorge are some two million years old the written history of man encompasses approximately the past 5000 years an understanding of the organic and cultural evolution of man in prehistoric times is now seen to be at least as important perhaps more so to understanding man himself as is a knowledge of those 5000 recorded years in this volume several distinguished archaeological researchers offer their evidence and understanding of more than half a million years of our species cultural evolution here are revealed the paleolithic sites of shanidar terre amata and ismaila the neolithic cities of ancient jericho and catal huyuk the rise and fall of great prehistoric civilizations such as the sumerian harappan and early persian the prehistory of europe as indicated by stonehenge and the remnants of the swiss lake dwellers and much more back cover

this book is the fifth and the last volume of a much larger project ancient pakistan an archaeological history which deals with the prehistory of pakistan from the stone age to the end of the indus civilization this volume deals with the decay and demise of the indus civilization and its devolution into post harappan regional cultures under the impact of the intruding pastoral nomads from the west the indo aryans being one of them a comprehensive bibliography is provided for those who want to dig deeper into the subject

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the oxford english dictionary defines koine as a set of cultural or other attributes common to various groups this volume merges an academic career over a half century in breadth and scope with an editorial vision that brings together a chorus of scholarly contributions echoing the core principles of r ross holloways own unique perspective on ancient mediterranean studies through broadly conceived themes the four individual sections of this volume i a view of classical art iconography in context ii crossroads of the mediterranean cultural entanglements across the connecting sea iii coins as culture art and coinage from sicily and iv discovery and discourse archaeology and interpretation are an attempt to capture the many and varied trajectories of thought that have marked his career and serve as testimony to the significance of his research the twenty four papers plus four introductory essays to the individual sections biographical sketch and main introduction contain recent research on subjects ranging from the kleophrades painter to the black sea sicilian coinage and archaeology in modern rome

tracing the development of some of the earliest and key civilizations in history early civilisations of the old world explains

how particular forms of social structure and cultural interaction developed from before the neolithic period

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first published in 1971 this major bibliography devoted to africa s most populous country nigeria is therefore a timely contribution which must be welcomed by all the bibliography of nigeria contains over 5 400 entries in archaeology all branches of anthropology linguistic and relevant historical and sociological studies many of the entries carry indicative or informative annotations which have greatly enhanced the usefulness of the work the history and culture of africa constitutes a rich area of study and research which is attracting an ever increasing number of scholars the world over the new impetus which african studies is receiving in the major centre of learning today has added urgency to the long neglected problem of bibliographical control of the vast literature the dearth of bibliographies in the field of african studies has been a main source of frustration to all those working in this area the book is divided into two parts part one deals with nigeria as a whole and lists general works or those concerned with several regions or several ethnic groups part two is devoted to the various ethnic groups an analytical table of contents a comprehensive ethnic index an author index and an index of islamic studies together with generous cross referencing ensure ready and easy location of individual entries

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