



A Short History of the 20th Century

Geoffrey Blainey

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Most readers will find much that is new to them here, and sometimes material that refutes what they thought they knew. Blainey's analysis of the world's great religions alone justifies the book, but it is only part of a broad tapestry that ranges across the entire human experience.-William L. O'Neill

A Short History of the 20th Century Details

Date : Published June 15th 2006 by Ivan R. Dee Publisher (first published 2005)

ISBN : 9781566636872

Author : Geoffrey Blainey

Format : Hardcover 367 pages

Genre : History, Nonfiction

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From Reader Review A Short History of the 20th Century for online ebook

Kenneth says

An excellent book to catch up with the history of the 20th century and to have an understanding how the countries in the world became who they are.

At least now I know how World War 1 started and subsequently World War 2. And the irony that the nuclear bomb is what is keeping us from going into World War 3!

Daniel Taylor says

Why would a Ghandi-style nonviolence approach have failed against Hitler? How close did democracy come to being wiped out? This eyeopening and well written history will increase your understanding of the forces that shape today's world.

Michael O'Donnell says

A good read. The focus is political and from an Australian perspective. There are things that you never knew. There are things that you disagree with. There are things that are glossed over. Their themes are still there. Climate Change. Islam. USA. Russia. China

Kevin Keating says

This book, written by an Australian, was one of the best histories I've read. In a few hundred pages it covered almost all of the events of the 20th century in a concise and very readable form. It also kinda reminded me of the writing style of earlier good history books. It was not bogged down with political correctness and did not use overly pretentious words. Steinbeckian. I think you'll like it. A true 5star book.

Dominik Bacher says

A perfect book for anyone seeking to learn about the 20th century in general, although it focuses more on America, Russia, Europe and some of Asia. The author tells the story, in my personal opinion, as if he was narrating a novel, this is what makes the reader enjoy reading the history as if it was a story, instead of reading just facts. It is also important to say that the book has no personal opinion from the author.

Shaheryar says

Good read if you want a refresher of the events which surrounded the 20th century and how the two world war changed our lives. The book spend a good amount of time explaining the imperialism of the world leading up to the first world war and continued on to independence from imperial power. It covered all major events of the century, mostly on Europe, United States and Asia. Surprisingly, details of the Ottoman Empire leading up to Turkey's independence and Kemal Ataturk was also mentioned. Most importantly, it was a blunt reminder of the path humanity has taken - from the simple life to our current present, from 2 billion to 7 billion. A gentle reminder that we have done as much harm as good and the direction we're heading.

Elaine says

Eu já tinha lido o "Uma Breve História do Mundo" do mesmo autor, mas gostei mais ainda deste. É realmente breve e lista os fatos mais importantes do século XX, parece um filme, um conto. Tanto quanto o outro livro, me faz pensar que eu gostaria de ter aprendido História na escola assim. Tudo faz sentido, fala sobre curiosidades e fatos e suas consequências, que culminaram com os importantes eventos do século passado, como as 2 guerras mundiais, e vai até mudanças de comportamento e costumes, como os Beatles e o surgimento da Internet.

Joaquina Pereira says

Leitura simples e objectiva

Julie Brock says

Very engaging overall and definitely filled in some gaps in my education. Interesting shift: events that I remembered as "current events" in school are now "history." The author throws in some thematic/cultural information at random; sometimes a bit disjointed. Also I would have loved to have a timeline showing what was simultaneously happening at different parts of the world throughout the 20th century. Hard to keep track of the 1930s, e.g., in North America, Asia, Europe, etc. I will probably read his "Short History of the World" as well.

Gabriela Melo says

As duas maiores guerras da Historia. Movimentos nacionalistas. Revoluções socialistas. Criação do Estado de Israel. Quebra da Bolsa de Nova Iorque. O século XX, com certeza, foi um período bastante agitado. É sobre este turbulento século que o historiador e professor australiano Geoffrey Blainey trata em seu célebre livro, com uma fácil e gostosa leitura sobre os diversos acontecimentos históricos.

Ints Brunenieks says

Lieliska grāmata gada nosīgum?. Grāmats? ?si , lakoniski autors izstāsta 20.gadsimta vēsturi. Galvenie varoņi ir valstis, kuras 20.gs. laikā ir izdzīvojušas, ir mirušas un ir dzimušas jaunas. Šī ir nevis vēstures

gr?mata ar faktu uzskait?jumu, bet vair?k par gadsimta svar?go notikumu c?lo?sakar?b?m. K?p?c ir noticis tieši t? un ne sav?d?k, un cik daudz pietr?ka , lai notiktu sav?d?k.

No vienas puses gr?mata ir tik saistoša, ka gribas las?t arvien t?l?k un ?tr?k, no otras puses n?kas ?emt talk? kartes un google, lai pap?t?tu v?l vair?k par atbilstošajiem notikumiem. Gr?mata lieti noder?s gan v?stures jomas ies?c?jiem, gan ar? v?stures erud?tiem, lai atkl?tu v?l k?das nezin?mas v?stures notikumu fineses.

Ar šo gr?matu esmu ieinteresējies ar? citos šī autora darbos.

Un noteikti p?c k?da laika š? gr?mata j?p?rlasa v?lreiz...

Kate says

Great concept, but very disappointing. This would make an excellent review if you already knew all of the history of the 20th century, but for those who don't, it will prove frustratingly patchy and vague. In the interest of stylish writing, the author omits a lot of the hard facts: dates, names of treaties, movements and events, the nitty gritty of how a country has moved from dictatorship to democracy. There are probably better surveys of the 20th century out there.

Patricia Ferreira says

Very good book, that quickly explains what happened in the twentieth century, in the arts, science, politics, and daily life, so that we can further research the subjects which we find most interesting.

Peter says

I think this is one of the most engaging, quality history books on the market. More of a narrative than a timeline, this brilliant number is packed with human interest and poignant speculation. Highly recommended.

Dave says

This is OK, but mostly for the nimble way that he summarizes a lot of incidents thematically--it's a pretty short book, given the scope. However, the less I knew about some historical incident, the better I thought his discussion was--Gallipoli, for instance. And I get a flavor of conservatism, which is a lot stronger when he talks about the sixties or anything idealistic. Plus he seems depressed about the whole thing. I wonder if it's that he can't quite be historically objective (which seems to be his aim), or if it's that I can't read history unless I can adopt the author's point of view. Anyway, now I know about Gallipoli.
