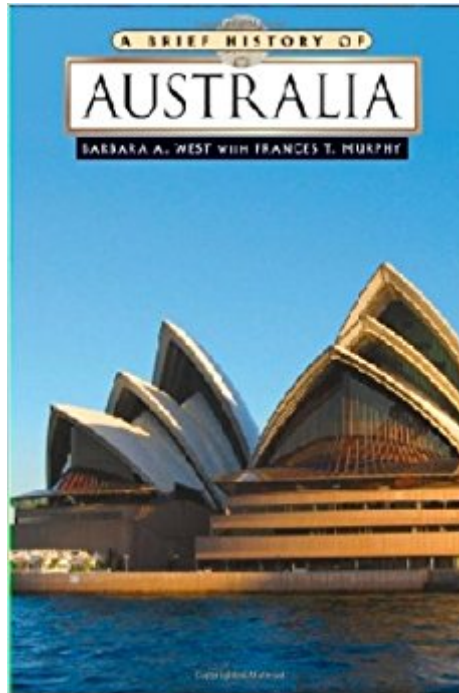




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A Brief History Of Australia



Synopsis

This is a comprehensive guide to Australia, from the time of Aboriginal settlement through to the modern day. It takes a largely chronological approach and looks at social, cultural, economic and political trends in the country's long history.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Barbara A. West holds a Ph.D. in social anthropology from the University of Rochester in New York. A former associate professor of international studies and anthropology and managing editor of The Anthropology of East Europe Review, she is the author of Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Asia and Oceania for Facts On File. She is a coauthor of G'Day Boss! Australian Culture and the Workplace and a director at Culture Works in Melbourne, Australia. Frances T. Murphy has degrees in history, anthropology, and psychology. Born and raised in Australia, she is the coauthor of G'Day Boss! Australian Culture and the Workplace and a director at Culture Works in Melbourne, Australia. She is also a major contributor to Facts On File's Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Asia and Oceania.

--This text refers to the Paperback edition.

This book was not what I expected. It is extremely bias toward the issues which the authors want to portray history as. The themes of Aboriginal rights, voting for a republic, the need for more multiculturalism, etc. conditions much of what is presented. In the chapter on John Howard, there is no mention of the vast economic improvements, but a major focus on how he wanted to roll back

the clock on multiculturalism, aboriginal rights, refusing refugees and the vote for a Republic. They really did not like Howard because of his support of the US in Iraq and the treatment of refugees, and very little else was included about his 10 year term except a glut of criticism. In the section on World War I and II and other conflicts it seemed the authors could not bring themselves to write the air force as the Royal Australian Air Force, or the navy as the Royal Australian Navy as it did not fit with their view to rid Australia of the Monarchy. Proud traditions were established and people died in service to Australia and the world in both the RAAF and RAN and should not be tainted by these authors. I do not challenge the authors viewpoint as much as I just don't want to have to buy a book on history to find out it is a political statement promoting their opinions as objective history. I learned very little about the history of Australia from this book. It was a waste of money.

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