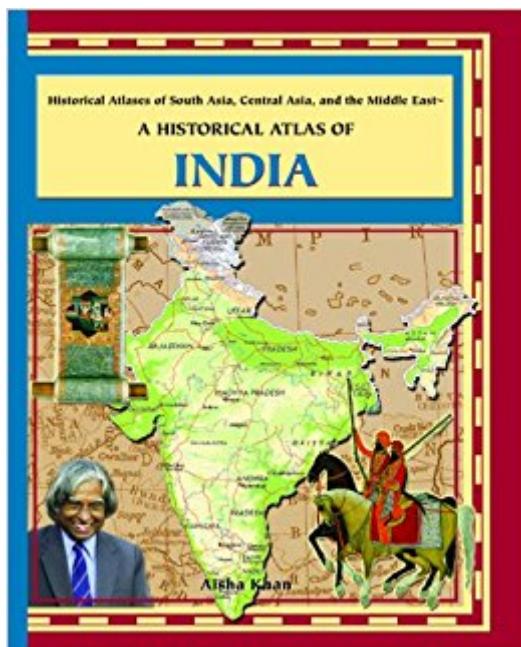


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A Historical Atlas Of India (Historical Atlases Of Asia, Central Asia, And The Middle East)



Synopsis

Using both historical maps as primary source documents as well as modern maps, this historical atlas of India recounts the history of the country from its earliest inhabitants, to its occupation by the British, to the present day. Like the other books in this fascinating series, this title explores the culture of India using short sidebars that focus on art, religion, and profiles of important Indians. Featuring some never-before-seen photos, the history of this vibrant country comes alive with a timeline, and easy-to-navigate maps. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Series: Historical Atlases of Asia, Central Asia, and the Middle East

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Customer Reviews

One thing this book is NOT is a "historical atlas of India". In 64 pages there are 18 maps -- of these, 3 are of modern India (physical and political), two are of the empire of Alexander (for some unaccountable reason, modern Jordan is marked on one of these maps, as is Medina, which I thought did not exist in those times), one of the spread of Islam up to 750AD(? I thought we were dealing with India?), 4 are reprints of old maps of Asia (with no very useful political or other details marked out within the India they show), and one is a "map" (ie plan) of a Portuguese trading post (no discernible connection to the text). That leaves 7 maps, 3 of which again are reprints of old British maps of India, not serving any purpose of advancing ones knowledge of the evolution of a united country under the British. A historical atlas should use maps (based on up-to-date research) to show how large-scale forces moved across the landscape as it was shaped into what we know now (eg powerful dynasties, the Black Death or a religion). On that score, this is not a historical atlas. I do

not know who the text is pitched at, but it is extremely simplistic -- as it is rather large print I guess kids (WHICH kids, don't ask me). Finally, I note that the page on further reading does not see fit to mention Nehru's "Discovery of India", especially given that Nehru was one of the real founding fathers of modern India, and had a deep understanding of its history.

This book is certainly the worst publication I have ever encountered. It's not a historical atlas at all; it's fraud. Which sorely disappointed me. I have been searching for a historical atlas of India for many years. Despite the fact that Indian history is one of the most fascinating, India, alas, is the only important part of the inhabited world for which there is no historical atlas. I think the reason for this is simply that there is too much uncertainty among serious scholars about when the numerous cultural and political units started and ended, and even more uncertainty about where to draw the borders. So what kind of people would be drawn to an attempt to create a coherent historical atlas of India? Either the very best historians making their very best guesses -- or the most despicable sort of con artist trying to make a quick buck. So now we've had the latter. Let's hope we'll soon have the former.

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