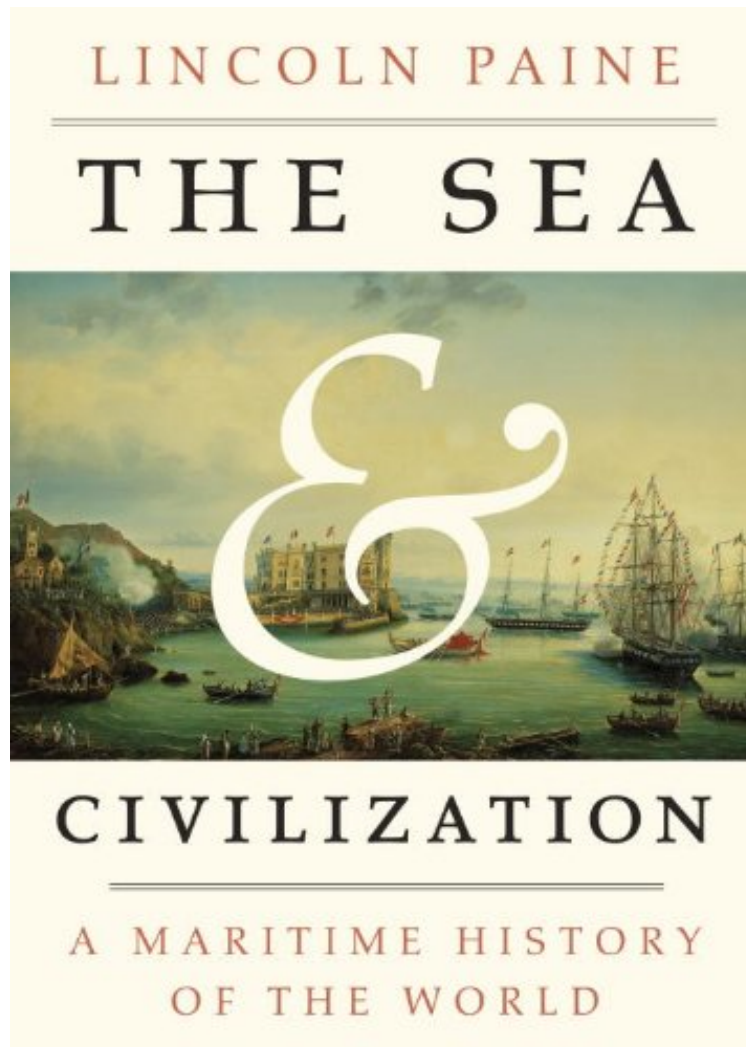


[Download free ebook] The Sea and Civilization: A Maritime History of the World

The Sea and Civilization: A Maritime History of the World

Lincoln Paine

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Lincoln Paine : The Sea and Civilization: A Maritime History of the World before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Sea and Civilization: A Maritime History of the World:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Mankind's Journey on the Sea xBy Ocean View RetireeHumans are land animals. We breathe air , we move quickly, we eat foods primarily grown on land, and live our lives on land. Yet the sea, which comprises 70 percent of the planet we occupy, has been vital from the earliest days of mankind. Lincoln Paine has compiled an extensive book detailing how the water has figured in to almost every aspect of human life, from trade to war to simple exploration. Long read, but interesting enough to stay with for the duration. He covers East and West, and I learned a lot of history I hadn't studied before.The only reason I gave this book four stars instead of five is the paucity and scarcity of maps. Many of those provided were of poor quality and did not indicate the place

names referred to in the text. A geographer would spend a lot of time flipping back and forth to understand what was being described.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. A valuable sea-based perspective on history seldom taught in school. This book provides a valuable sea-based perspective on history different from what we typically learn in school. I found this highly enlightening. The author provides great detail, sometimes more detail than I would have liked. However, the detail shows the author's mastery of the subject, and offers something for all readers.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. Encyclopedic coverage. Well written, although filled with so much information makes for slow reading. Not summer reading, but well worth the time put in to obtain such a thorough coverage of the subject.

A monumental retelling of world history through the lens of maritime enterprise, revealing in breathtaking depth how people first came into contact with one another by ocean and river, lake and stream, and how goods, languages, religions, and entire cultures spread across and along the world's waterways, bringing together civilizations and defining what makes us most human. Lincoln Paine takes us back to the origins of long-distance migration by sea with our ancestors first forays from Africa and Eurasia to Australia and the Americas. He demonstrates the critical role of maritime trade to the civilizations of ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, and the Indus Valley. He reacquaints us with the great seafaring cultures of antiquity like those of the Phoenicians and Greeks, as well as those of India and Southeast and East Asia, who parlayed their navigational skills, shipbuilding techniques, and commercial acumen to establish thriving overseas colonies and trade routes in the centuries leading up to the age of European expansion. And finally, his narrative traces how commercial shipping and naval warfare brought about the enormous demographic, cultural, and political changes that have globalized the world throughout the post-Cold War era. This tremendously readable intellectual adventure shows us the world in a new light, in which the sea reigns supreme. We find out how a once-enslaved East African king brought Islam to his people, what the American sail-around territories were, and what the Song Dynasty did with twenty-wheel, human-powered paddleboats with twenty paddle wheels and up to three hundred crew. Above all, Paine makes clear how the rise and fall of civilizations can be linked to the sea. An accomplishment of both great sweep and illuminating detail, *The Sea and Civilization* is a stunning work of history.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Even though the Earth's surface is 70% water, historical narratives are usually land-centered. Paine (*Ships of the World*) shifts emphasis from land to water in order to correct this imbalance, an approach that takes the reader through history via the seas. He devises a chronological spiral around the world, starting with a recounting of ancient times, before covering the same areas in medieval times, and so on up to the modern era. Paine's highly detailed work encompasses a wide array of topics, from trade and the influence of the sea on warfare and political coalitions, to ship building techniques through the ages, to piracy and slavery. Of particular interest are the intricate alliances and shifting loyalties of ancient Mediterranean cultures, the outsized role of the relatively tiny Spice Islands, the impact the Vikings had on cultural exchange across coastal Europe, and the influence of religion on areas as diverse as trade and maritime law. Readers expecting a naval history will receive much more: a thorough history of the people, the ports, and the cultural activity taking place on the water. Paine has compiled an invaluable resource for salty dogs and land-lubbers alike. Photos, illus., maps. Agent: John Wright, John Wright Literary Agency. (Nov.)

From Booklist Sensing that the maritime world is not as prominent in popular consciousness as formerly, Paine presents this ambitiously capacious maritime history of the globe. Visually, it spans from vessels recorded in primitive pictographs to modern photographs, and verbally it addresses every regional arena of mercantile and naval activity as it elevates awareness of seas and rivers as conduits between states and peoples throughout human history. Global in embrace Paine may be, but particular geographical areas, such as the Mediterranean Sea and the seas surrounding Asia, receive his primary attention. Discussing the posture of ancient civilizations such as Egypt and China toward the sea, Paine covers the waxing and waning of empires as evidenced in exchanges of goods and the ships that transported them. The emergence of Europe in global navigation, which Paine prefaces with Viking explorations and medieval commerce in the Baltic and Mediterranean Seas, was a phenomenon that he connects to preexisting Asian trading networks that drew Portugal, then other European nations, into building maritime empires. So comprehensive and knowledgeable a history as Paine's offers a sturdy keel for any maritime history collection. --Gilbert Taylor "Elegantly written and encyclopedic in scope, with an expert grasp of the demands of seamanship in every age, *The Sea and Civilization* deserves a wide readership. For landlocked historians, it will be a powerful stimulus to dip their toes and perhaps their pens in saltwater and for readers a forceful reminder that the urge to "go down to the sea in ships" has shaped civilizations and cultures in every period and in every part of the globe." *The Wall Street Journal* "A magnificently sweeping world history that takes us from the people of Oceania and concludes with the container. In contrast to most books on maritime history, the majority of *The Sea and Civilization* covers the history of the world before Columbus sailed the ocean blue and at least as much of the narrative focuses on Asia as it does on Europe." Ben Wilson, *The Telegraph* "Paine is full of such illuminating facts. . . [He] forestalls any western bias with excellent chapters on Asian expansion. . . 'The sea held no promise for slaves, coolies, indentured servants, or the dispossessed', Paine reminds us, and while it is 'fickle and unforgiving, it is a fragile environment susceptible to human depredation

on a scale unimaginable to our ancestors'. And yet, whose heart does not sing out when they see the sea? Our last resort, it still holds its promise and its power."Philip Hoare, *New Statesman*"Herzog once remarked: 'The feeling crept over me that my work, my vision, is going to destroy me, and for a fleeting moment I let myself take a long, hard look at myself . . . to see whether my vision has not destroyed me already. I found it comforting to note that I was still breathing.' That same quality of an all-consuming vision oozes from Paine's book. His passion is to tell the story of the sea. History is seldom written with that kind of passion today."Gerard DeGroot, *The Times*Even though the Earth's surface is 70% water, historical narratives are usually land-centered. Paine (*Ships of the World*) shifts emphasis from land to water in order to correct this imbalance, an approach that takes the reader through history via the seas . . . Paine's highly detailed work encompasses a wide array of topics, from trade and the influence of the sea on warfare and political coalitions, to ship building techniques through the ages, to piracy and slavery. . . . Paine has compiled an invaluable resource for salty dogs and land-lubbers alike. *Publishers Weekly*, starred review" 'The most enjoyable, the most refreshing, the most stimulating, the most comprehensive, the most discerning, the most insightful, the most up-to-date in short, the best maritime history of the world. Felipe Fernandez-Armesto, author of *Millennium: A History of the Last Thousand Years* Paine deftly navigates the complexities of global culture to create an eminently readable account of mankind's relationship to the sea. Both profound and amusing, this will be a standard source for decades to come. Josh Smith, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, editor of *Voyages* *The Sea and Civilization* presents a fresh look at the global past. Bringing to bear a formidable knowledge of ships and sails, winds and currents, navigation techniques and maritime law, Lincoln Paine offers a lively tour of world history as seen from the waterline. The result is a fascinating account, full of little-known episodes and novel insights. A major contribution. Kren Wigen, Stanford University, author of *A Malleable Map*" 'I want to change the way you see the world.' This brave ambition is brilliantly realized by Lincoln Paine in this single volume. Thoroughly researched, clearly argued, eminently accessible we have at last a responsible and persuasive explanation of the inextricable connection between the ocean and world civilization." Peter Neill, Director, World Ocean Observatory" *The Sea and Civilization* meticulously and systematically reconstructs the maritime history of the world from diverse historic records, archaeology, contemporary travelogues, languages, literature, religious texts and folklore. . . . In this book we get to see some of the beautiful and interesting plates without traversing the museums and libraries of the world. . . . That oceans teach us, above all, about the unity of human existence on this planet seems to be the take away from *The Sea and Civilization*." *The Hindu* (India)