

مراجعة كتاب

**Sapiens: A Brief
History of Humankind
by Yuval Noah Harari**

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Timeline of History

- 13.5 billion Matter and energy appear. Beginning of physics.
- 4.5 billion Formation of planet Earth.
- 3.8 billion Emergence of organisms. Beginning of biology.
- 6 million Last common grandmother of humans and chimpanzees.
- 2.5 million Evolution of the genus Homo in Africa. First stone tools.
- 2 million Humans spread from Africa to Eurasia. Evolution of different human species.
- 500,000 Neanderthals evolve in Europe and the Middle East.

- 200,000 Homo sapiens evolves in East Africa.
- 70,000 The Cognitive Revolution. Emergence of fictive language. Beginning of history. Sapiens spread out of Africa.
- 13,000 Extinction of Homo floresiensis. Homo sapiens the only surviving human species.
- 12,000 The Agricultural Revolution. Domestication of plants and animals. Permanent settlements.
- 5,000 First kingdoms, script and money. Polytheistic religions.
- 4,250 First empire – the Akkadian Empire of Sargon.
- 500 The Scientific Revolution. Humankind admits its ignorance.

Four Revolutions

Homo sapiens came into existence more than 200,000 years ago.

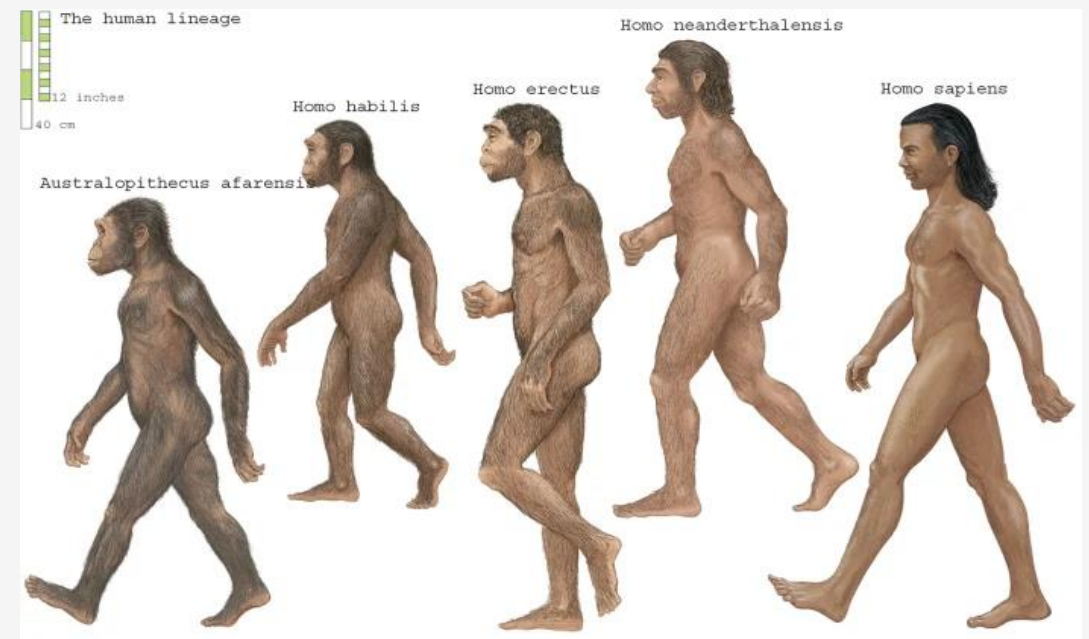
Four revolutions:

1. The Cognitive Revolution (70,000 BCE, when Sapiens imagination evolved).
2. The Agricultural Revolution (10,000 BCE, the development of agriculture).
3. The Unification of Humankind (34 CE, the gradual consolidation of human political organisations towards one global empire).
4. The Scientific Revolution (1543 CE, the emergence of objective science).

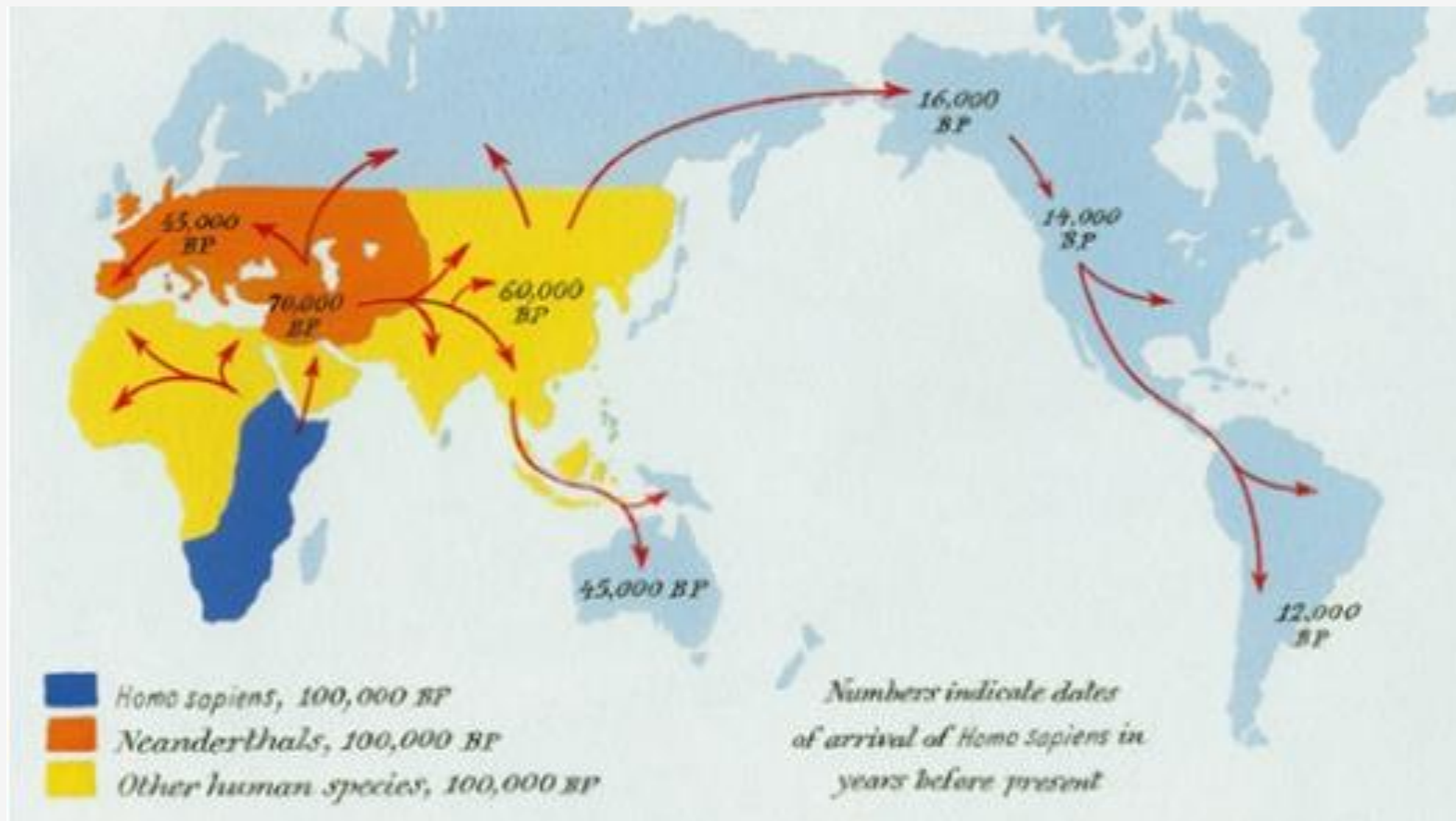
The Cognitive Revolution

Ancient humans:

- Homo habilis (“handy” man)
- Homo erectus (“upright man”)
- Homo neanderthalensis (the Neanderthal)
- The Denisovans.
- Homo floresiensis (the “hobbit”)
- Homo naledi (“star man”)
- Homo sapiens (“wise man”, or “modern humans”)



The Cognitive Revolution



The Cognitive Revolution

- What happened in the Cognitive Revolution? New ability Wider consequences The ability to transmit larger quantities of information about the world surrounding Homo sapiens
- The ability to transmit larger quantities of information about Sapiens social relationships
- The ability to transmit information about things that do not really exist, such as tribal spirits, nations, limited liability companies, and human rights



30,000 Years Ago.
Somebody tried to say ‘I
was here’

Hunter Gatherer Draw These



Hunter-gatherers made these handprints in the 'Hands Cave', in Argentina. It looks as if these long-dead hands are reaching towards us from within the rock. This is one of the most moving relics of the ancient forager world – but nobody knows what it means.



A painting from Lascaux Cave, c.15,000–20,000 years ago. What exactly do we see, and what is the painting's meaning? Some argue that we see a man with the head of a bird and an erect penis, being killed by a bison. Beneath the man is another bird which might symbolise the soul

Agricultural Revolution

- All this changed about 10,000 years ago, when Sapiens began to devote almost all their time and effort to manipulating the lives of a few animal and plant species. From sunrise to sunset humans sowed seeds, watered plants, plucked weeds from the ground and led sheep to prime pastures
- The transition to agriculture began around 9500–8500 BC in the Fertile Crescent. It began slowly and in a restricted geographical area.
 - Wheat and goats were domesticated by approximately 9000 BC
 - Peas and lentils around 8000 BC
 - Olive trees by 5000 BC
 - Horses by 4000 BC

Agricultural Revolution



A wall painting from an Egyptian grave, dated to about 3,500 years ago, depicting typical agricultural scenes.



A painting from an Egyptian grave, c.1200 BC: A pair of oxen ploughing a field. In the wild, cattle roamed as they pleased in herds with a complex social structure

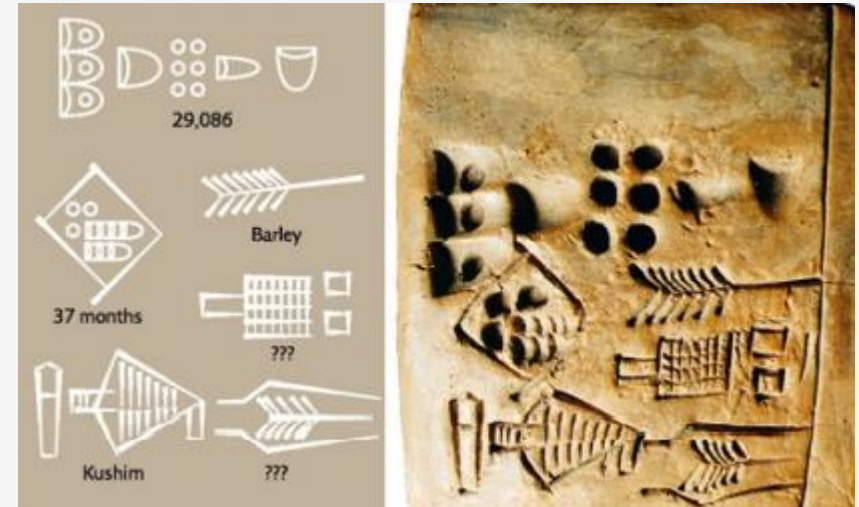
Unifications of Sapiens

1. Economic: Monetary order
2. Religious : Universal religion
3. Political : Imperial



Invention of Writing

- Sumerian invent writing
- The Sumerians used a combination of base-6 and base-10 numeral systems
- A clay tablet with an administrative text from the city of Uruk, c.3400–3000 BC. 'Kushim' may be the generic title of an officeholder, or the name of a particular individual.
- With the appearance of writing, we are beginning to hear history through the ears of its protagonists.
- A total of 29,086 measures of barley were received over the course of 37 months. Signed, Kushim.



The Scent of Money

- Sumerian first money was silver weight.
- Interest of European on gold
- Christian conquerors made Islamic coins
- Banks and multiplying the user of money



One of the earliest coins in history, from Lydia of the seventh century BC

Imperial visions

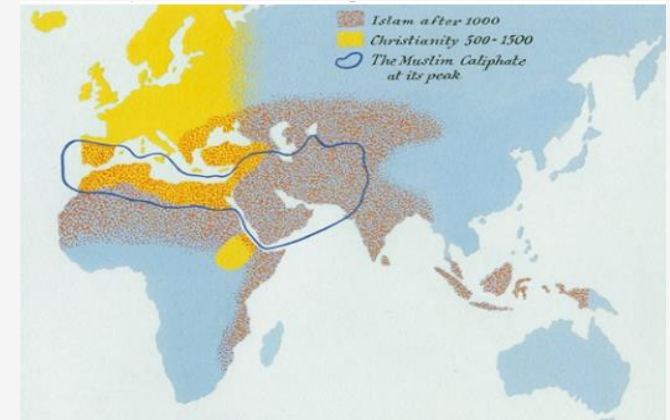
- An empire is a political order with two important characteristics.
 - Rule over a significant number of distinct peoples, each possessing a different cultural identity and a separate territory.
 - Empires are characterised by flexible borders and a potentially unlimited appetite
- Examples from history
 - Akkadian Empire
 - Ottoman Empire
 - British Empire
- Harari talks on details how the Imperial cultures changed the culture of countries they controlled like how British effect Indian cultures.



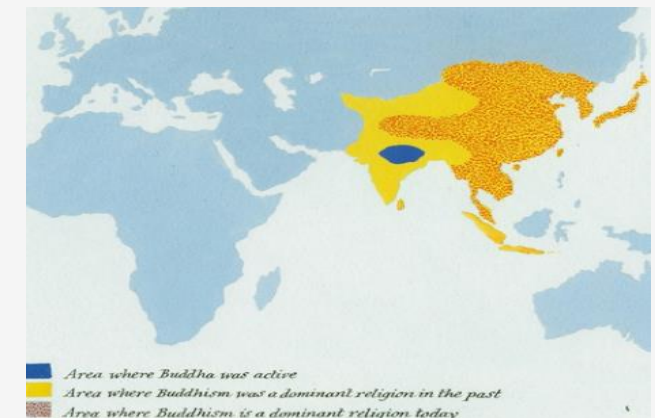
The Law of Religion

Today religion is often considered a source of discrimination, disagreement and disunion. Yet, in fact, religion has been the third great unifier of humankind, alongside money and empires

1. Religions hold that there is a superhuman order, which is not the product of human or agreements.
 2. Based on this superhuman order, religion establishes norms and values that it considers binding.
- Theism : Believing in a super power controlling the universe and every thing.
 - Animism, belief in innumerable spiritual beings concerned with human affairs and capable of helping or harming human interests.
 - Polytheism: Many Gods like in Greek; Zeus, Herra and Apollo. Hindu; Ganesh, Lakshimi and Saraswati .
 - Dualism : Two Gods; one for good and one for evil like Zarathustra Ahura Mazda and Angra Many.
 - Abrahamic : One God Judaism, Christianity and Islam.
 - Buddhism believes that rule of nature is what is governing the world.



The Spread of Christianity and Islam.

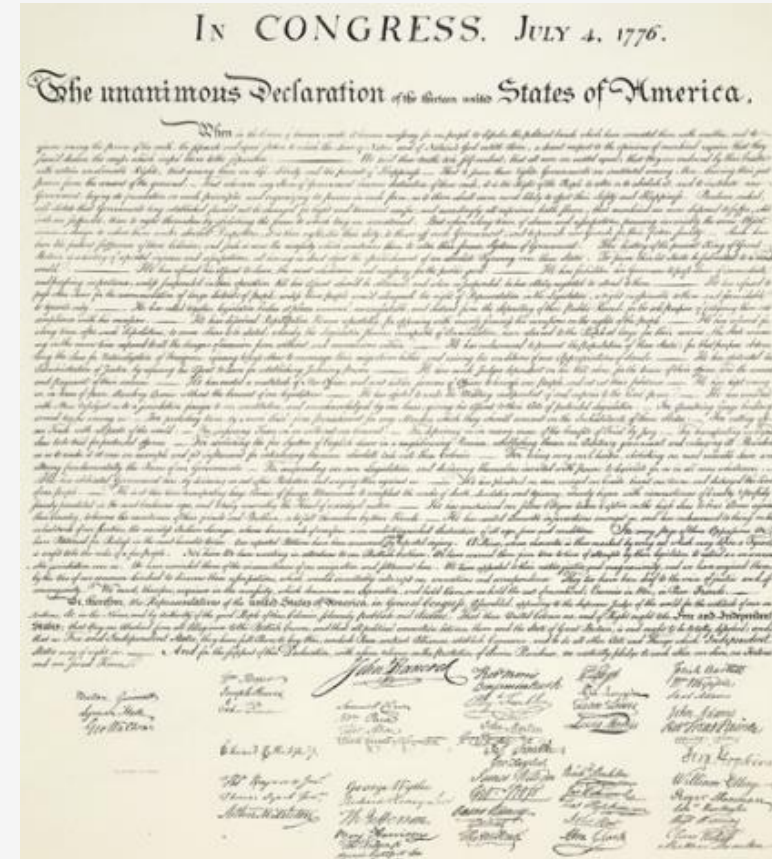


The Spread of Buddhism

Different Times and Constitution



Code of Hammurabi 1776 BC.



The Declaration of Independence of the United States, signed 4 July 1776.

Different Times and Constitution

- The code of Hammurabi begins by saying that the gods Anu, Enlil and Marduk appointed Hammurabi 'to make justice prevail in the land, to abolish the wicked and the evil, to prevent the strong from oppressing the weak It then lists about 300 judgements. Examples:

196. If a superior man should blind the eye of another superior man, they shall blind his eye.

197. If he should break the bone of another superior man, they shall break his bone.

198. If he should blind the eye of a commoner or break the bone of a commoner, he shall weigh and deliver 60 shekels of silver.

- Hammurabi and the American Founding Fathers alike imagined a reality governed by universal and immutable principles of justice, such as equality or hierarchy. Yet the only place where such universal principles exist is in the fertile imagination of Sapiens.

Scientific Revolution

- Columbus ignited the scientific revolution is surprising.
- Chinese admiral Zheng He set off on seven great voyages—at least three as far as Africa—staffed with savants who described the lands and societies they encountered.
- Scientific Revolution as founded on innovation in European countries
- Admit ignorance. He sees this as one driver of early modern European imperialism and of the current convergence of human cultures.

Scientific Revolution – Landing on the Moon

- On 1969, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the surface of the moon. Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin trained in a remote moon-like desert in the western United States.
- The astronauts came across an old Native American. The man asked them what they were doing there. They replied that they were part of a research expedition that would shortly travel to explore the moon.
- The man asked the astronauts if they could pass a message to the moon. The man uttered something in his tribal language, and then asked the astronauts to repeat it again and again until they had memorised it correctly.
- They were able to get the message translated and it was ‘Don’t believe a single word these people are telling you. They have come to steal your lands.’

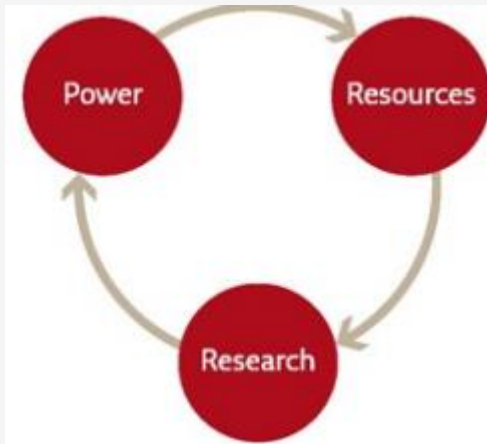


Scientific Revolution

- Exhausting Earth Resources: We have been disturbing the ecological equilibrium of our planet in myriad new ways, with what seem likely to be dire consequences. A lot of evidence indicates that we are destroying the foundations of human prosperity in an orgy of reckless consumption.
- With the wealth we have are we happier? Family and community seem to have more impact on our happiness than money and wealth.



Scientific Revolution



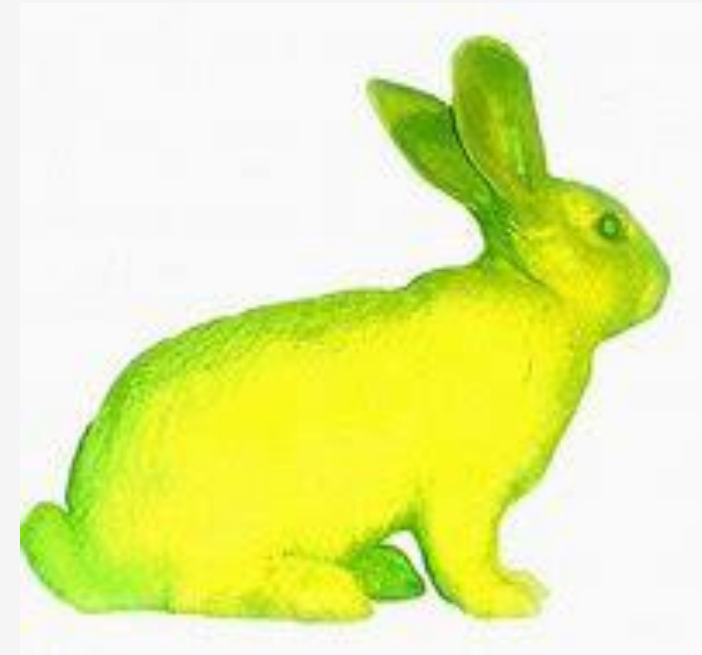
Empires marriage to Science

What Sapiens achieved so far:

- Humankind today enjoys the kind of wealth that used to be the stuff of fairy tales.
- Mortality of adult and infant reduced: over the last two centuries modern medicine has decreased child mortality from 33 per cent to less than 5 per cent
- Poverty down – One billion people are out from extreme poverty last year. In the last 30 years it is reduced from 90% to 9%.
- Violent crime less. In history violence was the reason for 15 – 25 death.
- World wars almost none due to the invention of nuclear bombs
- Literacy is down
- Capital Punishment is almost forbidden in the whole world
- Luxuries tend to become necessities to spawn new obligations.

The End of Sapiens

- Intelligent Design: It is now beginning to break the laws of natural selection, replacing them with the laws of intelligent design. The French scientists took a white rabbit embryo, implanted in its DNA a gene taken from a green fluorescent jellyfish, and voilà! One green fluorescent rabbit.
- Mapping the first human genome required fifteen years and \$3 billion. Today you can map a person's DNA within a few weeks.
- Bionic life: Cyborg engineering
- Chemical happiness : Drugs
- How modern technology may soon end the species as we know it, as it ushers in genetic engineering, immortality, and non-organic life
- Afterword: The Animal that Became a God



Conclusion

- Harari's main argument is that Sapiens came to dominate the world because it is the only animal that can cooperate flexibly in large numbers.
- We are more powerful than ever before...Worse still, humans seem to be more irresponsible than ever. Self-made gods with only the laws of physics to keep us company, we are accountable to no one. (p466)
- We have mastered our surroundings, increased food production, built cities, established empires and created far-flung trade networks. But did we decrease the amount of suffering in the world? Time and again, massive increases in human power did not necessarily improve the well-being of individual Sapiens, and usually caused immense misery to other animals.
- The writer was not biased to any religion or any ethnic group but cover the dominant race theory with Nazi/Caucasian.

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