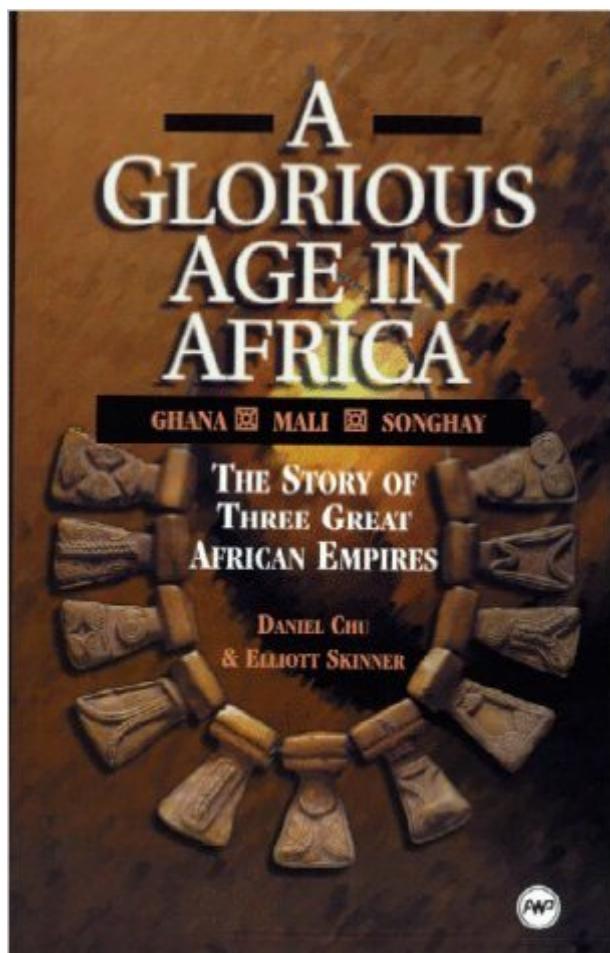


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A Glorious Age In Africa: The Story Of 3 Great African Empires (Awp Young Readers Series)



Synopsis

Ghana, Mali & Songhay: The Story of Three Great Empires

Book Information

Age Range: 7 and up

Paperback: 120 pages

Publisher: Africa World Pr; Reprint edition (January 1990)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0865431671

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #536,838 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Africa #21864 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction #136736 inÂ Books > Reference

Customer Reviews

I have used this book to teach both fifth graders and college students about the basics of African history. This book effectively tells the tales of the Sundiata epic, Sonni Ali, the rise and fall of Timbuktu in a way that is entertaining, but also educational. If you want a basic foundation into African history while avoiding the political minefield of "Afrocentrism," read this, learn, and enjoy.

There are two things to know about this book that might not be apparent right off. The first is that it is written for middle grade level children. The second is that it was published in 1963. The most recent edition came out in 1996. However, because it was written for kids there are no notes about what, if anything, changed between editions. I don't know how up to date the facts in the book are, or if new information may have come to light since 1963 that would add to the picture. I wish there had been a brief preface addressing the question. Surely we've learned a little more in the last 50 years! Also, possibly because of when the book was written, the term "Negro" is used to refer to many African peoples (to contrast them with the Berbers). That was startling to see, but its clear no negative connotation was meant. In school I learned nothing about African history, so when I saw this book I jumped at the chance to improve my child's education--and my own. The book covers three north African empires, Ghana, Mali and Songhay, and some of the most important members

of these nations. It covers the gold-salt trade, the role of religion, and the achievements of each empire. My 1996 edition includes some hand drawn maps and an index. As a childrens' book, this is more of an overview than a rigorous or scholarly work, but it's better than I had even in high school, and will serve as a good foundation for later learning.

This book covers the history of 3 great African civilizations, from approximately 700 - 1600. This neglected history is an amazing story of civilization & high culture in Africa. While this book was written for children, I would recommend this book for everyone who enjoys history. I haven't seen the information in this book in any other world history book. There are a few problems with the book. It is not written in an easy-to-read style. The book throws unfamiliar name, after unfamiliar name. It is difficult to keep all the names straight. Some charts or an appendix would make a big difference. Also, the maps in the book are poorly reproduced and unreadable in many parts.

Great book! We purchased this from a suggestion by the Apologia curriculum 'around the world in 180 days'. So far we are really learning and enjoying this book as a group read aloud and also as a discussion starter.

There are not that many books which talk about this time in Africa on an elementary level. I did receive it on time and as described. Thanks!

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