History of the World by Non-Historian

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Short History of the World by a Non-Historian

Primitive man
Primitive men and women lived in caves and constituted families. They lived by hunting and fishing. Suddenly, they discovered agriculture. They were frightened by earthquakes, volcanoes, torrential rain which came from above, cyclones, and winds. They begged those responsible, which they called Gods, to save them from this terrible experience. Men then civilized and lived with their families in towns.

Divine right
From ancient times, history of the world is nothing but a series of wars and revolutions. A ruler, usually a man, wanted to occupy other lands not only in his neighborhood but even far away. He wanted other lands to slave her people and to take her wealth. Many wars were fought in Europe and elsewhere for this reason that resulted in poverty of people, mass migrations, and devastation of land. The ruler wanted to live a luxury life at the expense of the misery of others who had to pay him high taxes. A ruler usually had many wives and was keen to have a boy to inherit his domain. If he had many boys then there was a fight between them after his death to decide who would govern the land. The ruler was believed to be sent by God to rule and this idea was propagated by the Catholic Popes in Rome. The ruler had a divine right to rule. The Popes had control over the ruler because they were representing God on Earth.

Wars
If a city was surrounded by a wall then the ruler may spend months in its siege. The ruler was capable of raising an army of many tens of thousands of soldiers. He can also make use of tens of thousands of mercenaries. In wars the two armies face each other and the stronger wins the battle. Bows and arrows were used and later swords and lances. Much later when black powder became available cannons were used. The cannons used balls made of rock, later the cannon balls were made of iron. When explosives were used cannons became an important item in wars. Cannons were first made of iron but later were made of bronze which marked their wide distribution. Wars changed completely when aeroplanes were used and bombs were thrown on targets from the air.

Role of religion
Religion played an important role in history. People had usually to follow the religion of the ruler. Constantine the Great issued the Edict of Milan in 313 to allow the Christians to worship as they pleased after many executions. The nature of Christ was debated for centuries - - is he son of God or is he a God? The Moslems were split into Shia and Sunni. The Shia claimed that the ruler must be a descendent of the Prophet Mohammed while the Sunni claimed the ruler to be elected by the people. There were many killings and assassinations because of these theories. The Moslems descended on India from Persia and spread their religion. They also spread their religion in Central Asia. The Crusades which lasted from the 11th to the 13th centuries were fought between Christians and Moslems in the Levant. The Moslems were chased out of Spain in 1492. The Christians were divided in Catholics and Protestants by Martin Luther in 1515. The Protestants claimed no ceremonies in Church while the Catholics claimed ceremonies. Wars, murders, and mass migrations took place between the two factions. In the meantime, the Moslem Turks were terrorizing Europe till the Ottoman Empire completely collapsed after World War I.
The Puritans who were a conservative group of the Protestants emigrated to North America in 1580 to avoid religious persecution. Henri IV issued the Edict of Nantes in 1598 to allow people be free to worship. The Moslems in India separated in 1947 and formed what became known as Pakistan. Killings and murders were by the thousands. During the Nazi regime in Germany millions of Jews were killed in the gas chambers.

**Renaissance**

It was only during the Renaissance in the 16th century that the cities in the north of Italy revolted against their German masters and declared themselves republics in no need of a King or an Emperor sent by God to rule them. They ruled themselves by themselves. They became prosperous and since then Renaissance spread in all Europe. But there was killings and assassinations among themselves. The same principle was adopted nearly two centuries later when the Thirteen Colonies in North America became later the United States of America. The reforming of the Church by Martin Luther was a consequence of the Renaissance.

**Balance of Power**

The Nobles and Princes always fought each other. A ruler was kept at a certain state of aggressiveness by what was then known as the balance of power. Other rulers did not allow others to occupy more land. Kings, emperors, and princes married only in royal families in Europe usually for political reasons. As a result, the royal families in Europe were all related. In spite of this, wars and killings took place. A country may invite a foreign royal prince to rule her.

**Progress**

In spite of wars, revolutions, and plagues, civilization went on. Discoveries were made, theories were put forward by scholars, and the world made progress.