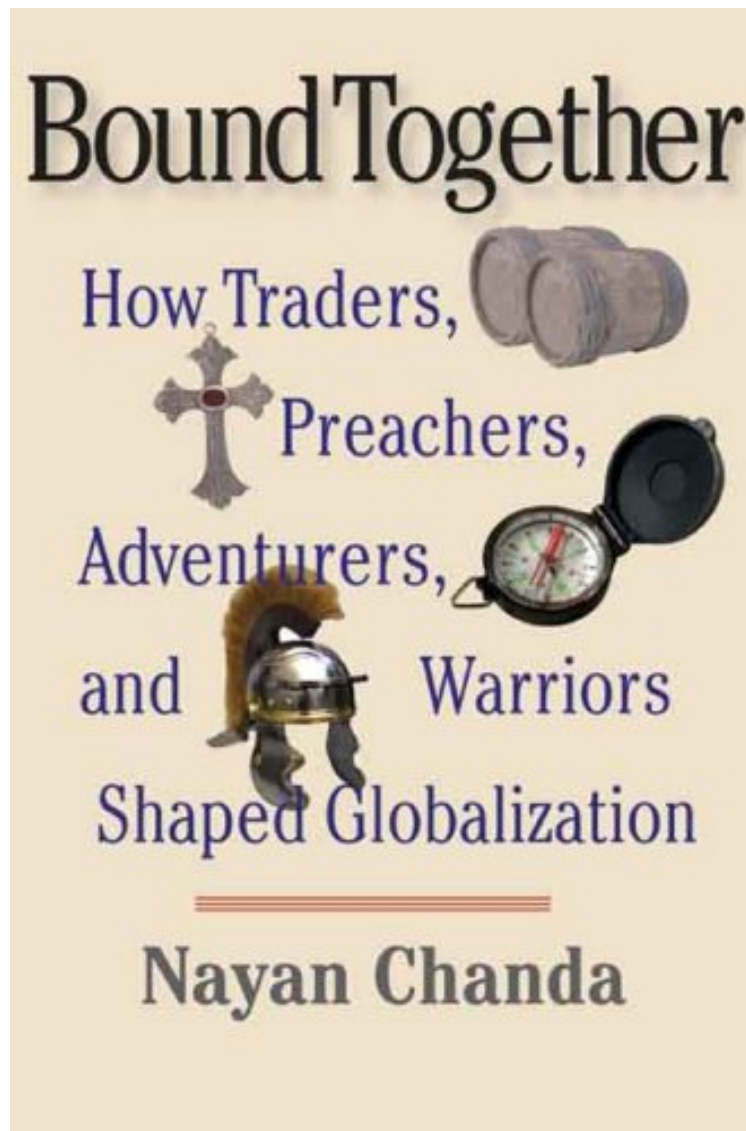


Bound Together: How Traders, Preachers, Adventurers, and Warriors Shaped Globalization

Nayan Chanda

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Nayan Chanda : Bound Together: How Traders, Preachers, Adventurers, and Warriors Shaped Globalization before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bound Together: How Traders, Preachers, Adventurers, and Warriors Shaped Globalization:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Singing the praises of Globalization By Joshua Rosenblum Part economic history, part paen to increasing economic integration, Chandra has written a highly readable account and

provided a good argument for just what the term "globalization" means. Chandra begins at, well, the beginning - when mankind first walked out of Africa and began its dominance of the earth. The following chapters relate how the ensuing centuries brought these disparate cousins back together through trade, war and missionary work (to include, quite perceptively, the 20th century missionaries - the NGO community.) Chandra is a proponent of the globalization process, and what he gets across in his book is that not only is this process generally positive one for humanity - it's something that has been going on for a long, long time. Basically since humans spread across the globe, we have had "globalization." This may be a surprise to those who think that the revolution is coming. However, Chandra makes a good case that there is nothing particularly nefarious about globalization, and that, despite its rough edges (and he does not pull punches when discussing the downsides) globalization is the best opportunity for the global have-nots to better their plight. All in all, a very good read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the Best By Aristeros A compelling narrative of the globalization process as something essentially human rather than an invention of 1980s bankers and computer scientists. Entertaining and informative glimpses into history is presented in such a way as to make it not feel too much like a textbook. Provides insight into current policy without being prescriptive or heavy-handed. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Bound Together is enthralling. By Dominic Cara The chapters are succinct and the author has a global, over-reaching perspective that captivates the reader. I looked forward to reading it every night for a week. Bound Together surpassed my expectations. I initially ordered it along with three other books on similar topics about capitalism and globalization. I read the others first because I thought they would be better. However, Bound Together was the best of the bunch.

Since humans migrated from Africa and dispersed throughout the world, they have found countless ways and reasons to reconnect with each other. In this entertaining book, Nayan Chanda follows the exploits of traders, preachers, adventurers, and warriors throughout history as they have shaped and reshaped the world. For Chanda, globalization is a process of ever-growing interconnectedness and interdependence that began thousands of years ago and continues to this day with increasing speed and ease. In the end, globalization from the lone adventurer carving out a new trade route to the expanding ambitions of great empires is the product of myriad aspirations and apprehensions that define just about every aspect of our lives: what we eat, wear, ride, or possess is the product of thousands of years of human endeavor and suffering across the globe. Chanda reviews and illustrates the economic and technological forces at play in globalization today and concludes with a thought-provoking discussion of how we can and should embrace an inevitably global world.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Globalization may seem like a relatively new term, but Chandra, a director for the Yale Center for the Study of Globalization, argues intriguingly that its history ranges across centuries, beginning when the first humans left Africa, "following game herds... or shellfish beds around the Arabian Peninsula." Chandra illuminates the stepping stones of mankind's global conquest, such as early trading routes, the domestication of horses, the rise of the world's great religions, the slave trade, the World Wide Web and the spread of diseases like SARS and Avian flu, looking from angles psychological, geographic, philosophical, theological, commercial and military. With the perspective of a historian and the savvy of a political scientist, Chanda skillfully argues that globalization was, is and will always be inevitable (a particularly revealing statistic: "migrants constitute 20 percent of the population in some 41 of the world's largest countries"). Using ubiquitous examples like FedEx, McDonalds and Starbucks, Chanda uncovers common denominators and shared consequences, underpinning his analysis with anecdotes of commerce through the ages (the discovery of coffee by a goat herder, the Starbucks opened in the "five-hundred-year-old Forbidden City compound in Beijing"). Like a good mystery, Chanda's chronology is rich with surprises and moments of revelation. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "By unbundling the attributes of modern globalization and linking them to an almost endless chain of historical precedents, Mr. Chanda demystifies a phenomenon invested by its enemies with nearly satanic properties." William Grimes, New York Times