

Ultrasociety: How 10,000 Years of War Made Humans the Greatest Cooperators on Earth

By Peter Turchin

Genre : World

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Ultrasociety: How 10,000 Years of War Made Humans the Greatest Cooperators on Earth by Peter Turchin is World Cooperation is powerful. There aren't many highly cooperative species—but they nearly cover the planet. Ants alone account for a quarter of all animal matter. Yet the human capacity to work together leaves every other species standing. We organize ourselves into communities of hundreds of millions of individuals, inhabit every continent, and send people into space. Human beings are nature's greatest team players. And the truly astounding thing is, we only started our steep climb to the top of the rankings—overtaking wasps, bees, termites and ants—in the last 10,000 years. Genetic evolution can't explain this anomaly. Something else is going on. How did we become the ultrasocial animal? In his latest book, the evolutionary scientist Peter Turchin (*War and Peace and War*) solves the puzzle using some astonishing results in the new science of Cultural Evolution. The story of humanity, from the first scattered bands of *Homo sapiens* right through to the greatest empires in history, turns out to be driven by a remorseless logic. Our apparently miraculous powers of cooperation were forged in the fires of war. Only conflict, escalating in scale and severity, can explain the extraordinary shifts in human society—and society is the greatest military technology of all. Seen through the eyes of Cultural Evolution, human history reveals a strange, paradoxical pattern. Early humans were much more egalitarian than other primates, ruthlessly eliminating any upstart who wanted to become alpha male. But if human nature favors equality, how did the blood-soaked god kings of antiquity ever manage to claim their thrones? And how, over the course of thousands of years, did they vanish from the earth, swept away by a reborn spirit of human equality? Why is the story of human justice a chronicle of millennia-long reversals? Once again, the science points to just one explanation: war created the terrible majesty of kingship, and war obliterated it. Is endless war, then, our fate? Or might society one day evolve beyond it? There's only one way to answer that question. Follow Turchin on an epic journey through time, and discover something that generations of historians thought impossible: the hidden laws of history itself. **Top Books, Featured Books, Top Textbooks, Top Free Books, Top Audiobooks, Audiobooks, Arts and Entertainment Books, Biographies and Memoir Books, Business and Finance Books, Children and Teens Books, Comics and Graphic Novels Books, Computers and Internet Books, Cookbooks Food and Wine Books, Fiction and Literature Books, Health, Mind and Body Books, History Books, Humor Books, Lifestyle and Home Books, Mysteries and Thrillers Books, Nonfiction Books, Parenting Books, Politics and Current Events Books, Professional and Technical Books, Reference Books, Religion and Spirituality Books, Romance Books, Sci-Fi and Fantasy Books, Science and Nature Books, Sports and Outdoors Books, Travel and Adventure Books**

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[Global Crisis](#)

By : **Geoffrey Parker**

Revolutions, droughts, famines, invasions, wars, regicides, government collapses—the calamities of

the mid-seventeenth century were unprecedented in both frequency and extent. The effects of what historians call the "General Crisis" extended from England to Japan, from the Russian Empire to sub-Saharan Africa. The Americas, too, did not escape the turbulence of the time. In this meticulously researched volume, master historian Geoffrey Parker presents the firsthand testimony of men and women who saw and suffered from the sequence of political, economic, and social crises between 1618 to the late 1680s. Parker also deploys the scientific evidence of climate change during this period. His discoveries revise entirely our understanding of the General Crisis: changes in prevailing weather patterns, especially longer winters and cooler and wetter summers, disrupted growing seasons and destroyed harvests. This in turn brought hunger, malnutrition, and disease; and as material conditions worsened, wars, rebellions, and revolutions rocked the world. Parker's demonstration of the link between climate change, war, and catastrophe 350 years ago stands as an extraordinary historical achievement. And the implications of his study are equally important: are we adequately prepared—or even preparing—for the catastrophes that climate change brings?

[Histoire de l'ancien pays de Liège.](#)

By : **Mathieu Lambert Polain**

The GENERAL HISTORICAL collection includes books from the British Library digitised by Microsoft. This varied collection includes material that gives readers a 19th century view of the world. Topics include health, education, economics, agriculture, environment, technology, culture, politics, labour and industry, mining, penal policy, and social order.

[Dieu, l'or et le sang](#)

By : **Jean Lartéguy**

Dans la partie aujourd'hui la plus agitée du monde, en Égypte, en Syrie, en Israël, au Liban, en Iran et en Afghanistan, Jean Lartéguy a voulu retrouver, par delà les masques, les mobiles profonds qui agitent les hommes, excitent leurs convoitises et les envoient à la mort. C'est l'or bien sûr, l'or noir et fétide du pétrole, l'or rouge des mines du roi Salomon, l'or vert des pétro-dollars mais c'est surtout Dieu, sous tous les noms, sous toutes les apparences. Allah redevient Osiris en Égypte, et le Christ Baal au Liban. Un président syrien, élevé par le Jésuites, tient son pouvoir d'un vieux de la montagne dont les ancêtres pratiquaient les mêmes rites étranges que les lamas thibétains. En Iran, se trompant de divinité, un ayatollah atrabilaire fait sa révolution au nom de Zarathoustra. Bien plus qu'un reportage Dieu, l'or et le sang est l'étonnant récit d'un périple de l'autre côté du miroir, là où se cache la vérité de l'histoire.

[21.0](#)

By : **Andreas Rödder**

Von Big Data über Gleichstellung und Klimawandel bis zum Euro – die Welt ist in Bewegung, und sie dreht sich, so scheint es, immer schneller. Seit den siebziger und achtziger Jahren des 20. Jahrhunderts ist eine Dynamik in Gang, die nur ein historisches Vorbild kennt: die Zeit vor 1914. Damals wie heute gilt: Der moderne Mensch ist in der Lage, enorme Kräfte zu entfesseln – und er hat alle Hände voll zu tun, sie wieder einzufangen. 21.0 ist ein historischer Crashkurs durch die Grundprobleme der Gegenwart: Wie sind sie entstanden und woher kommen sie? Was ist wirklich neu – und was sind die Muster, die wir aus der Geschichte kennen? Was sind die wichtigsten Entwicklungen der Gegenwart, und welche Richtungen zeichnen sich für die Zukunft ab? Andreas Rödder zieht die großen Linien und eröffnet immer wieder überraschende Perspektiven auf Deutschland im beschleunigten Wandel der Welt. Wer die Gegenwart verstehen will, sollte diese Geschichte gelesen haben.

[North of the DMZ](#)

By : **Andrei Lankov**

The Kim dynasty has ruled North Korea for over 60 years. Most of that period has found the country suffering under mature Stalinism characterized by manipulation, brutality and tight social control. Nevertheless, some citizens of Kim Jong Il's regime manage to transcend his tyranny in their daily existence. This book describes that difficult but determined existence and the world that the North Koreans have created for themselves in the face of oppression. Many features of this world are unique and even bizarre. But they have been created by the citizens to reflect their own ideas and values, in sharp contrast to the world forced upon them by a totalitarian system. Opening chapters introduce the political system and the extent to which it permeates citizens' daily lives, from the personal status badges they wear to the nationalized distribution of the food they eat. Chapters discussing the schools, the economic system, and family life dispel the myth of the workers' paradise that North Korea attempts to perpetuate. In these chapters the intricacies of daily life in a totalitarian dictatorship are seen through the eyes of defectors whose anecdotes constitute an important portion of the material. The closing chapter treats at length the significant changes that have taken place in North Korea over the last decade, concluding that these changes will lead to the quiet but inevitable death of North Korean Stalinism.

[知略を養う 戦争と外交の世界史](#)

By : 出口治明

抗争、分裂、外圧・・・先人たちは、人生の難題をどう解決したのか？ 人類の歴史は戦争の歴史と言っても過言ではありません。この戦争を止めるため、そして、防ぐために外交という手段を駆使してきました。私たちが働いて生きていく日々で繰り返される、「ケンカや仲直り」「妥協と打算」「取引と駆け引き」「握手と裏切り」...こうした人生の難題も、先人たちが積み上げてきた戦争と外交の歴史を紐解くことで、解決の糸口を見つけることができるかもしれません。

[Warlords](#)

By : **Simon Berthon & Joanna Potts**

With innovative style and thorough scholarship, Warlords tells the story of World War II through the eyes and minds of its four great leaders-Adolf Hitler, Franklin Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and Joseph Stalin. While their nations battled in the field, these warlords of the twentieth century waged a private war of the mind. From Whitehall and Washington to the Wolf's Lair and the Kremlin, Warlords documents their psychological battles and the attempts to outthink and outfight one another. Like a cinematic thriller, rapidly cutting from one man to the next, the narrative reveals each leader as they face history's greatest conflict-and each other.

[Anatomie de la terreur - Le processus révolutionnaire \(1787-1793\)](#)

By : **Timothy Tackett**

Comment l'élan démocratique de 1789 a-t-il pu donner naissance à la violence terroriste de 1793 ? Cette question obsédait déjà les contemporains, qui y voyaient non seulement un défi politique et une épreuve morale mais aussi un scandale logique. " Ce qui sera à jamais incompréhensible, c'est le contraste inouï de nos principes et de nos folies ", écrit le révolutionnaire Dominique-Joseph Garat dès 1795. Timothy Tackett n'instruit pas le procès de la Révolution, il décrit le processus révolutionnaire. Dans un livre très neuf, s'appuyant sur les correspondances, pour la plupart inédites des acteurs des journées révolutionnaires, le grand historien américain restitue le sens des événements et des engagements, au plus près de la manière dont ils furent vécus, et des émotions politiques qui s'y exprimèrent. Après avoir expliqué dans Par la volonté du peuple (1997) comment l'on devenait révolutionnaire, l'auteur montre ici avec brio comment l'on peut devenir terroriste.

Traduit de l'anglais (États-Unis) par Serge Chassagne Professeur à l'université de Californie, Timothy Tackett est spécialiste de la Révolution française. Plusieurs de ses livres ont été traduits en français, dont Par la volonté du peuple. Comment les députés de 1789 sont devenus révolutionnaires (Albin Michel, 1997) et Le roi s'enfuit. Varennes et l'origine de la Terreur (La Découverte, 2004 et 2007).

[Statement of a Recently Claimed Discovery, in Natural Science, incentive to mining enterprise. Reprinted from "Evidences in support of claim for priority of i](#)

By : **Anonymous**

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[Les Soldats perdus. Des anciens de l'OAS racontent](#)

By : **Vincent Quivy**

Ils étaient officier, étudiant, médecin, industriel, ils sont devenus "activistes" et "rebelles". Aujourd'hui, "terroristes à la retraite", les anciens de l'OAS livrent leur vie, leurs motivations et racontent le combat sans pitié pour l'Algérie française. Cette vingtaine de récits croisés plonge dans les coulisses de l'histoire, des débuts du contre-terrorisme aux heures clandestines de l'OAS en passant par les préparatifs du 13 mai 1958 ou les dessous du putsch de 1961. Du lieutenant Jean Marie Curutchet, responsable de l'OAS-Métropole à Pierre Guillaume, le "crabe-tambour", de Jean-Claude Pérez, un des chefs de l'organisation à Armand Belvisi, chargé d'assassiner de Gaulle, de Joseph Rizza, ancien des commandos Delta à Jean-Jacques Susini, cofondateur de l'OAS, ils forment, eux tous, hauts responsables ou hommes de base, théoriciens ou plastiqueurs, un portrait de groupe. Celui des soldats perdus de l'Algérie française. Insurgés contre la république, ils sont devenus, à l'heure des déchirures, les parias de la Nation. Acteurs puis perdants de l'histoire, ils ont, de l'exil à la prison, brûlé leur existence et subi le déshonneur. Aujourd'hui, entre amertume et apaisement, ils parlent.

Human beings are nature's greatest team players. And the truly astounding thing is, we only started our steep climb to the top of the rankings--overtaking wasps, bees, termites and ants--in the last 10,000 years. Genetic evolution can't explain this anomaly. Something else is going on. Seen through the eyes of Cultural Evolution, human history reveals a strange, paradoxical pattern. Early humans were much more egalitarian than other primates, ruthlessly eliminating any upstart who wanted to become alpha male. And how, over the course of thousands of years, did they vanish from the earth, swept away by a reborn spirit of human equality? Why is the story of human justice a chronicle of millennia-long reversals? Human beings are nature's greatest team players. And the truly astounding thing is, we only started our steep climb to the top of the rankings--overtaking wasps, bees, termites and ants--in the last 10,000 years. Genetic evolution can't explain this anomaly. Something else is going on. And how, over the course of thousands of years, did they vanish from the earth, swept away by a reborn spirit of human equality? Why is the story of human justice a chronicle of millennia-long reversals? The Puzzle of Ultrasociality Destructive Creation The Cooperator's Dilemma Cooperate to Compete God Made Men, but Sam Colt Made Them Equal The Humans Way of War The Rise of God-Kings The Iron Law of Oligarchy The Pivot of History Zigzags of Human Evolution. Human beings are nature's greatest team players. And the truly astounding thing is, we only started our steep climb to the top of the rankings--overtaking wasps, bees, termites and ants--in the last 10,000 years. Genetic evolution can't explain this anomaly. Something else is going on. How did we become the ultrasocial animal? Follow the evolutionary scientist Peter Turchin on a epic journey through time. From stone-age assassins to the orbiting cathedrals of the space age, from bloodthirsty god-kings to India's first vegetarian emperor, discover the secret history of our species