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Felipe Fernández-Armesto
Queen Mary University of London
IDEAS THAT SHAPED MANKIND:
A CONCISE HISTORY OF HUMAN THOUGHT

Ideas That Shaped Mankind flows from internationally respected historian Felipe Fernández-Armesto's views on the notion that man's capacity to produce ideas in itself brings about sweeping changes in the world. This ability, seen most profoundly in individual, startling moments of genius—or equally startling moments of chance—is what separates humans from the animals and allows humans to re-imagine the world in ever more complex designs. From the earliest ideas, including cannibalism and the idea of farming, to theories of relativity and chaos, ideas reshape the world in surprising and wholly unexpected ways. Science, agriculture, religion, art, politics—Professor Fernández-Armesto examines all these areas of thought and the moments in time when man's fertile intellect produced the sparks that set off blazes of change, even revolutions, that would forever alter the course of human history.

FELIPE FERNÁNDEZ-ARMESTO is a Professorial Fellow in History and Geography at Queen Mary, University of London, and a member of the Faculty of Modern History at Oxford University. His books include the bestselling *Millennium* (1995), *Civilizations* (2000), *Food* (2001), and *Ideas That Changed the World* (2003). He also writes frequently for newspapers and magazines such as *The New York Times* and *The Economist*. His broadcasting credits for the BBC include writing and presenting *Henry V* and contributing to the Tony Award-winning series *Armada*. He also worked on *Millennium*, a ten-part CNN/BBC series based on his book.

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