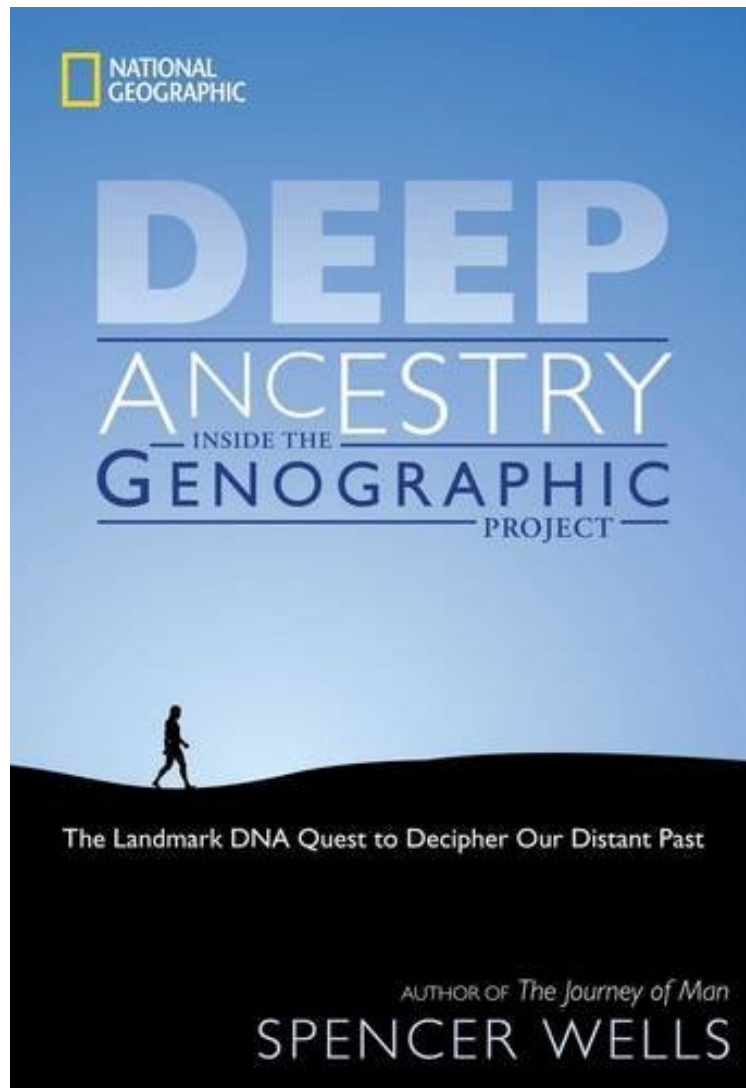


(Pdf free) Deep Ancestry: Inside The Genographic Project

## Deep Ancestry: Inside The Genographic Project

*Spencer Wells*

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#246241 in Books Wells, Spencer 2007-11-20 2007-11-20 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.81 x .66 x 4.831, .58 #File Name: 1426201184256 pages | File size: 64.Mb

**Spencer Wells : Deep Ancestry: Inside The Genographic Project** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Deep Ancestry: Inside The Genographic Project:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Ancestry with a capital A By Trevor Gibbons Deep Ancestry sure puts a new spin on try to trace my great-grand parents! The Genographic Project takes world wide the search for European ancestry in Bryan Stykes'"Seven Daughters of Eve" I sense the urgency to contact remaining peoples who have not mingled their genes with "outsiders". Maybe the Basin might provide more examples. Of interest with my own Irish roots were details of how Europeans became farmers from an earlier hunter gatherer lifestyle. It was maybe triggered in the first place by the sudden dry and colder Younger Dryas Period of 11000BP. Questions are raised - Why

170 000 years for "First Eve" but only some 60 000 years back to "first Adam" ? How did the Australian Aborigines get there without leaving a trace along the SE Asia route? Is the evidence buried in the coastal plane flooded as the oceans rose with thawing of Pleistocene Ice.? The Project has members around the globe. I await with interest my next visit to Adelaide to meet up with Alan Cooper from the Project team.

184 of 189 people found the following review helpful. We've got history in our genes

By Emil B

What a marvellous little book! I was taken by surprise so many times during my reading, whenever I thought I knew what the author is about at the beginning of many of his stories. In a way, this is like a crime fiction book written by a clever writer that catches you off guard and it reveals the killer only at the last page. The writing style is deceptively simple; Spencer gets over the scientific details of genetics in a few paragraphs where he tells you in plain English everything you need to know to understand this book. The book then flows smoothly and he managed to make it so easy for you to follow the main ideas and try to decipher what is probably the greatest puzzle of all: the origins of human race. You will have a few surprises. You might have seen the National Geographic documentary "The Journey of Man". Its author is none other than same Spence Wells. He is only 37 years old, and very, very bright. I have to emphasize again the writing style: very simple, yet it explains clearly complex concepts. He talks science, yet he is humorous and light. He uses sometimes numbers and probabilities, but the book is in general built around stories of five people chosen to represent the main haplogroups (families or a clans of people that share the same genetic properties transmitted over many generations) in the history of mankind. Spencer Wells is currently a National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence and the director of Genographic Project. It is a great and fascinating role he is playing. The goal of this project is to collect about 100,000 genetic samples from people around the world that live in still pristine conditions: that is they live in the same area their families lived for a long time. This information is stored in a database and by applying sophisticated algorithms; we should be able to determine how we have evolved in time, how we migrated and how we came to become the people of today. I was a little bit sceptical about this entire concept, but the book convinced me. You will have to read it to understand what really means. It is a powerful idea.

The book is based on five stories told people with very different backgrounds. Each story will astound you. You will also have a better understanding of what genetic archaeology is. If you are familiar with DNA, it will make even more sense to you. The DNA is seen more and more like a cryptic library that holds many secrets about our evolution. Segments of code will reveal relationships never thought possible. This book does not go that much in detail, but it does tell you the story in a nicely narrated style that takes you step by step through the various haplogroups patterns, like a detective, and come up with unexpected conclusions. In the end you will see why scientists believe that the Adam and Eve, the original parents of all the people that populated this planet today, lived around 60,000 years ago in Africa. If you take the time to think about it, you realise how amazing this is. In 2,000 generations we evolved from an ape like humanoid to the generation of the Internet. The book will take you through the Ice Age, the disappearance of Neanderthal, the conquest of Asia, the mystery of Australian Aborigines, invasion of Americas and many other adventures. Back to Africa, you will get to know how genetically diverse this continent is. Did you know that two of the oldest haplogroups (tribes) still live in Africa today and probably they speak the oldest language, perhaps the first languages? These people speak the so-called click languages that are more sophisticated in the variety of sounds than our modern languages.

The book has also information about how to purchase a Genographic Project Public Participation Kit. For \$99.95 you can get that kit, collect your DNA sample and send it to the project office. The results are kept confidentially in the project database and you will have secure access to your DNA profile. You can find more details at [...]

I recommend this book to anyone curious about genetics, genealogy, history, evolution and genetic archaeology.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Another book by spencer wells

By William L. Vacca

This book is not quite as good as pandoras seed but way better than the journey of man. Wells must have had someone help him write this one. I would suppose from national geo. I think he still gets too text bookish in this one but it is readable. The topic is so interesting that slogging through one of his books is well worth the effort. If you read them all start with the journey of man, then Deep Ancestry, then pandoras seed. Gun, Germs and Steel is the next book if you haven't already read it. It's written by Jared Diamond and is a different but not contradictory look at this same subject.

Travel backward through time from today's scattered billions to the handful of early humans who lived in Africa 60,000 years ago and are ancestors to us all. In Deep Ancestry, scientist and National Geographic explorer Spencer Wells shows how tiny genetic changes add up over time into a fascinating story. Using scores of real-life examples, helpful analogies, and detailed diagrams and illustrations, he explains exactly how each and every individual's DNA contributes another piece to the jigsaw puzzle of human history. The book takes readers inside the Genographic Project the landmark study now assembling the world's largest collection of DNA samples and employing the latest in testing technology and computer analysis to examine hundreds of thousand of genetic profiles from all over the globe and invites us all to take part.

From Publishers Weekly

In this concise and well-written work, Wells (The Journey of Man) provides an accessible introduction to genetic anthropology, the study of human history using genetic evidence. Wells is the director of the

Genographic Project, which collects DNA samples from a wide array of world populations to better understand human history over the last 200,000 years. Wells does a fantastic job distilling both genetics and genetic anthropology into straightforward topics, presenting sophisticated material accessibly without oversimplification. He gives the reader the basic concepts (Y chromosomes, mtDNA, haplogroups, genetic markers) and then proceeds to step through genographic research from its 19th-century origins to the present day. In so doing, he takes the reader back to the 170,000-year-old female genetic ancestor of every person alive today: the so-called African Eve. It is a remarkable journey that will appeal to readers of all backgrounds interested in exploring the science and research behind human evolution, although those with more experience in the sciences may find some of the material elementary. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist The study of human prehistory has been revolutionized by genetic evidence. Here a leading researcher in genetic anthropology surveys the specialty. He warns that its promise could go unrealized because contemporary mobility is reshuffling the human genome, obscuring the DNA details by which experts can trace the geographic ancestry of contemporary ethnic groups. To rescue genetic information, Wells heads National Geographic Society's Genographic Project, which collects and analyzes DNA from volunteers to create a database of the human genome as it was before the Industrial Revolution. He relays the personal stories and ethnic lineage of five such volunteers while explaining both the DNA markers and the logic by which he and his colleagues can reliably place and date a person's ancestry. Even at this early stage, genomic discoveries about ancient migrations are astounding, and the potential of the NGS project to continue them is apparent from the open questions Wells poses in his epilogue. An informative and exciting picture of science in the making. Gilbert Taylor Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "In this concise and well-written work, Wells (*The Journey of Man*) provides an accessible introduction to genetic anthropology, the study of human history using genetic evidence. It is a remarkable journey that will appeal to readers of all backgrounds interested in exploring the science and research behind human evolution." Publishers Weekly "Wells ends the book with an invitation to take part in the project... This is a rare chance to not only learn about ourselves, but to contribute in a worldwide scientific experiment." Bookpage