

TA: Attina

Notes from Discussion

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Diamond's view: throwing away the idea of anything is certain. We can not predict what happened then.

Did we all really originate from Africa? There is not solid evidence of this.

Diamond's thesis: By 11,000 BC everyone is more equal + what does a headstart really mean? It could be a chronological head start, but wouldn't Africans have been in the lead since we originate from there? He claims that one culture did get a headstart, but the way they did that was because of their geological location.

Connections between Strayer + Diamond:

What triggered change + when ^{or where} it happened?

Two main questions. If environment is what killed off animals, why not humans? Humans are very adaptable. Diamond refused to see other sides than his.

What gives Diamond the right to write a history book, given he's a biologist? It's interesting to have his view on a historical part + to just get us thinking, no matter what we believe.