

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910719975803321
Autore	Bellwood Peter
Titolo	Prehistory of the Indo-Malaysian Archipelago // Peter Bellwood
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Canberra : , : ANU E Press, , [2007] ©2007
Edizione	[Third revised edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xvi, 384 pages) : illustrations
Disciplina	930.1
Soggetti	Antiquities
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	1 The Environmental Background: -- Present and Past; I The Indo-Malaysian -- Archipelago; II The Indo-Malaysian -- Environment; III The Pleistocene and -- Worldwide Changes in Environment; -- IV The Environmental History of the -- Indo-Malaysian Archipelago during the -- Pliocene and Pleistocene; 2 Homo -- erectus in Sundaland; I The -- Antecedents; II Homo erectus in Java; -- III Homo erectus in Southeast Asia: -- The Cultural Evidence; IV Some -- Conclusions on "Early" Industries; 3 -- Indo-Malaysians of the Last 40,000 -- Years; I The Modern Populations of the -- Indo-Malaysian Region. II Genetic and -- Cranial Data on the Differentiation of -- Indo-Malaysian PopulationsIII Ancient -- Populations of Homo sapiens in the -- Indo-Malaysian Archipelago; 4 Recent -- Indo-Malaysian Prehistory: According -- to the Languages; I Language Families -- in Southeast Asia and the Western -- Pacific; II Some Linguistic Concepts; III -- The Major Subgroups of Austronesian; -- IV Dating the Austronesian Family -- Tree; V Indo-Malaysian Linguistic -- Prehistory: Some Possibilities; VI The -- Papuan Languages and Their -- Relationships with Indonesia; 5 The -- Patterns of History and Ethnography; I -- The Hunters and Gatherers. II The -- Influences of India and IslamIII The -- Indo-Malaysian Traditional Agricultural -- Societies; IV Other Ethnographic -- Features of Austronesian Societies; V -- The Comparative Reconstruction of -- Early Austronesian Society; 6 The -- Hoabinhians and Their Island -- Contemporaries; I Peninsular Malaysia -- and Mainland Southeast Asia: The -- Hoabinhian and Its Predecessors; II --

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Sommario/riassunto

Since its publication in 1985, Peter Bellwood's Prehistory of the Indo-Malaysian Archipelago has been hailed as the sole authoritative work on the subject by the leading expert in the field. Now that work has been fully revised and includes a complete up-to-date summary of the archaeology of the region (and relevant neighboring areas of China and Oceania), as well as a comprehensive discussion of new and important issues (such as the "Eve-Garden of Eden" hypothesis and its relevance to the Indo-Malaysian region) and recent advances in macrofamily linguistic classification. Moving north to south from northern Peninsular Malaysia to Timor and west to east from Sumatra to the Moluccas, Bellwood describes human prehistory from initial hominid settlement more than one million years ago to the eve of historical Hindu-Buddhist and Islamic cultures of the region. The archaeological record provides the central focus, but chapters also incorporate essential information from the paleoenvironmental sciences, biological anthropology, linguistics, and social anthropology. Bellwood approaches questions about past cultural and biological developments in the region from a multidisciplinary perspective. Historical issues given extended treatment include the significance of the Homo erectus populations of Java, the dispersal of the present Austronesian-speaking peoples of the region within the past 4,000 years, and the spread of metallurgy since 500 B.C. Bellwood also discusses relationships between the prehistoric populations of the archipelago and those of neighboring regions such as Australia, New Guinea, and mainland Asia.
