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Patrick Manning, *Migration in World History*, 2nd ed.. Routledge, 2013.

Reviewed by Connie Lamb

This book is part of the series, Themes in World History, which proposes to provide exciting, new and wide-ranging surveys of the important themes of world history. Each theme is examined over a broad period of time allowing analysis of continuities and change. Manning's book certainly fits this pattern, in its broad time coverage, analysis of local movements, and historical methods for discussing migration. Manning defines human migration simply as the "movement from one place to another and from one social context to another" (191).

Patrick Manning is a well-known world historian and is currently the Andrew W. Mellon Professor of World History at the University of Pittsburgh. He is also a specialist on Africa and has written many books and articles on world history and African topics. Besides being a teacher and author, Manning is the president of the World History Network, Inc. a nonprofit corporation fostering research and graduate study in world history. His education includes a BS in chemistry with a minor in history from the California Institute of Technology and a Masters in history and economics as well as a PhD in history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was trained as a specialist in the economic history of Africa and went on to explore demographic, social, and cultural patterns in Africa and the African diaspora. Manning has published numerous articles and several books and teaches classes on world history and interdisciplinary methodology, the use of which is evident in his world migration book. He has been active in the American Historical Association and is currently serving as the President of that society.

This book on migration seems to build on his past work about Africa and global history, especially two of his books, *World History: Global and Local Interactions* (2005) and *Migration History in World History* (2010). *Migration in World History* is organized chronologically but by topic within time periods. There are many books on migration, but Manning's has a unique approach, covering the entire history of the world with a broad scope of places and topics. Most other authors discuss current migrations globally or focus on particular places or peoples.

Chapter one, as the introduction, talks about modeling patterns of human migration, giving various methods of research and Manning's own way of studying local and global human migration. Chapter two covers the emergence of human beings and their earliest migrations to 40,000 BP. The next seven chapters discuss large time periods and issues that characterize them: peopling northern and American regions, agriculture, commerce, modes of movement, spanning the oceans, labor for industry and empire, and urbanization to 2000.

Many disciplines may be used to study migration including sociology, anthropology, economics, linguistics, history, archaeology, demographics, genetics, chemistry and political science. Manning sets out his theory or model of migration by defining a human

community as the speakers of a given language, so he bases his work mainly on linguistics. He then identifies four categories of human migration: home-community migration, colonization, whole-community migration, and cross-community migration. Manning focuses mainly on the last one: cross-community migration (7).

Cross-community migrants are generally rather small in number and the author categorizes them as settlers, sojourners, itinerants and invaders. Settlers are those who move to join an existing community with the intent to remain there; sojourners are those moving to a new community with the intent to return to their home community; itinerants move from community to community but have no single home to which they expect to return; invaders are those who arrive as a group in a community with the objective of seizing control rather than joining. Migrants may journey on their own, but, more often than not, their movement is facilitated by cross-community networks that involve cooperation across distance and across boundaries of language and culture, aiding the movement of migrants from one place to another (8-9). As individuals and groups move, they may absorb the culture and language of their new locale, and they may, in turn, affect the community they enter. Thus migration results in stories of human development, the complex process of transformation in human society (10). Manning discusses how migration affected human behavior and culture by presenting individual stories of migration to illustrate the experience of each type.

Migrations, whether of long or short distance or duration, are central to human experience. This book emphasizes the continuity of human migration over our long history, and the similarity of processes and functions of migration over time and space (191). Looking at the migration process world-wide, Manning draws on examples from a broad range of geographical regions and thematic topics throughout history. His use of both global and local examples provide readers both an overall view and insights into specific areas and topics.

In his chapter on agriculture, Manning states that agriculture developed in several regions of the world and that agricultural development was mainly a long process of experimentation and discussion (59). Certain crops originated in particular areas: yams, millet and sorghum in Africa, rice in China, taro and bananas in Indonesia and squash in South America. Later, beans, potatoes, maize, and manioc were developed in South America. The spread of agriculture to every area of the world was accomplished both by colonization by the original developers of agriculture and as the result of crop migration through a long term pattern of cross-community migration (74). Using his linguistics model, Manning states that agriculture affected the distribution of subgroups of the great linguistic families rather than the movement of entire language groups.

The period from 3000 BCE to 500 CE was a formative period for today's societies, which saw accelerated human development, the spread of agriculture, and increased commerce, especially through the development of civilizational centers. Migrations brought about interactions of groups and the increase in commercial ventures (77).

In the chapter “Modes of movement, 500 to 1400 CE,” Manning states that habitual human patterns of cross-community migration linked regions to each other, spread earlier innovations, and brought about new innovation. Such travel took place by foot, on horseback and by boat, not only mixing cultures and languages but also spreading diseases (83-94). The author speaks of these modes and how settlers, warriors and merchants changed the old world.

In his chapter on “Spanning the oceans, 1400 to 1700,” Manning discusses how improved maritime technology helped humans to succeed in encompassing the globe. Those involved in such travel included explorers, conquerors, merchants, missionaries, and family groups. All their travels resulted in the carrying and borrowing of cultures revealed through changes in language and material culture (109).

From 1700 to 1900, humans endured forced migrations and difficult race relations. It was a time of empires, nation building, an increased global economy, and unprecedented voluntary migration throughout the world. In the 1900s the world experienced even greater human mobility especially from rural places to the cities, diasporas of certain groups, and the increase of refugees. Ideas, literature, culture, religion spread from place to place. “Migration brings the connections that spread innovations all across the planet, but it also brings the improvement in communications that enable people to resist or transform global influences” (182). Language communities remain significant even in this global world and are important to further innovation and development especially through migration.

As a summary, the book covers the following:

- the earliest migrations and the spread and development of Homo sapiens;
- the rise and spread of major language groups;
- exams civilizations, farmers and pastoralists from 3,000 BCE to 500 CE;
- trade patterns including the early Silk Road and maritime trade in the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean;
- the effect of migration on empire and industry between 1700 and 1900;
- the resurgence of migration in the later twentieth century, including movement to cities, refugees and diasporas; and
- the various leading theories and debates surrounding the subject of migration.

Manning’s writing is very readable and his subheadings make the book easy to follow. His vast knowledge is evident in the many places and topics he discusses, his use of various disciplines, and his discussion of the controversies about migration theories (given in the appendix). In his book, Manning traces the movement of people, crops, diseases, religion, technology, ideas, and, of course, language. The figures and maps he provides, which include several maps of language groups and movement, plant origins, and large group migrations, are especially helpful as visual companions to the discussion. *Migration in World History* is a fascinating read for anyone interested in the history of the world through the lens of migration.