



# Peace: A World History

*Antony Adolf*

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## **Peace: A World History** Antony Adolf

How peace has been made and maintained, experienced and imagined is not only a matter of historical interest, but also of pressing concern. *Peace: A World History* is the first study to explore the full spectrum of peace and peacemaking from prehistoric to contemporary times in a single volume aimed at improving their prospects.

By focusing on key periods, events, people, ideas and texts, Antony Adolf shows how the inspiring possibilities and pragmatic limits of peace and peacemaking were shaped by their cultural contexts and, in turn, shaped local and global histories. Diplomatic, pacifist, legal, transformative non-violent and anti-war movements are just a few prominent examples.

Proposed and performed in socio-economic, political, religious, philosophical and other ways, the diversity of peace and peacemaking Adolf presents challenges the notions that peace is solely the absence of war, this negation is the only task of peacemakers, and that history is exclusively written by military victors. "Without the victories of peacemakers and the resourcefulness of the peaceful," he contends, "there would be no history to write."

This book is essential reading for students, scholars, policy-shapers, activists and general readers involved with how present forms of peace and peacemaking have been influenced by those of the past, and how future forms can benefit by taking these into account.

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