The first in a four-volume set, The Cambridge World History of Violence, volume 1 provides a comprehensive examination of violence in prehistory and the ancient world. Covering the period through to the end of classical antiquity, the chapters take a global perspective spanning sub-Saharan Africa, the Near East, Europe, India, China, Japan and Central America. Unlike many previous works, this book does not focus only on warfare but examines violence as a broader phenomenon. The historical approach complements, and in some cases critiques, previous research on the anthropology and psychology of violence in the human story. Written by a team of contributors who are experts in each of their respective fields, this volume will be of particular interest to anyone fascinated by archaeology and the ancient world.

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This four-volume *Cambridge World History of Violence* is the first collection of its kind to look at violence across different periods of human history and different regions of the world. It capitalises on the growing scholarly interest in the history of violence, which is emerging as one of the key intellectual issues of our time. The volumes take into account the latest scholarship in the field and comprise the work of nearly 140 scholars, who have contributed substantial chapters to provide an authoritative treatment of violence from a multiplicity of perspectives. The collection thus offers the reader a wide-ranging thematic treatment of the historical contexts of different types of violence, as well as a compendium of experience shared by peoples across time.

**VOLUME I**  
The Prehistoric and Ancient Worlds  
EDITED BY GARRETT G. FAGAN, LINDA FIBIGER, MARK HUDSON AND MATTHEW TRUNINGLE

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500–1500 CE  
EDITED BY MATTHEW S. GORDON, RICHARD W. KAEUPER AND HARRIET ZURNDORFER

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THE CAMBRIDGE
WORLD HISTORY OF
VIOLENCE
*
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