Preface xiii

1 Seven Ages of Globalization 1
The Seven Ages 2
The Acceleration of Change 5
Economic Scale and the Pace of Change 10
Malthusian Pessimism 12
The Gradual Transformation to Urban Life 14
The Interplay of Geography, Technology, and Institutions 16
The Favorable Geographies 20
Geopolitics and Globalization 28
Looking Back to See Forward 30

2 The Paleolithic Age (70,000–10,000 BCE) The First Age of Globalization 34 Cultural Acceleration 37 Human Society in the Upper Paleolithic 38 Some Lessons from the Paleolithic Age 40

3 The Neolithic Age (10,000–3000 BCE) 41
Diffusion of Agriculture Within Ecological Zones 45
The Early Alluvial Civilizations of Eurasia 46

The Lucky Latitudes 48	
Some Lessons from the Neolithic Age	51

4 The Equestrian Age (3000–1000 BCE) 53 Animal Domestication 54 Domestication of the Donkey and the Horse 57 The Domestication of the Camel and Camelids 60 The Metal Ages 61 Comparing Old World and New World Developments 62 The Yamnaya Breakthrough in Eurasia 62 The Early Equestrian States 65 Key Development Breakthroughs in the Fertile Crescent 66 Some Lessons from the Equestrian Age 68

5 The Classical Age (1000 BCE-1500 CE) 69 The Axial Age 70 Thalassocracy and Tellurocracy 72 The Emergence of the Classical Land-Based Empires 73 The Han Empire 80 The Developed World as of 100 CE 82 Global Trade Within the Lucky Latitudes 84 The Fall of Rome and the Rise of Islam 85 The Remarkable Song Dynasty of China 88 The Last Hurrahs of the Steppe Conquerors 91

6 The Ocean Age (1500–1800) 95

The Great Chinese Reversal 95

The North Atlantic Quest for Ocean Navigation 98

Some Lessons from the Classical Age

The Columbian Exchange 100

The Gunpowder Age and the High Seas 103

The New European Age of Inquiry 104

The Birth of Global Capitalism 107

Europe's Scramble for Global Empire 108

Insatiable Greed of the Empire Builders 114

The Intertwining of State and Capital 115

Indigenous Populations and African Slaves in the New World 116

Feeding Europe's Factories: Cotton 120

Global Empire and Global War 121

Adam Smith's Summation of the Age of Global Empire 124

Some Lessons from the Ocean Age 126

7 The Industrial Age (1800–2000) 129

From the Organic Economy to the Energy-Rich Economy Why Did Industrialization Start in Britain? 135 Endogenous Growth and Kondratiev Waves 138 The Diffusion of Industrialization in Europe 141 The Great Global Divergence The Asian Drama: China, India, and Japan Europe Swallows Africa Anglo-American Hegemony 153 The Thirty-Year European Bloodletting 156 The American Century 159 Decolonization and the Onset of Global Convergence 163

Some Lessons from the Industrial Age

8 The Digital Age (Twenty-First Century) 169

The Digital Revolution 170

Convergent Growth and China's Surge to the Forefront 178

The Challenges of Sustainable Development 183

The Challenge of Inequality 185

The Challenge of Planetary Boundaries 187

The Risks of Conflict 192

Some Lessons from the Digital Age 193

9 Guiding Globalization in the Twenty-First Century 195

Sustainable Development 196
Social-Democratic Ethos 201
Subsidiarity and the Public Sphere 203
Reforming the United Nations 207
Ethics in Action for a Common Plan 211

Acknowledgments 215

Data Appendix 217

Notes 225

Further Readings 233

Bibliography 239

Index 249