Introduction: Historical atlases are collections of maps reconstructing happenings or scenes out of the past. The three-volume Historical Atlas of Canada is a particularly luxurious example of the genre; a more modest example is the pocket-size Barnes and Noble Historical Atlas of the World originally published in Norway. What lies behind such collections? Who thought them up and how did they develop? Recent commentators including Professor Jeremy Black, the author of Maps and History, are agreed on one point. They believe that "the first historical atlas" stems from the dawn of modern atlas-making. When did humans first inhabit different parts of the world? What was happening in China when Alexander the Great conquered the Persian Empire? What was the global reach of the great religions at the time of the Reformation in Europe? The New Atlas of World History is the first historical atlas to present global history in a series of uniform world maps, allowing at-a-glance comparison between different periods and regions.

"History at the world level is both opportunity and challenge. The New Atlas of World History wonderfully shows the possibilities provided by the global account while avoiding the pitfalls of bias. An excellent introduction to global history."—Jeremy Black, University of Exeter. Where Did the Name Easter Come From? Easter most likely takes its name from the names of goddesses associated with spring, vernal equinox and renewal. Eostre was the Saxon mother goddess, the source of all things and the bringer of new life. Although Easter has become known as a Christian holiday around the world, celebrating the sacred death and rebirth of Jesus, the true pagan Easter and its symbols is a clear testament to the historical melting pot of cultures and traditions that make Easter what it is today. Sources: Goddess Gift. "Easter: History and Traditions." Accessed 6 Jun 2016. Religious Tolerance. "Easter: Its Pagan Origins" Accessed 6 Jun 2016. No Beliefs. "Happy Easter: Celebration of the Spring Equinox."