



# Early Mainland Southeast Asia

## From First Humans to Angkor

Charles Higham

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<b>Territory</b>	World excluding Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.
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- Beginning with the arrival of the first humans, this book traces the settlement of mainland Southeast Asia over a period of 1.5 million years
- This book introduces entirely new radio-carbon chronologies for the early Bronze Age sites of Ban Chiang and Ban Non Wat, as a background to the dynamic and profound cultural changes that followed
- New findings at Angkor provide an up to the minute summary of this incredible civilisation
- The impact of a maritime trade network that linked Southeast Asia with India, China and Rome is explored on the basis of new and exciting discoveries

This synthesis of the latest archaeological discoveries in Southeast Asia begins with the early hunter gatherers and concludes with the early states, with particular reference to Angkor. There has been a proliferation of new ideas and interpretations with the progressive archaeology and excavation of these sites. Rice farming is now documented in the Yangzi Valley, before it spread south; copper and bronze casting is seen as an extension via China, of a process that began in the Near East. In conjunction with his own excavations in Northeast Thailand, Charles Higham reviews the important culture of the Iron Age that gave rise to these early civilisations. This book is the only up-to-date account of the ancient cultures of a diverse and geographically expansive area and is a unique compendium, essential for all those interested in this region.

**Charles Higham** (born 1939) is a British archeologist most noted for his work in Southeast Asia. Among his contributions to archeology are his work (including several documentaries) about the Angkor civilization in Cambodia and his exploration of Ban Non Wat. He is a professor at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.

