## **CONTENTS**

Preface		14
The story of the birth of humank	kind	18
Chapter One: Formation of the E	arth	19
The Big Bang: Appearan Birth of the Universe Formation of the Milky N Formation of the Solar S Formation of the Earth Summary of chapter one	ce of atom Way System	21 29 31 32 34 36
Chapter Two: Abiogenesis		37
Worse than the Hell		39
Formation of the Moon		40
Birth of the oceans		42
The calm before the stor	rm	44
Birth of life	nine	44 46
Earth bombardment beg Summary of chapter two		50
Chapter Three: Birth of Metazoa		51
Birth of the first cell		53
Birth of the Archaea		55
Formation of the Earth's	magnetic field	57
Formation of tectonic pl	ates	59
Birth of cyanobacteria		61
Birth of the first continer		62
Oxygen appears in the a	-	62
Birth of the eukaryotic co		64
Start of the cell locomot Birth of the unikonts	IUH	68 69
Birth of sexes		70
DILLIT OF JOACS		10

	Birth of the opisthokonts	71
	Birth of the life's flag-bearer	71
	Birth of the Parazoa	72
	Summary of chapter three	78
Chapter	Four: Birth of the chordates	79
0.10,600.	Earth gets ready for the explosion of life	81
	The colossal supercontinent breaks down	82
	Tissue appears	85
	Animal body gets bigger	86
	Appearance of the third germ layer	89
	Coelom forms	91
	Formation of the second opening	92
	Formation of the ozone layer	94
	Birth of the deuterostomes	96
	Formation of soil	97
	Appearance of pharyngeal slits	99
	Start of swim	101
	Formation of brain and heart	103
	Summary of chapter four	116
Chapter	Five: Birth of the tetrapods	117
•	From uniconts to the birth of the chordates	119
	Life's Big Bang	123
	Cephalization	125
	Birth of the fish	132
	The broken-down supercontinent	135
	Arthropods conquer the land	137
	Plants move to land	138
	Start of hunting	139
	To the fresh waters	148
	The great extinction	154
	Lobe fins appear	155
	Lungs appear in the fish	159
	To the land	161
	On the edge of land	165
	Conquering the land	169
	Summary of chapter five	174

Chapter Six: Birth of the mammmals	175
Gills disappear	177
Timely escape	180
How is the new habitat?	181
Only one fossil	182
What's to be done?	184
On the land	185
Oviparity on the land	187
The great separation	193
The last supercontinent	196
Teeth evolution starts	197
Animal stands on feet	198
Birth of endothermy	199
Cynodonts	202
Hair appears	209
How was the world?	213
Larger brain, stronger jaws	219
Mammaliamorphs	220
Summary of chapter six	224
Chapter Seven: Birth of the primates	225
Extinction, again	227
Mammals	228
Animal becomes viviparous	232
Appearance of placenta	236
Pangaea breaks down	243
Ancestors of today's animals appear	246
Animal climbs the trees	253
Summary of chapter seven	262
Chapter Eight: Birth of the homos	263
Birth of the primates	265
Vision becomes stronger	268
Birth of the monkeys	269
Our ancestors move to Africa	274
Communal life forms	278
Grasses appear	281
Tail disappears	281
Brain gets bigger	286

Our ancestors descend from the trees	289
Exercising bipedalism	292
Standing on the feet	300
Summary of chapter eight	304
Chapter Nine: Birth of the Homo Sapiens The bipeds Man's boundary Homo genus The first Homo species Homo erectus Big-game hunting begins In search of food Evolution of Homo erectus Humankind's direct ancestor? Our cousin Summary of chapter nine	305 307 309 314 315 323 327 333 340 351 355 360
Chapter Ten: Conquering the world  The elder brother  Homo sapiens sapiens  Birth of speech  The great leap  Conquering the world  The mind's Big Bang  Homo sapiens and Neanderthals  Towards today  Summary of chapter ten	361 363 365 372 376 384 388 389 397 401
Appendixes	403
References	427
Glossory	439