Africa's history holds immense importance for people of African descent and the global community. It is the cradle of human civilization, featuring remarkable narratives of powerful rulers, advanced civilizations, and vibrant trade routes. Unfortunately, the history of Africa has been overshadowed by narratives of slavery and colonialism written by Western perspectives. The author, seeking a comprehensive history told by Africans themselves, embarked on a 10-year journey across African countries, gathering firsthand experiences and insights from diverse individuals. The lack of knowledge about African history is evident, but the author draws inspiration from the 'The General History of Africa' project, a UNESCO-supported initiative led by African scholars to decolonize the continent's history.

President of the London University's School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Dr. Zeinab Badawi holds degrees from Oxford University and a post-graduate (awarded with a distinction) from SOAS, London University. She has worked in the British media for four decades on programs such as the BBC's 'Hard Talk'. Dr. Badawi has won many awards and several honorary doctorates and has produced a major 20-part TV series on the history of Africa and is currently writing a book on this. In addition to being President of SOAS, London University, she is a member of the Advisory Boards of Think-Tanks Afro-Barometer and MINDS - the Mandela Institute for Development Studies, a member of the Africa Europe Foundation, a board member of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, the Arts, Humanities and Research Council of UKRI, of the Royal Foundation, and the Royal Opera House. A Sudanese-British citizen, Zeinab Badawi was born in the Sudan and moved to London at the age of two.

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