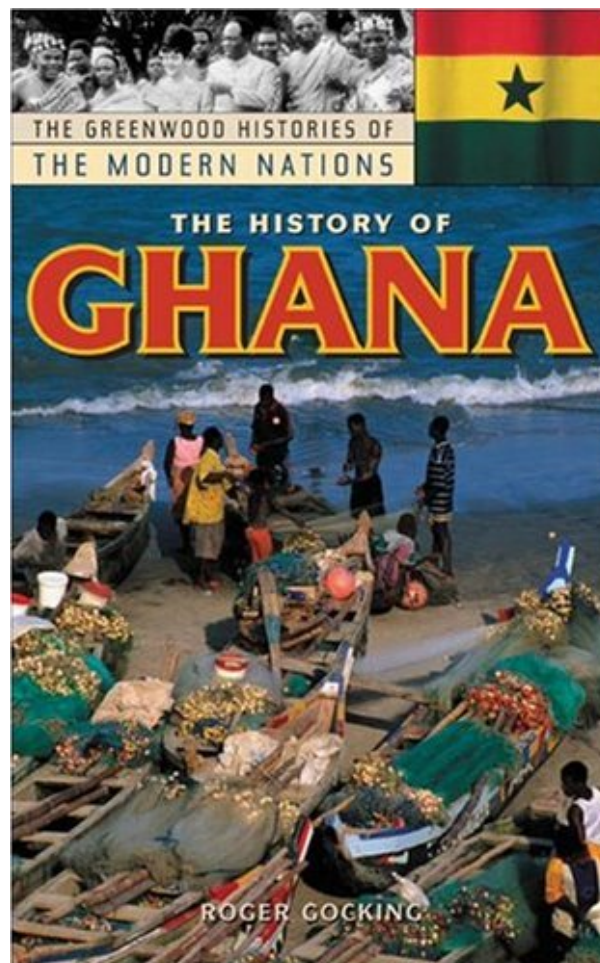
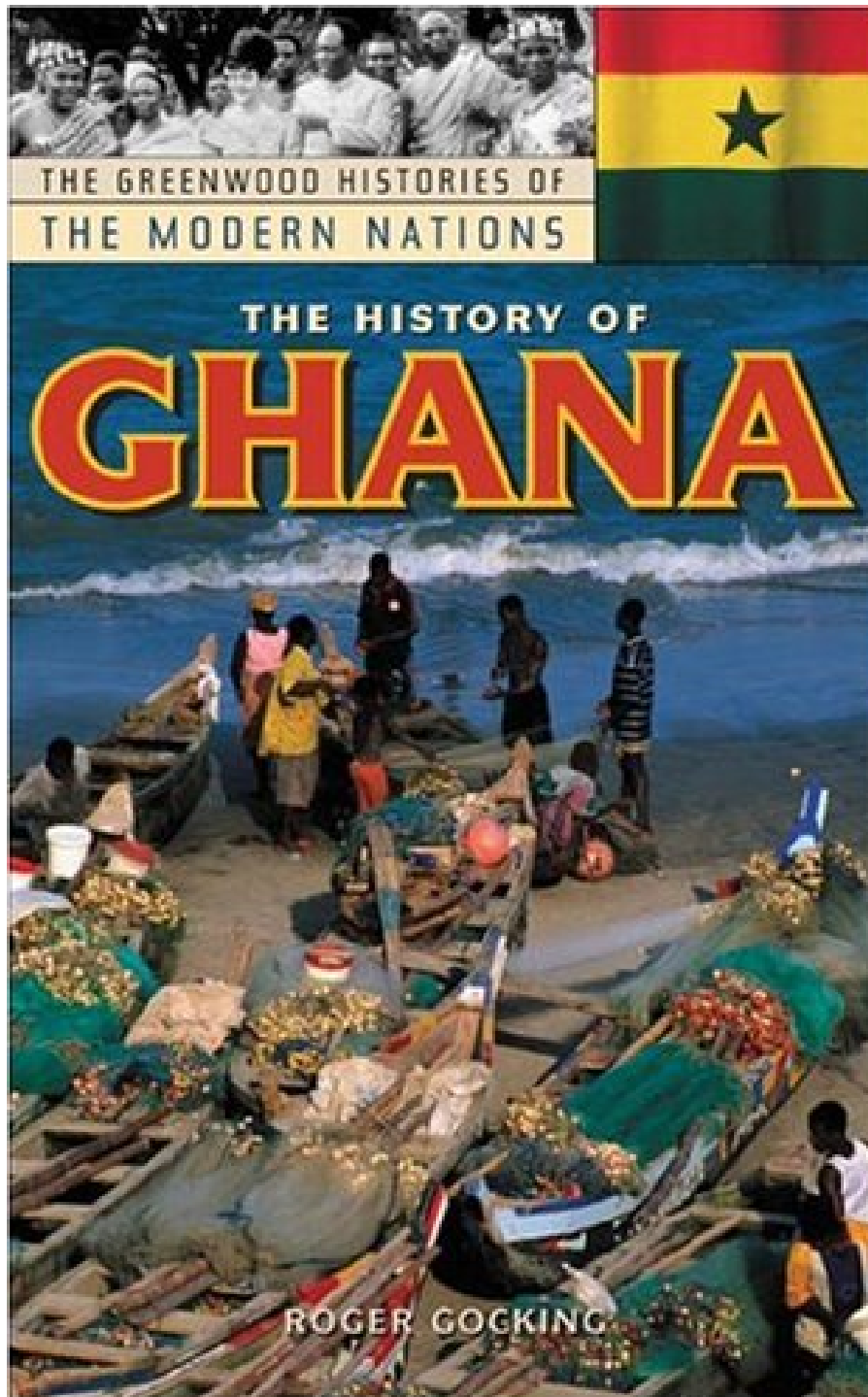


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"[T]his volume is quite comprehensive, spanning the history of Ghana from the Stone Age to the twenty-first century. It also provides a thorough treatment of specific political and economic themes in the contemporary history of Ghana....Roger Gocking does not paint the history of Ghana in broad simple strokes. Rather, he seamlessly navigates Ghana's complex political history of colonialism, nationalist movements, independent republics, and military coups....This volume also succeeds in presenting the history of Ghana not as the isolated history of a British colonial outpost but as an integral part of world history....[A] welcome contribution to the growing list of works that seek to take African history beyond the confines of university and college curricula to a broader audience." - African Studies Review

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Gocking provides a historical overview of Ghana from the emergence of precolonial states through increasing contact with Europeans that led to the establishment of formal colonial rule by Great Britain at the end of the 19th century. Colonial rule transformed what was known as the Gold Coast economically, socially, and politically, but it contained the seeds of its own demise. After World War II an increasingly more effective nationalist movement challenged British rule, and in 1957 Ghana became independent. Independence brought its own challenges the most important of which was the inability to maintain political stability. Within the space of 24 years there were four military coups and the collapse of three republics. Ghana's Fourth Republic, established in 1993, has dealt with the legacy of instability inherited from the past as it moves towards a more stable future.

A timeline, photographs, maps, and an appendix of biographies of notable figures in the history of Ghana are included. Students and adults alike will find this book to be highly effective in describing the often turbulent and tumultuous history of this country.

- Sales Rank: #599032 in eBooks
- Published on: 2005-06-30
- Released on: 2005-06-30
- Format: Kindle eBook

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