Book Review: *My World History* - 6th grade

This book comes from a British company, Pearson PLC, with a record of failed performance and law suits that is pages long. The company's major stockholders include the Arabic Banking Corporation, and the Government of Libya. This book contains 31 pages, Chapter 18, on Islam. Never mentioned is Jihad, marriage of up to 4 women, female mutilation, the Jizyah¹, death penalty for gays, or growing their religion by bloody conquest. The fact that Muhammed personally murdered and led murdering troops to convert other religions to Islam or face death was not mentioned, nor was the fact that the youngest of his many wives, Aisha, was 9 years old². Instead, the entire chapter portrays Islam as just another nice religion like Christianity or Judaism, and in fact, superior to them.

The index to this book devotes roughly 15 lines to Judaism, 20 lines to Christianity and over 30 to Islam showing bias just by the amount of coverage.

Objectionable passages include:

Page 44: “Islam is based on the Quran, a sacred text.” This is contrasted to “The Christian Bible is their sacred text.” My emphasis added. It appears that the person writing this is Islamic.

Page 544: “The principal belief of Islam is that there is only one God. He created the Universe and all things in it. Muslims believe this is the same God that Jews and Christians worship.”

Page 548: “At the time of Muhammed’s death in AD 632, many tribes of Bedoin warriors had converted to Islam. United by devotion to Islam, these Arab tribes formed a powerful and skillful army.”

We have no evidence they were “devoted” to Islam. Fear of the sword is a powerful motivator as well. This romanticizes conquest, Islam, violence and killing.

Page 548: Islam spread- As the Arab Muslims built their empire, Islam spread peacefully both inside and outside the empire and to lands beyond its borders.

Page 548: “A second factor was the ability and devotion of Muslim warriors. They had the fighting skills needed to win battles. Their religious faith gave them a special edge. They believed God was on their side.”

“Religious tolerance helped the Arab Muslim Empire expand. Muslims conquered lands where large numbers of Jews and Christians lived. In many of these areas Christians remained a majority for centuries and Jews also remained a large presence. Muslims did not force their religion on these groups.”

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¹ “Jizya” can best be described to a western mind as “protection money” or extortion. Page 52 A History of Islam & the United States

² Bukhari Vol5, Bk58 N234;Vol8, Bk73, N151 “About the Qur’an”- William Federer
Then they cite Egypt as an example. We know they have nearly eradicated Christians and Christianity in Egypt by the most violent means imaginable, burning churches, beheading children, raping and kidnapping young girls.

Page 550: “A final factor in the Muslim success was the appeal of Islam itself. Islam offered followers a direct path to God and Salvation. It emphasized equality of all believers. It stressed fairness and justice in human affairs. For this reason and others, many non-Muslims chose to convert to Islam.”

This is not factual at all. There are many levels in Islam, and slavery is approved in the Qur’an. Women are mere chattel. Sura 33:50 makes it permissible to rape women captured in war. If conquered peoples converted, they would not have to pay the Jizyah (extortion money) or suffer death. Is that what they mean by “other?”

Page 550: “Before the development of Islam, Arab women had virtually no rights. Under the Sharia, women and men had equal religious equality.

To a child’s mind, the words “equality, justice, fairness” mean this must be good. This entire chapter presents an unbalanced view at best. It has no place in our schools where Judeo Christian beliefs have been the foundation of America.