



### Minutes to Midnight, 2nd Edition

By Paul Dukes

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**An examination of the evolution of the predicament symbolised by the Doomsday Clock in the context of the Anthropocene Era from 1763**

'Minutes to Midnight' is a profoundly erudite and original work, formidable in intellectual scope and bristling with insight. It should be essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the contemporary world and the role of history.' —Dr Murray Frame, University of Dundee

At last, a historian with the courage and vision to shake us out of our postmodernist torpor. Dukes' grand tour – from the tentative experiments of James Watt to nuclear twilight and climate catastrophe – starkly reminds us how quickly we have come to the edge of our own anthropogenic abyss.' —Dr Mark Levene, University of Southampton

Paul Dukes has written a significant book, arguing that we live in a new geological age, one that was and continues to be shaped in the most profound way by humankind. The world is "ours" in a way that it has never been before, and we can thank Paul Dukes for telling us so, and suggesting what new responsibilities this "ownership" entails.' —Professor Marshall Poe, University of Iowa

The book examines the evolution of the predicament symbolised by the setting of the Doomsday Clock at a few minutes to midnight in the context of the Anthropocene Era from 1763, making special reference to the study of history throughout the period. It seeks to demonstrate the necessity for history as science, pointing out the inadequacy of some previous approaches. It argues for a pandisciplinary approach to today's crisis.

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#### About the Author

Born in Wallington, Surrey in 1934, Paul Dukes has history degrees from Cambridge, 1954, Washington, 1956 and London, 1964. He has been associated with Aberdeen University since 1964, with visiting appointments at Auckland and Cornell. He is the author of a wide range of publications on Russian, European and world histories.

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