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Encyclopedia Britannica

Encyclopaedia Britannica. 32v. 15th ed. 2007. Encyclopaedia Britannica, \$1,395 (9781 593392925)

Encyclopedia Britannica (EB) continues to be an authoritative resource. The 66,000 entries are signed by more than 4,300 contributors and have extensive bibliographies. The latest printing retains the Micropaedia/Macropaedia/Propaedia structure: short articles for quick reference in the Micropaedia, in-depth treatment of broad topics in the Macropaedia, and an "outline of knowledge" in the Propaedia. The articles on non-U. S. countries in the Macropaedia are extensive - India is 175 pages long. Israel is updated through 2006 with information about the withdrawal from Gaza, Ariel Sharon's stroke, the capture of an Israeli soldier, and the invasion of Lebanon. . . .

Among the 78 new articles in this printing are Abbas, Mahmoud; Computer crime; Intelligent design; Post-traumatic stress disorder; and Thompson, Hunter S. Among the 900 rewritten or revised articles are Alcohol and drug consumption; Global warming; Jamestown Colony; and Mendeleev, Dimitri. Sixteen maps have been added or changed, including "Voyages of Sir Francis Drake," "Israel," "Kashmir," and "Southern Africa, distribution of African languages." Articles on bird flu, bone cancer, and hantavirus update biomedical coverage. The more than 60 new illustrations include new flag plates, two color plates in the Rembrandt biography, and illustrations in Game theory Laser, Tsunami, and Solar system. Around 40 percent of the encyclopedia's approximately 21,000 illustrations are in color.

Encyclopaedia Britannica retains its position as an excellent scholarly reference source for public, academic, and secondary-school libraries. It has improved its coverage of current events and added some articles on popular culture, such as biographies of Jerry Rice and Denzel Washington. . . .