

What future does Yuval Noah Harari predict for us?

one of the most prominent modern thinkers?

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published an interview with Yuval Noah Harari* in March.

**"Much of the suffering in the world is caused by the search for meaning" "If you really know
"the truth about yourself and the world, no one can make you unhappy,"** – says

famous Israeli historian, visionary, and writer Yuval Noah Harari.

In his latest research, he looks at artificial intelligence and warns of

What will happen to humanity when artificial intelligence starts making decisions for us?

and create new things, from new medicines to new weapons, from new religious

texts to new types of money? – **asks the author, giving an exclusive interview**

"Fifteen."



Yuval Noah Harari

We had been coordinating the interview with YN Harari for a long time. The original plan was to meet
in Israel. Later, his representative wrote that perhaps we could meet with
writer in London. And in the end, the conversation took place over electronic networks
– in fact, this is not at all surprising considering the main topic of this conversation –
artificial intelligence, digital networks increasingly invading our
lives. There is nothing strange about YN Harari's own schedule - he is

one of the most sought-after, most appreciated authors of books in the world. I saw him speak to packed halls at the Frankfurt Book Fair and constantly in the spotlight. YN Harari, who has achieved immense popularity. The book "Sapiens" turned him into an almost visionary, speaking not only about our humanity, the past, but also drawing guidelines for what may await us in the future. His latest book, Nexus (published in Lithuanian by Kitos knygos, translated by Elena Belskytė) is dedicated to artificial intelligence and the author's warnings that with its uncontrolled development we are entering a phase where Computers may no longer need humanity.

In this conversation, we examined what is changing with the development of artificial intelligence, how it can be used not only for progress, but also for increasing control, which is what it is different from all other technologies. Of course, first of all, when thinking about man. About why he is so self-destructive and why he doesn't learn from past mistakes. And do we have any meaning on this Earth?

- Already in the book "Homo Deus" you warned that new technologies could take away our power. What happened in the 8 years since the book was published? What made you so concerned about it that you devoted all your time to new technologies a new book?

- Over the past eight years, artificial intelligence has developed much faster than we hoped, and now humanity is in danger of losing control of this technology. Artificial intelligence has enormous positive potential. It can help create the best healthcare system in history and help prevent ecological collapse. But it is also very dangerous. Artificial intelligence is the most powerful technology ever created by mankind, because it is the first technology that can make its own decisions and generate new ideas. Atomic The bomb cannot decide what to attack, nor can it invent new bombs or new military strategies. Meanwhile, artificial intelligence can decide for itself whether to attack a specific target, can invent new bombs, new strategies, and even new artificial intelligences. The most important thing to know about artificial intelligence, is that it is not just a tool in our hands - it acts independently, doing things we didn't expect. What will happen to humanity when millions of non-human forces will begin to make decisions for us and create new ones things - from new medicines to new weapons, from new religious texts to new types of money?

But my new book isn't just about artificial intelligence. Nexus explores the history of information networks, starting from the Stone Age. I wanted to, by examining the impact of previous information revolutions, convey the historical prospect of an artificial intelligence revolution.

For example, how the invention of the book led to the emergence of the Bible and Christianity. How the invention of printing gave rise to conspiracy theories, witch hunts, and religious the wave of wars in 16th century Europe. And how the Soviets used modern information technologies to create their own secret police. The book examines interaction between information technology and people. Often, artificial intelligence It is difficult for experts to assess how new technology will affect things like religion, culture and politics.

"Computer experts tend to have a naive view of history."

When the internet came along, tech giants promised that it would spread truth and freedom, will lead to the fall of dictators and the strengthening of democracy. This did not happen. Today we have the most advanced information technology in history, but people are losing the ability to talk to each other. Democracies around the world are undermined. A knowledge of history can help us understand why this is so. Computer Technology experts tend to take a naive view of history.

- One of the main things that worries you, as you mentioned, is that that this is the first technology in history that can make its own decisions and learning to exploit us. We see that the process is happening very quickly. How much, Do you think we still have time?

- We don't know. Artificial intelligence is developing much faster than expected. We are accustomed to organic evolution, which is relatively slow. From unicellular organisms such as amoebas to multicellular organisms such as dinosaurs and humans, several billion years have passed. But digital evolution is millions of times faster. Previously, experts believed that artificial intelligence will never master human language. Now ChatGPT is able to create texts better than the average person. He understands language perfectly. He understands the semantics of words field better than most people. He is also good at constructing arguments, logically connecting one sentence to another. And ChatGPT is still very primitive artificial intelligence. It is likely that artificial intelligence will continue to improve thousands or even millions of years. If ChatGPT is an amoeba, how do you think it

What would an artificial intelligence Tyrannosaurus Rex look like?

And we are only accelerating the artificial intelligence race because everyone is afraid of falling behind.

For example, in warfare, artificial intelligence is increasingly being used to design weapons systems, such as controlling drones, as well as selecting targets. How far are we moving away from fully autonomous drones that decide what to attack? Such technology could determine the course of the war in Ukraine, and neither side wants to stay aside.

- Although you yourself are critical of artificial intelligence, there are many scientists who who claim that it can bring great benefits to humanity. You yourself quote Marc Andreessen. Where does this belief come from and what fundamental mistake do they make? do you think they do?

- I completely agree with people like Andreessen that artificial intelligence can bring enormous benefits to humanity. The problem is that artificial intelligence Intellectual enthusiasts only look at the potential benefits and underestimate the dangers. Let's compare artificial intelligence to a previous major technological revolution - The Industrial Revolution of the 19th and 20th centuries. Industrial technologies such as steam machines and telegraphs, have brought us great benefits. But they have changed all our social, economic and political structures, and no one was sure how to create good industrial societies. So people experimented, and some from these experiments had terrible consequences.

"Will we have to survive another era of global empires, totalitarian the cycle of regimes and world wars to figure out how to do no harm use artificial intelligence?"

One of the most expensive experiments in creating an industrial society was modern imperialism. Imperialist thinkers, politicians and parties argued that the only viable industrial society is an empire. The argument was that, unlike traditional agrarian societies, the new industrial societies are much more dependent on foreign markets and foreign raw materials and only empire can satisfy these unprecedented appetites. Imperialists feared that industrialized countries that had not conquered colonies more ruthless competitors will block access to key raw materials and markets. When which imperialists believed that the acquisition of colonies was not only necessary for their own for the survival of the state, but also beneficial to the rest of humanity. They argued that only empires can spread the benefits of new technologies to the so-called underdeveloped world. Therefore, industrialized countries such as Great Britain and Russia, which already had

empires, greatly expanded them, and countries like Italy and Japan set about creating them. Equipped with mass-produced rifles and artillery, using steam power and controlled by telegraph, industrial armies conquered most of the world. Industrial empires repressed and exploited hundreds of millions of indigenous people. It took more than a century of suffering for most people to realize that industrial empires were a terrible idea and that there were better ways to build industrial society and secure the raw materials and markets it needs. Stalinism and Nazism were also very costly experiments, as to create industrial societies. Leaders like Stalin and Hitler argued that The industrial revolution unleashed enormous powers that only totalitarianism could control and fully exploit. They used the First World War as an example World War I – the first “total war” in history – as proof that in order to to survive in the industrial world you need to have totalitarian control over everyone political, social and economic aspects. They also argued that the industrial the revolution abolished all previous unjust social structures and provided the opportunity to create new perfect societies. By creating a perfect industrial society, the Stalinists and the Nazis learned to industrially kill millions people. Trains, barbed wire, and telegraphed orders were used to create an unprecedented killing machine. Looking back, most people today are terrified by what the Stalinists and Nazis did, but at the time they visions of determination hypnotized millions of people. In 1940 it was easy to believe, that Stalin and Hitler make exemplary use of industrial technology, and the hesitant liberal democracies are on their way to the dustbin of history. This alone, that there were competing recipes for creating an industrial society, led to to costly conflicts. Both world wars and the Cold War can be seen as a debate on how to do it properly, all sides learned from each other, experimenting together with new industrial methods of warfare. Tens of millions of people died during these discussions, and humanity came dangerously close to self-destruction. The Industrial Revolution, among all other disasters, and also disrupted the world's ecological balance and caused extinction wave. The survival of human civilization is also threatened. We are increasingly we are not yet able to create an industrial society that is ecologically sustainable. If it was so difficult for humanity to learn to control steam power and the telegraph, no matter how much it cost learn to control artificial intelligence? Will we have to survive another global crisis? the cycle of empires, totalitarian regimes and world wars to find out how Using artificial intelligence without causing harm?

"Dictatorships are far more vulnerable to algorithms than democracies."

- How does technology affect politics, culture? You say that new inventions poses a threat to democracy, but in essence an even greater danger is posed by totalitarian regimes.

- In a sense, artificial intelligence poses a threat to democracies and is a tool of dictators. By spreading anger, fake news and conspiracy theories algorithms are damaging to democratic conversation. Algorithms allow for the creation of the first total surveillance regimes, in which the entire population is monitored 24 hours a day per day. Most importantly, artificial intelligence facilitates the collection of all information and concentration of power in a single center. In the 20th century, distributed information networks, such as like the US, worked better than centralized information networks like the Soviet in the Union, because the "apparatchiks" in one center simply could not effectively analyze all the information. By replacing the "apparatchiks" with artificial intelligence, Soviet-style centralized networks could become superior. However, artificial intelligence for dictators does not just mean good knowledge. First, there is the issue of control problem. Dictatorial control is based on terror, but algorithms cannot. In Russia, the invasion of Ukraine is officially defined as a "special military operation", and calling it a "war" is a crime punishable by up to three years in prison. If a chatbot on the Russian Internet calls it a "war" or mentions war crimes committed by Russian soldiers, as could the regime punish that chatbot? The government could block it and seek to punish its human creators, but that is much more difficult than disciplining human users. In addition, authorized robots can develop a different opinion, simply by noticing the patterns in the Russian information space. Given the ability of artificial intelligence to learn and change, as Putin engineers can ensure that their artificial intelligence will never create other views?

"Modern societies, like ancient societies, are becoming conspiratorial victims of theories and mass illusions."

The Russian Constitution makes grandiose promises that "everyone freedom of thought and expression is guaranteed" (Article 29, paragraph 1) and "censorship prohibited" (Article 29, paragraph 5). It is unlikely that any Russian citizen is so naive to take these promises seriously. But bots don't understand the ambiguity of language. A chatbot instructed to follow Russian laws and values,

can read the Constitution, conclude that freedom of speech is a fundamental Russian value, and criticize Putin's regime for violating this value. As Russian engineers could explain to a chatbot that although the Constitution guarantees freedom of speech, a chatbot shouldn't actually believe in the Constitution and can never hint at the gap between theory and reality?

In the long run, authoritarian regimes may be in even greater danger: instead of criticized, artificial intelligence can start to control them. History shows that The greatest threat to autocrats was usually posed by their own subjects. None The Roman emperor or the Soviet prime minister was not overthrown by a democratic revolution, but they were always in danger of being overthrown or turned into puppets his own subordinates. If a 21st century autocrat gives artificial intelligence over much power, that autocrat can become his puppet. The dictator wants the least to create something more powerful than himself, something he cannot control. Dictatorships are are far more vulnerable to algorithms than democracies. Even if

It would be difficult for a super-Machevian artificial intelligence to accumulate power in such a in a decentralized democratic system like the US. Even if artificial intelligence learned to manipulate the US President, he would face the wrath of Congress, the Supreme Court, The judiciary, state governors, the media, large corporations, and various opposition from non-governmental organizations. In a highly centralized system seizing power is much easier. In order to take over an authoritarian network control, artificial intelligence only needs to manipulate one paranoid person.

- Don't you think that the assessment of these technologies is partly related to humanity's constant pessimism towards the advent of new technologies. XVI

In the 19th century, with the advent of printing technology, there were also many critics.

Speaking of later times, let us remember that HD Thoreau, who in his work "Walden, or Life in the Woods" he wrote about the telegraph, saying that our inventions are often just beautiful toys, perfect means to achieve imperfect ends. This was back in 1854. The same

It has also been the case with many other means of communication. What is artificial intelligence? different from others?

- Humanity is not just pessimistic about new technologies.

Many people, especially entrepreneurs and investors, are extremely optimistic. People like Elon Musk and Mark Zuckerberg are giving away billions dollars to realize their technological dreams. Artists like HD

Thoreau doesn't have those resources. That's why it's the job of philosophers and historians to warn public about the dangers posed by new technologies. "

"I hope people will read my books more as questions than as answers."
answer book "s."

As I mentioned earlier, we are not denying the potential benefits of technology. We are just We urge you to be careful, as there are potential dangers. For example, let's take the printing press. Yes, it helped people like Copernicus spread scientific ideas. However, very few people bought Copernicus' book. In the 15th and 16th centuries In Europe, the biggest bestsellers were religious treatises and witch hunts. textbooks. In early modern Europe, printing presses encouraged religious wars and witch hunts. Historians familiar with the history of printing not surprised when social media fueled the spread of fake news and conspiracy theories the spread of theories and undermined trust in science.

- I really liked your statement that "if we sapiens are so wise, why are we so self-destructive?

is encoded in our nature? And do you think people understand the meaning of what is happening now with technology, meaning? Are we ready for such for changes?

- People, despite their wisdom, do many foolish and self-destructive things. things. The problem lies not in our nature - it lies in our information. Wise and good people will make bad decisions if they are presented with bad information. information. Unfortunately, we are inundated with bad information. Modern society, as and old societies, become victims of conspiracy theories and mass illusions.

Some people believe that over time the information we receive should improve. They argue that correct information, such as scientific facts, gives people power, and illusions make us weak. So over time, the truth should spread and illusions disappear. But history doesn't work that way. In history, power depends not only on truth. It depends even more on order. And order is easier created by spreading fiction and fantasy rather than by spreading facts.

For example, let's take a country that wants to make an atomic bomb. To do this, it must must know certain scientific facts. If you try to make an atomic bomb and you ignore the laws of physics, your bomb won't explode. But to make The bomb also requires millions of people to collaborate on this project.

We need people to mine uranium, build a reactor, and feed everyone. workers, physicists. And this is the essential point: millions of people are easier to force them to cooperate by telling them fiction rather than the truth. If you create religion or ideology, such as communism, and ignore the facts, your ideology will explode with a big bang.

So over thousands of years, people have learned more and more scientific facts, but so also created more powerful religions and ideologies that ignored the facts. And in many In some cases, scientists who are experts in physics or history carry out ideological and instructions from religious leaders who are experts in mythology. That is why, despite all our wisdom, we tend to act foolishly and self-destructively things.

- In this book you also write that "in the near future the new the computer network will still encompass billions of people, but we can become minority". Can you expand on this idea? People will become unnecessary in global communication?

- Artificial intelligence is not one big computer. It is billions of "agents." Banks will have artificial intelligence that will decide whether to give you a loan. Education In the field, artificial intelligence will decide whether to admit you to university. In companies, artificial intelligence intelligence will decide whether to give you a job. Artificial intelligence in the judicial system will decide whether to send you to prison. In some areas, artificial intelligence directly will communicate with other artificial intelligences. Already, most of the labor trade in the world is carried out by artificial intelligence. In the foreign exchange market, algorithms buy dollars and euros from other algorithms.

Artificial intelligence will change the meaning of many everyday concepts. History can teach us to provide a lesson about this too. Let us recall the impact of the invention of writing on property concept. Before the invention of writing, property depended on the people around agreement. Owning a field meant that the neighbors agreed that this field was yours, and They did not build a house in that field, they did not graze their cattle there, animals and did not pick fruit without first asking your permission. As a result property became a matter of the local community and limited the reach of distant central government's ability to control all land ownership. No king, minister, or the priest could not remember who owned each field in the hundreds of miles villages. It also limited the ability of individuals to demand absolute property rights and their exercise, and instead priority was given to

various forms of communal property rights. For example, neighbors could recognize your right to cultivate the field, but not your right to sell it to foreigners. With the advent of written documents, ownership of a field increasingly meant that it is written on a clay tablet, a piece of paper, or a silicon chip that the field belongs to you. If your neighbors have been grazing sheep on your land for years and have not one of them never admitted that this field belongs to you, but you can as long as you provide an official document stating that this field belongs to you, you have a lot of opportunities to enforce your claims. Conversely, if everyone the neighbors agree that it is your field, but you do not have any official document, who can prove it - then it doesn't belong to you. This means that now the ownership law can be established by a distant central authority that prepares and maintains relevant documents. This also means that you can sell your field without asking the neighbors for permission, simply handing over an important document to someone else per person.

Something as simple as a piece of paper and ink has made such a difference in the meaning of ownership. What would artificial intelligence do with that? Will artificial intelligence in the future decide whether you own the field?

- Have you tried creating music or photos yourself using artificial intelligence? What is your own personal impression of his capabilities in this creative field? In the book you write that you sometimes use Facebook, Youtube, but you are famous for your critical attitude towards smartphones. You don't need it for everyday life?

- My main principle is to use technology for your own purposes, but try to make sure that they don't use me for their own purposes. Algorithms and social networks have done a very important role in my personal life. For example, it is through social media that I started a relationship with my husband through social media. I met him at one of the first LGBTQ social networking platforms in 2002. Social media was very useful for dispersed minorities, such as LGBTQ people. Only a few gay people are born into gay families, in gay neighborhoods, and in those days when there was no internet, finding each other was a big challenge unless you were moving to one of the few tolerant big cities that had a gay subculture. Growing up in a small homophobic Israeli town in the ninth and tenth decades of the last century, at the beginning of the decade, I didn't know a single openly gay person. In the late 1990s and the beginning of this century, social networks provided

LGBTQ communities dispersed in an unprecedented and almost miraculous way for members to find each other and make connections.

So I'm not really against information technology. But I try use them carefully. It's a bit like the right attitude towards food. 100 years ago There was a food shortage for many years. So people ate whatever they could find, and people were especially liked foods high in fat and sugar because it gave them lots of energy. There is plenty of food today, and we are flooded with unhealthy food, which is high in fat and added sugar. If people continue to eat all They get sick from whatever food they find, especially unhealthy food. The same goes for information, which is food for the mind. Previously, information was lacking, so we used any information we could get. We are now inundated with too much information, and a lot of unhealthy information. Too unwanted information artificially inflated with greed, hatred, and fear - things that attract our attention. All this unwanted information is draining our minds.

"My main principle is to use technology for your own purposes, but I'll try not to let them use me for their own purposes."

To protect our mental and social health, we must adhere to informational diets, similar to the food diets of many people. The first The second step of the information diet is to limit the amount of information you consume. step - avoid unwanted information, artificially filled with greed, hatred and fear. Finally, it is useful to occasionally go to an informational meeting.

fasting. I myself take a few weeks off every year to meditate.

I practice Vipassana meditation (<https://it.dhamma.org/>), and through

I completely disconnect during meditation retreats. I don't watch the news, I don't read

I don't read or write books, I just meditate. I dedicate

time to digest what's already in my head instead of stuffing it into it

more information. A few weeks is too much for most people.

However, an occasional information fast of one or two days is probably

would be beneficial to everyone. You don't have to go on a meditation retreat. Yes

It would also be a good idea to go for a hike and turn off your smartphone.

- I read a previous interview where you said that those who scream about the shortcomings of the liberal world order, should first answer one simple question: can you name a decade when humanity was better shape than in the second decade of this century? The situation now

has changed dramatically, we are seeing new wars, the rise of populism. Is your optimism is not dampened?

- Yes, the situation has deteriorated significantly. The second decade was still relatively prosperous and peaceful era, and the third decade is terrible. The main reason - people simply did not appreciate the advantages of the liberal order, so they began to attack it. The liberal order is based on the idea that all people have some common experience and interests, so all countries should have certain common values, laws and institutions. The anti-liberal forces attacked this without offering any alternative order. When order is destroyed, chaos ensues.

Some anti-liberal forces claim to have an alternative vision of the world. They does not believe in any universal values, laws or institutions, but say that they also oppose war. They claim that they want to see the world as a network of fenced but friendly fortresses. Each national fortress will adhere to different values and laws, but they will still be able to coexist peacefully. These The problem with this vision is that walled fortresses are rarely friendly. Every the fortress wants a little more land, prosperity and security at the expense of its neighbors. And if there are no certain universal values, laws, and institutions that mediate Between competing strongholds, the only remaining option is war.

More importantly, whether people like it or not, humanity today is facing three common problems that do not respect any national borders and which can only be solved through global cooperation. This is a nuclear war, climate change and technological change. No country can prevent nuclear war, stop global warming, or regulate such destructive technologies like artificial intelligence. If we fail to restore the liberal order, events like Russia's invasion of Ukraine will become commonplace, we will not have no chance to stop climate change or regulate artificial intelligence.

- Your books have become bestsellers all over the world, many people appreciate you as having deep insights into what awaits us in the future. Is your own Sometimes it's not easy to be convinced that people have all the answers. questions?

- I know I don't have all the answers. I'm not a prophet or a guru. I can't predict future and I don't think anyone can predict the future. History is not deterministic, and no one can imagine what the world will look like in 2050. All I do is I use my historical knowledge to raise questions about the future and

I would draw a map of possible scenarios, highlighting the most dangerous ones, hoping that we can prevent them. Which scenarios will actually to implement depends on our own decisions. All talk about the future the point is that we can do something about it. What is the use of prophecies about things we can't change?

Of course, there is always the danger that some people might start to consider me some kind of all-knowing guru. It is good to value knowledge and listen to scientists opinions, but it is dangerous to idolize anyone, including scientists. When a person becomes idolized, he may actually start to believe what people say about him, and it can inflate the ego and make him crazy. As for the fans who believe that someone knows all the answers - they give up their freedom and stop themselves. They expect the guru to give them all the answers and solutions. And even if the guru gives them the wrong answer and bad solution, they just deal with it reconciles. So I hope people will read my books more as questions, and not answer books, and will see me as someone who is seeking the truth with them, and not as an all-knowing clairvoyant.

- At the end of the book it says: "Even if homo sapiens destroys itself, the universe and will continue to operate as usual. The universe is patient." Reading your books teaches me We think we are the rulers of the planet, but in reality, when we look at from a distance, we are not that important. Doesn't that give us a cosmic solitude? A feeling? A certain sense of meaninglessness?

- I don't think it gives a sense of cosmic loneliness, quite the opposite. When we perceive ourselves as completely unique and superior to all other living beings forms, it separates us from the cosmos and makes us feel alone. More realistic and A more humble view of ourselves should help us feel closer to others.

to the beings of the universe.

As for meaninglessness, it's not a bad thing. Much of the suffering in the world is caused by the quest for meaning. People invent fictions, fantasies, and myths to themselves to give meaning, and these fantasies are the main cause of wars, genocides, and the causes of injustice. Let's take the war that has engulfed my homeland. Why are the Israelis and Palestinians are fighting each other? They are not fighting for objective needs, such as food or land. Between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River is enough land to build houses, schools and hospitals for all Israelis and Palestinians. There is also enough food for everyone. However

people believe in conflicting mythologies. Each side believes that that they are God's chosen people and that God has given them the whole earth. This gives their lives meaning – and also fuels war.

Too many people look for meaning in life in a cosmic drama. They imagine that that the entire universe has some kind of predetermined script written by this or that god, and they must find their role in this drama and play it well. As Shakespeare said, all the world's a stage and all the people are actors. When people understand that there is no script and therefore they have no specific role, sometimes they are overcome with terror or depression. They don't know what to do with your life.

But I think the whole question of meaning is misguided. The real meaning of life The question is not "what is the meaning of life?" but "how to free yourself from suffering?". The feeling of meaninglessness is just another kind of suffering. If in fact Understanding suffering and how it arises can also free you from the suffering of meaninglessness.

If you truly know the truth about yourself and the world, no one can make you unhappy. But this is, of course, much easier said than done.

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* About Yuval Noah Harari (born 1976) is an Israeli scholar, historian, and visionary, considered one of the most influential thinkers of our time. He is the author of the wildly popular books on the history of humanity, *Sapiens* (2011, Lithuanian 2016), and on the probable future of humanity, *Homo Deus* (2015, Lithuanian edition to be published in 2018), and a professor and lecturer at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

YN Harari was born in Haifa, in a secular family. He defended his doctoral dissertation at Oxford in 2002. First, he studied and researched medieval history and military history, but later became interested in the great processes of world history, macrohistory. Specialists in the field of macrohistory try to explain the general laws of human culture, according to which events and processes unfold over a long period of time in a very wide area, in different civilizations. They try to grasp what is common between events and processes in different periods, what changes, what repeats itself and what general conclusions can be drawn about humanity and its future. O. Spengler is considered one of the most famous macrohistorians, and among modern scientists, one of the most prominent is YN Harari.

Yuval Noah Harari is gay. Since 2002, his partner and husband is Itzik Yahav, who also works as Harari's personal manager. They were married in a civil ceremony in Toronto.

In current research, he raises questions: what is the relationship between history and biology? What is the fundamental difference between humans and other animal species? Does justice work in history? Do historical processes occur in a purposeful way? Are we happier than our ancestors who lived before?

The book *Sapiens*, published in Hebrew in 2011 and in English in 2014, became wildly popular not only among scientists but also among the general public, making YN Harari famous all over the world. The book has been translated into more than 30 languages. Hundreds of thousands of people watch his speeches and lectures on YouTube.

Free online history course "A Brief History of Humanity" (*A Brief History of Humankind*) has already been listened to by more than 200 thousand people.

Twice (2009 and 2012) Prof. YN Harari won the Polonsky Prize for Creativity and Originality, as well as the Society of Military Historians (*Society for Military History*) award for articles on military history, etc.

And Facebook founder Marc Zuckerberg enthusiastically recommended "Sapiens" to his followers on his account, "the grand narrative of the history of human civilization."

Using numerous examples and arguments, the author explores how humanity got to where we are today. Drawing on his excellent knowledge of history, he considers what fate we will determine for ourselves.

The second book, "Homo Deus", which has already gained worldwide popularity, is still being prepared in Lithuanian and examines the possibilities, dreams, and nightmares of the 21st century - from the victory over death, which we have almost achieved, to the consequences of artificial intelligence.

Where are we heading today? How do we protect our fragile world from the terrible destructive forces we have acquired? It's no longer just a study of the past. YN Harari talks about the next stage of evolution...

More: <http://www.ynharari.com/>

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