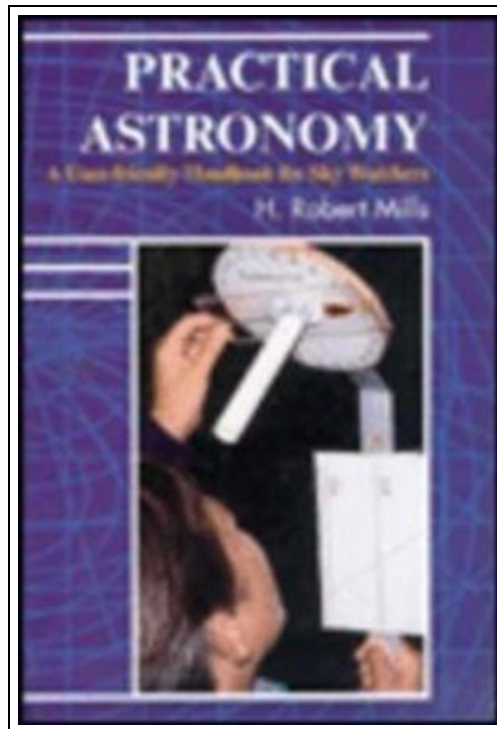


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ELSEVIER SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY, United Kingdom, 1995. Hardback. Condition: New. New edition. Language: English . Brand New Book. Patrick Moore, one of the great presenters of astronomy in our time, here tells the epic story of the historical development of astronomy which caused a revolutionary change in human outlook, both in its impact and on scientific thinking and upon religious belief. It is a fascinating story, well researched and told in a scholarly yet exciting narrative that will be read with enjoyment and profit by astronomers, historians and the general public. It had been believed according to cosmologists and Jewish/Christian/Muslim tradition that the Earth began at a finite time in the past. A scientific revolution began with Copernicus, the Polish priest, who in 1543 cast aside the ancient Greek idea that the Earth occupied the proud position in the centre of the universe. In his published work *De Revolutionibus* he stated that the planets revolved around the Sun. His theory was opposed by scientists and was regarded as heresy by the Christian Church, which in those times persecuted heretics who held such views. A scholarly Danish scientist, Tycho Brahe (between 1576 and 1596) made the essential observations which enabled the German mathematician Johannes Kepler in 1609 to prove that the Earth is indeed a planet travelling in an elliptical orbit around the Sun. Then came the Italian Galileo whose brilliant enquiring mind and courageous conviction led him to support the Copernicus theory at the risk of persecution by the dreaded Inquisition. In 1687 came the great Sir Isaac Newton who had the final say when, in his great work of genius *Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica*, he developed the mathematical proof of how bodies move in space. In his *Space Age Epilogue*, Patrick Moore leaps forward three centuries to 1957 and the new astronomical revolution...



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