



Type: Magazine Article

Succession of Book of Mormon Authors

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Source: *Improvement Era*, Vol. 37, No. 3 (March 1934)

Published by: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Page(s): 162

Abstract: This article is a listing of Book of Mormon authors, the number of years each composed his writings, and their order of succession. It also includes scriptural references.

Who and how many wrote "The Book of Mormon?"
This resident of Salt Lake City has taken the trouble to find out for us, according to the evidence in the book itself. He has also given the periods in years during which each leader held the scepter of power.

Succession of Book of « « Mormon Authors

By

THOMAS J. YATES

1. Nephi wrote the record of the ministry from the year 8 of the Nephite record or 592 B. C. (I Nephi 9:2-3) to the year 55 or 545 B. C. (II Nephi 6:2-3—Jacob 1:1).

2. Jacob (brother of Nephi [II Nephi 6:2]) succeeds his brother as author in the year 55 or 545 B. C. (Jacob 1:1).

3. Enos (son of Jacob [Jacob 7:27]) succeeded his father as author. Closed his record in the year 179 or 421 B. C. (Enos 1:25).

4. Jarom (son of Enos [Jarom 1:1]) succeeded his father as author in the year 179 or 421 B. C. (Enos 1:25).

5. Omni (son of Jarom [Omni 1:1]) succeeded his father as author. Closed his record in the year 282 or 318 B. C. (Omni 1:3).

6. Amaron (son of Omni [Omni 1:3]) succeeded his father as author. Closed his record in the year 320 or 280 B. C. (Omni 1:5).

7. Chemish (brother of Amaron [Omni 1:8-9]) succeeded as author.

8. Abinadom (son of Chemish [Omni 1:10]) succeeded as author.

9. Amaleki (son of Abinadom [Omni 1:12]) succeeded as author, had no seed (Omni 1:25), was the end of the line from Jacob.

10. Benjamin (son of Mosiah, was combined king and spiritual leader and keeper of the sacred records [Omni 1:23-25]) succeeded as author. Ended in the year 476 or 124 B. C. (Mosiah 6:4).

11. Mosiah (son of Benjamin [Mosiah 6:3]) succeeded as author as well as king. He was the last of the line of kings.

12. Alma II (son of Alma I—see preface to Book of Alma) became the first Chief Judge (Alma 1:1) and consecrated High Priest over the people (Alma 4:4) suc-

ceeded as author (Alma 44:24) beginning 91 B. C. He reigned 18 years or until 73 B. C. (Alma 44:24).

13. Helaman (son of Alma II [Alma 45:2]) succeeded as author (see preface to Alma, Chapter 45).

14. Shiblon (son of Helaman [Alma 63:17]) received the sacred things (Alma 63:1) in the 36th year of the reign of the Judges, or 55 B. C. (Alma 63:4).

15. Helaman II (son of Helaman [Alma 63:11]) received the sacred things (Alma 63:11) in the 39th year of the reign of the Judges, or 52 B. C. (Alma 63:10).

16. Nephi (son of Helaman II [Helaman 3:37]) succeeded his father in the 53rd year of reign of the Judges, or 38 B. C. (Helaman 3:37).

17. Nephi II (son of Nephi [see preface to III Nephi for his genealogy]) succeeded to the plates of brass, and all the records which had been kept, and all those things which had been kept sacred from the departure of Lehi out of Jerusalem (II Nephi 1:2). This was after 91st year of the reign of the Judges, and 600 years from the time Lehi left Jerusalem, the year Christ was born (III Nephi 1:1).

18. Nephi III (son of Nephi II [see preface to IV Nephi]) succeeded his father.

19. Amos (son of Nephi III) succeeded his father (IV Nephi 1:19). He kept the records 84 years (IV Nephi 1:20).

20. Amos (son of Amos) succeeded his father in the year 194 A. D. (IV Nephi 1:21).

21. Ammaron (brother of Amos) succeeded to the records 305 A. D. (IV Nephi 1:47). He hid

the records and all the sacred things 320 A. D.

22. Mormon (son of Mormon a descendant of Nephi [Mormon 1:5] about 10 years old in 320 A. D. [Mormon 1:2]) received a charge from Ammaron concerning these sacred things. He commanded him to write on the plates the things he knew. Mormon hid the plates and all sacred things in the Hill Cumorah, except a few plates which he gave to his son, Moroni (Mormon 6:6). This was in the year 384 A. D. (Mormon 6:5).

23. Moroni (son of Mormon [Mormon 6:5]) finishes his father's record (Mormon 8:1) and hides the plates (Mormon 8:14). Sept. 22, 1827, Moroni delivered the plates to Joseph Smith (History of Joseph Smith in Pearl of Great Price, Chapter 2:59).

BOOK OF MORMON LEADERS

As Mr. Yates Figures Their Records

	B. C.	B. C.	Yrs.
Lehi	600 to	592	8
Nephi	592 to	545	47
Jacob	545 to	485	60
Enos	485 to	421	64
Jarom	421 to	370	51
Omni	370 to	318	52
Amaron	318 to	280	38
Chemish	280 to	240	40
Abinadom	240 to	202	38
Amaleki	202 to	166	36
Benjamin	166 to	124	42
Mosiah	124 to	91	33
Alma II	91 to	73	18
Helaman	73 to	55	18
Shiblon	55 to	52	3
Helaman II	52 to	38	14
Nephi	38 to	0	38
	A. D.	A. D.	Yrs.
Nephi II	0 to	55	55
Nephi III	55 to	110	55
Amos	110 to	194	84
Amos II	194 to	305	111
Ammaron	305 to	320	15
Mormon	320 to	384	64
Moroni	384 to	421	37