

The Great Terror A Reassessment

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the first full account of the purges stalin ordered in the 1930s pieces together how stalin marked his past present and potential opponents for assassination or judicial murder

from the end of the mongol empire to today russian history is a tale of cultural political economic and military interaction with western powers the depth of this relationship has created a geopolitical dilemma russia has persistently been both attracted to and at odds with western ideas and technological development which have tended to threaten russia s sense of identity and create destabilizing divisions within society simultaneously deepening involvement in western international affairs brought meddling in russian domestic politics and military invasion this book examines how the centuries old western threat has shaped russia s political and strategic structures creating a culture of security rooted in vigilance against western influence and interference

swept up in the maelstrom of stalin s great terror of 1937 1938 nearly a million people died most were ordinary citizens who left no records and as a result have been completely forgotten this book is the first to attempt to retrieve their stories and reconstruct their lives drawing upon recently declassified archives of the former soviet secret police in kiev hiroaki kuromiya uncovers in the archives the hushed voices of the condemned and he chronicles the lives of dozens of individuals who shared the same dehumanizing fate all were falsely arrested executed and dumped in mass graves kuromiya investigates the truth behind the fabricated records filling in at least some of the details of the lives and deaths of ballerinas priests beggars teachers peasants workers soldiers pensioners homemakers fugitives peddlers ethnic russians ukrainians poles germans koreans jews and others in recounting the extraordinary stories gleaned from the secret files kuromiya not only commemorates the dead and forgotten but also proposes a new interpretation of soviet society that provides useful insights into the enigma of stalinist terror

shelf listadd to favoriteswith more than 400 concise entries this unique reference provides encyclopedic coverage of 20th century communism and its enormous impact on world history from the russian revolution through the collapse of the soviet union and beyond drawing on te archives of former communist states this indispensable work reflects the most up to date understanding of communism as an ideological and political force examines the political intellectual and social influences of communism around the globe features contributions from an international team of 160 scholars includes more than 400 entries on major topics such as figures lenin mao stalin ho chi minh pol pot castro gorbachev events cold war prague spring cultural revolution sandinista revolution ideas and concepts marxism leninism cult of personality labor organizations and movements kgb comintern gulag khmer rouge related topics totalitarianism nationalism antifascism anticommunism mccarthyism guides readers to further research through bibliographies cross references and an index quatrième de couverture

this is a masterful historical portrait of the whole movement of calvinism for general readers and scholars alike

to get to the top joseph stalin outmaneuvered lenin trotsky kirov and a legion of equally ruthless revolutionaries this accessible and easy to read reference work reveals the more personal side of the machiavellian mastermind who not only orchestrated the great terror but also forged the ussr into a world power joseph stalin a biographical companion offers balanced coverage and makes use of new information from soviet archives while at the same time avoids mind numbing communist jargon and terminology also included are scores of rare illustrations some never before published in the west

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