

## SOVIET COUNTERINSURGENCY IN THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR

THE SOVIET-AFGHAN WAR THE GREAT GAMBLE THE SOVIET-AFGHAN WAR THE BLEEDING WOUND THE SOVIET-AFGHAN WAR: ANOTHER  
LOOK AFGHANISTAN THE SOVIET-AFGHAN WAR 1979-89 THE SOVIET-AFGHAN WAR NO MIRACLES THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN: MUJAHIDEEN  
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OFFERS A CANDID VIEW OF A WAR THAT PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE ULTIMATE DEMISE OF THE SOVIET UNION PRESENTS ANALYSIS  
ABSOLUTELY VITAL TO WESTERN POLICYMAKERS AS WELL AS TO POLITICAL DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY HISTORIANS AND ANYONE INTERESTED IN  
RUSSIAN AND SOVIET HISTORY PROVIDES INSIGHTS REGARDING CURRENT AND FUTURE RUSSIAN STRUGGLES IN ETHNIC CONFLICTS BOTH AT AND WITHIN  
THEIR BORDERS STRUGGLES THAT COULD POTENTIALLY DESTROY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

THE SOVIET WAR IN AFGHANISTAN WAS A GRUELING DEBACLE THAT HAS STRIKING LESSONS FOR THE TWENTY FIRST CENTURY IN THE GREAT GAMBLE  
GREGORY FEIFER EXAMINES THE CONFLICT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE SOLDIERS ON THE GROUND DURING THE LAST YEARS OF THE COLD WAR THE  
SOVIET UNION SENT SOME OF ITS MOST ELITE TROOPS TO UNFAMILIAR LANDS IN CENTRAL ASIA TO FIGHT A VAGUELY DEFINED ENEMY WHICH  
EVENTUALLY DEFEATED THEIR SUPERIOR NUMBERS WITH UNCONVENTIONAL TACTICS ALTHOUGH THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP INITIALLY SAW THE INVASION  
AS A VICTORY MANY RUSSIAN SOLDIERS CAME TO VIEW THE WAR AS A DEMORALIZING AND DEVASTATING DEFEAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF WHICH  
HAD A SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT ON THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS COLLAPSE FEIFER S EXTENSIVE RESEARCH INCLUDES EYE OPENING INTERVIEWS WITH  
PARTICIPANTS FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE CONFLICT IN GRIPPING DETAIL HE VIVIDLY DEPICTS THE INVASION OF A VOLATILE COUNTRY THAT NO POWER  
HAS EVER SUCCESSFULLY CONQUERED PARALLELS BETWEEN THE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN AND THE U S INVASIONS OF AFGHANISTAN AND  
IRAQ ARE IMPOSSIBLE TO IGNORE BOTH CONFLICTS WERE WAGED AMID VAGUE IDEOLOGICAL RHETORIC ABOUT FREEDOM BOTH WERE ROUNDLY

CONDEMNED BY THE OUTSIDE WORLD FOR TRYING TO IMPOSE THEIR FAVORED FORMS OF GOVERNMENT ON COUNTRIES WITH VERY DIFFERENT WAYS OF LIFE AND BOTH SEEM DESTINED TO END ON UNCERTAIN TERMS A GROUNDBREAKING ACCOUNT SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF THE MEN WHO FOUGHT IT THE GREAT GAMBLE TELLS AN UNFORGETTABLE STORY FULL OF DRAMA ACTION AND POLITICAL INTRIGUE WHOSE RELEVANCE IN OUR OWN TIME IS GREATER THAN EVER

THIS PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY OF THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR OF 1979 TO 1989 GIVES A FASCINATING INSIGHT INTO A GRIM CONFLICT THAT PREFIGURED THE AMERICAN LED CAMPAIGN IN THAT COUNTRY IN AN UNEQUAL STRUGGLE THE MUJAHEDDEEN RESISTED FOR TEN YEARS THEN TRIUMPHED OVER MOSCOW FOR THE SOVIET UNION THE FUTILE INTERVENTION HAS BEEN COMPARED TO THE SIMILAR HUMILIATION SUFFERED BY THE UNITED STATES IN VIETNAM FOR THE AFGHANS THE VICTORY WAS JUST ONE EPISODE IN THE LONG HISTORY OF THEIR EFFORTS TO FREE THEIR TERRITORY FROM THE INTERFERENCE OF FOREIGN POWERS BY FOCUSING ON THE SOVIET USE OF HEAVY WEAPONRY ANTHONY TUCKER JONES SHOWS THE IMBALANCE AT THE HEART OF A CONFLICT IN WHICH THE MECHANIZED INDUSTRIAL MIGHT OF A SUPER POWER WAS SET AGAINST LIGHTLY ARMED PARTISANS WHO BECAME EXPERTS IN INFILTRATION TACTICS AND AMBUSHES HIS WORK IS A VISUAL RECORD OF THE TACTICS AND THE EQUIPMENT THE SOVIETS USED TO COUNTER THE RESISTANCE AND PROTECT VULNERABLE CONVOYS IT ALSO SHOWS WHAT THIS GRUELING CONFLICT WAS LIKE FOR THE SOVIET SOLDIERS THE GUERRILLA FIGHTERS AND THE AFGHAN POPULATION AND IT PUTS THE PRESENT WAR IN AFGHANISTAN IN A THOUGHT PROVOKING HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

BY THE MID 1980S PUBLIC OPINION IN THE USSR HAD BEGUN TO TURN AGAINST SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN AFGHANISTAN THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR 1979 1989 HAD BECOME A LONG PAINFUL AND UNWINNABLE CONFLICT ONE THAT MIKHAIL GORBACHEV REFERRED TO AS A BLEEDING WOUND IN A 1986 SPEECH THE EVENTUAL DECISION TO WITHDRAW SOVIET TROOPS FROM AFGHANISTAN CREATED A DEVASTATING RIPPLE EFFECT WITHIN SOVIET

SOCIETY THAT THIS BOOK ARGUES BECAME A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE COLLAPSE OF THE SOVIET UNION IN THIS COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR ON SOVIET SOCIETY AND POLITICS YAACOV RO I ANALYZES THE OPINIONS OF SOVIET CITIZENS ON A HOST OF ISSUES CONNECTED WITH THE WAR AND DOCUMENTS THE SYSTEMIC CHANGE THAT WOULD OCCUR WHEN SOVIET LEADERSHIP TOOK PUBLIC OPINION INTO ACCOUNT THE WAR AND THE DIFFICULTIES THAT THE RETURNING VETERANS FACED UNDERMINED THE SELF ESTEEM AND PRESTIGE OF THE SOVIET ARMED FORCES AND PROVIDED AMPLE AMMUNITION FOR MEDIA CORRESPONDENTS WHO SOUGHT TO CHALLENGE THE NORMS OF THE SOVIET SYSTEM THROUGH EXTENSIVE ANALYSIS OF SOVIET NEWSPAPERS AND INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED WITH SOVIET WAR VETERANS AND REGULAR CITIZENS IN THE EARLY 1990S RO I ARGUES THAT THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR PRECIPITATED PROCESSES THAT WOULD REVEAL THE INBUILT LIMITATIONS OF THE SOVIET BODY POLITIC AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE DISSOLUTION OF THE USSR BY 1991

THIS RESEARCH EFFORT REVIEWS THE SOVIET MILITARY S INVOLVEMENT IN AFGHANISTAN FROM FOUR GENERAL PERSPECTIVES 1 SYSTEMIC PROBLEMS INHERENT IN THE SOVIET MILITARY CULTURE 2 THE USE OF SURPRISE 3 OPERATIONAL MANEUVER AND THE PREEMINENCE OF AVIATION AND 4 EMPLOYMENT OF MINES AND CHEMICAL WEAPONS AS AN EXTENSION OF MANEUVER WARFARE THIS PAPER CONCLUDES THAT THE LESSONS OF THIS WAR HAVE BEEN LEARNED BY THE RUSSIANS THERE IS EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THEY CAN ACHIEVE THE LEVEL OF DOCTRINAL CHANGES REQUIRED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN FUTURE LOCAL INTERVENTIONS IT MUST BE ACCOMPANIED HOWEVER BY CORRESPONDING SOCIO MILITARY REFORM

THIS VOLUME ILLUSTRATES THE WAY THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN FED INTO A WIDE RANGE OF OTHER PROCESSES FROM THE RISE OF GRASSROOTS POLITICAL ACTIVISM TO THE RETREAT FROM GLOBALISM IN FOREIGN POLICY

THE SOVIET INVASION OF ITS NEIGHBOUR AFGHANISTAN IN DECEMBER 1979 SPARKED A BLOODY NINE YEAR CONFLICT IN THAT COUNTRY UNTIL SOVIET FORCES WITHDREW IN 1988 89 DOOMING THE COMMUNIST AFGHANISTAN GOVERNMENT TO DEFEAT AT THE HANDS OF THE MUJAHIDEEN THE

AFGHAN POPULAR RESISTANCE BACKED BY THE USA AND OTHER POWERS THE SOVIET INVASION HAD ENORMOUS IMPLICATIONS ON THE GLOBAL STAGE IT PROMPTED THE US SENATE TO REFUSE TO RATIFY THE HARD WON SALT II ARMS LIMITATION TREATY AND THE USA AND 64 OTHER COUNTRIES BOYCOTTED THE 1980 MOSCOW SUMMER OLYMPICS FOR AFGHANISTAN THE INVASION SERVED TO PROLONG THE INTERMINABLE CIVIL WAR THAT PITTED CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE REGIONS AND FACTION AGAINST FACTION THE COUNTRY REMAINS LOCKED IN CONFLICT OVER 30 YEARS LATER WITH NO END IN SIGHT FEATURING SPECIALLY DRAWN MAPPING AND DRAWING UPON A WIDE RANGE OF SOURCES THIS SUCCINCT ACCOUNT EXPLAINS THE ORIGINS HISTORY AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE SOVIET INTERVENTION IN AFGHANISTAN THEREBY SHEDDING NEW LIGHT ON THE MORE RECENT HISTORY AND PROSPECTS OF THAT TROUBLED COUNTRY

THE SOVIET EXPERIENCE IN AFGHANISTAN PROVIDES A COMPELLING PERSPECTIVE ON THE FAR REACHING HAZARDS OF MILITARY INTERVENTION IN 1985 MIKHAIL GORBACHEV DECIDED THAT A WITHDRAWAL FROM AFGHANISTAN SHOULD OCCUR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE SOVIET UNION'S SENIOR LEADERSHIP HAD BECOME AWARE THAT THEIR STRATEGY WAS UNRAVELING THEIR OPERATIONAL AND TACTICAL METHODS WERE NOT WORKING AND THE SACRIFICES THEY WERE DEMANDING FROM THE SOVIET PEOPLE AND MILITARY WERE UNLIKELY TO PRODUCE THE FORECASTED RESULTS DESPITE THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS OPERATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN PERSISTED AND FOUR MORE YEARS PASSED BEFORE THE SOVIETS FINALLY WITHDREW THEIR MILITARY FORCES IN NO MIRACLES MICHAEL FENZEL EXPLAINS WHY AND HOW THAT HAPPENED AS VIEWED FROM THE CENTER OF THE SOVIET STATE FROM THAT PERSPECTIVE THREE SOURCES OF FAILURE STAND OUT POOR CIVIL MILITARY RELATIONS REPEATED AND RAPID TURNOVER OF SOVIET LEADERSHIP AND THE PERCEPTION THAT SOVIET GLOBAL PRESTIGE AND INFLUENCE WERE INEXORABLY TIED TO THE SUCCESS OF THE AFGHAN MISSION FENZEL ENUMERATES THE SERIES OF MISPERCEPTIONS AND MISJUDGMENTS THAT LED TO THE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN TRACING THE HAZARDS OF THEIR MILITARY INTERVENTION AND OCCUPATION ULTIMATELY HE OFFERS A CAUTIONARY TALE TO NATION STATES AND POLICYMAKERS CONSIDERING MILITARY INTERVENTION AND THE USE OF FORCE

ILLUSTRATED WITH OVER A HUNDRED MAPS WHEN THE SOVIET UNION INVADED AFGHANISTAN IN 1979 FEW EXPERTS BELIEVED THAT THE FLEDGLING MUJAHIDEEN RESISTANCE MOVEMENT HAD A CHANCE OF WITHSTANDING THE MODERN MECHANIZED TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED SOVIET ARMY MOST STATED THAT RESISTANCE WAS FUTILE AND THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAD DELIBERATELY EXPANDED THEIR EMPIRE TO THE SOUTH THE SOVIET UNION HAD COME TO STAY ALTHOUGH SOME HISTORIANS LOOKED AT THE BRITISH EXPERIENCE FIGHTING THE AFGHAN MOUNTAIN TRIBESMEN MOST EXPERTS DISCOUNTED ANY PARALLELS SINCE THE SOVIET UNION POSSESSED AN UNPRECEDENTED ADVANTAGE IN FIRE POWER TECHNOLOGY AND MILITARY MIGHT ALTHOUGH ARAB LEADERS AND THE WEST SUPPLIED ARMS AND MATERIAL TO THE MUJAHIDEEN THEY DID SO WITH THE HOPE OF CREATING A PERMANENT BLEEDING ULCER ON THE SOVIET FLANK NOT DEFEATING THE SOVIET UNION THEY DID NOT PREDICT THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD VOLUNTARILY WITHDRAW FROM AFGHANISTAN IN 1989 THERE HAVE BEEN FEW STUDIES OF GUERRILLA WARFARE FROM THE GUERRILLA S PERSPECTIVE TO CAPTURE THIS PERSPECTIVE AND THE TACTICAL EXPERIENCE OF THE MUJAHIDEEN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS COMMISSIONED THIS STUDY AND SENT TWO RETIRED COMBAT VETERANS TO INTERVIEW MUJAHIDEEN THE AUTHORS WERE WELL RECEIVED AND GENEROUSLY ASSISTED BY VARIOUS MUJAHIDEEN WHO WILLINGLY TALKED ABOUT THEIR LONG BITTER WAR THE AUTHORS HAVE PRODUCED A UNIQUE BOOK WHICH TELLS THE GUERRILLAS STORY AS INTERPRETED BY MILITARY PROFESSIONALS THIS IS A BOOK ABOUT SMALL UNIT GUERRILLA COMBAT THIS IS A BOOK ABOUT DEATH AND SURVIVAL ADAPTATION AND PERSEVERANCE

IN THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN MUJAHIDEEN TACTICS IN THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR ALI AHMAD JALALI PROVIDES A METICULOUS EXAMINATION OF GUERRILLA WARFARE STRATEGIES EMPLOYED BY THE AFGHAN MUJAHIDEEN AGAINST THE SOVIET FORCES DURING THE 1980s JALALI EMPLOYS A DESCRIPTIVE AND ANALYTICAL LITERARY STYLE DRAWING ON BOTH FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCES AND HISTORICAL NARRATIVES TO ILLUMINATE THE COMPLEXITIES OF THIS MULTIFACETED CONFLICT THE BOOK SITUATES THE AFGHAN STRUGGLE WITHIN A BROADER CONTEXT OF COLD WAR DYNAMICS EXPLORING MILITARY TACTICS CULTURAL INFLUENCES AND THE PSYCHOLOGICAL RESILIENCE OF COMBATANTS AMIDST ADVERSITY THROUGH DETAILED

ACCOUNTS AND STRATEGIC INSIGHTS JALALI OFFERS A COMPELLING PERSPECTIVE ON THE INTRICACIES OF INSURGENCY AND WARFARE IN MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN ALI AHMAD JALALI A FORMER MUJAHIDEEN COMMANDER AND AFGHAN MILITARY OFFICER COMBINES HIS PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH EXTENSIVE RESEARCH TO CRAFT A UNIQUE NARRATIVE OF THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR HIS INSIGHTS ARE ENRICHED BY A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF AFGHAN CULTURE AND HISTORY AND HIS ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS INCLUDING SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO MILITARY STUDIES LEND GRAVITAS TO HIS ANALYSIS JALALI S DUAL IDENTITY AS A PARTICIPANT AND SCHOLAR PROVIDES READERS WITH A RARE LENS THROUGH WHICH TO VIEW THIS CRITICAL PERIOD IN AFGHAN AND GLOBAL HISTORY THIS BOOK IS ESSENTIAL READING FOR SCHOLARS MILITARY HISTORIANS AND ANYONE INTERESTED IN UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMICS OF ASYMMETRIC WARFARE JALALI S THOROUGH EXPLORATION NOT ONLY SHEDS LIGHT ON THE PAST BUT ALSO OFFERS LESSONS RELEVANT TO CONTEMPORARY CONFLICTS READERS WILL GAIN A DEEPER APPRECIATION FOR THE INNOVATIVE TACTICS EMPLOYED BY THE MUJAHIDEEN AND THEIR ENDURING IMPACT ON MODERN WARFARE

THIS BOOK STUDIES THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR FROM SEVERAL POINTS OF VIEW CALLING ATTENTION TO THE EXPERIENCES OF THOSE INVOLVED THE LATE 1979 SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN COMPOUNDED THE LACK OF SUPPORT AMONG AFGHANS FOR THEIR COUNTRY S COMMUNIST REGIME WHICH DOOMED THE SOVIET MILITARY UNDERTAKING FROM THE START AND IN TURN CONTRIBUTED TO THE DOWNFALL OF THE SOVIET SYSTEM ITSELF AMID A BATTLEFIELD OF PROPAGANDA AND DISINFORMATION FROM ALL SIDES THAT ATTEMPTED TO SHAPE PERCEPTIONS OF THE WAR A CLEAR UNDERCURRENT OF OPPOSITION EMERGED WITHIN THE USSR AND GREW OVER TIME DOMINATING THE DISCOURSE DURING MIKHAIL GORBACHEV S GLASNOST OPENNESS REFORM IN THE LATE 1980S IN SMOKE MIRRORS AND MEMORIES JEFFERY W JONES CONVEYS A BROAD PICTURE WITHOUT THE NARRATIVE ILLUSION OF A SEAMLESS STORY AMID THE FOG OF WAR ANALYZING VARIED ACCOUNTS RELAYED BY A WIDE RANGE OF SOURCES HE ARGUES THAT AN EVOLVING NARRATIVE AND DISCOURSE ON THE WAR IN THE LATTER HALF OF THE 1980S HELPED PAVE THE WAY FOR THE COLLAPSE OF THE USSR AS DISILLUSIONMENT WITH THE CONFLICT GREW WITHIN SOVIET SOCIETY

A WHOLE GENERATION HAS GROWN UP IN AFGHANISTAN KNOWING LITTLE BUT THE RAVAGES OF WAR THE DRAMATIC OVERTHROW OF THE TALIBAN REGIME IN 2001 WAS SIMPLY ONE EVENT IN A SERIES OF INTERRELATED STRUGGLES WHICH HAVE BLIGHTED ORDINARY PEOPLE S LIVES OVER THE LAST THREE DECADES AND WHICH CONTINUE TO INTERFERE WITH RECONCILIATION AND RECONSTRUCTION THIS NEW EDITION OF THE AFGHANISTAN WARS PROVIDES A METICULOUSLY DOCUMENTED HISTORY OF THESE SUCCESSIVE WAVES OF CONFLICT FROM THE ROOTS OF AFGHANISTAN S SLIDE INTO DISORDER IN THE LATE 1970S TO THE CHALLENGES FACED BY AFGHAN LEADERS FOLLOWING THE SUBSTANTIAL WITHDRAWAL OF INTERNATIONAL FORCES IN 2014 IT EXPLORES MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC HISTORY WHILE ALSO OFFERING VALUABLE INSIGHT ON HUMANITARIAN ACTION GENDER MEDICAL AND CULTURAL THEMES THOROUGHLY REVISED IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATEST RESEARCH THE THIRD EDITION ALSO FEATURES A NEW FINAL CHAPTER WHICH EXAMINES RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN BRINGING THE STORY UP TO THE PRESENT DAY AND MOUNTING A STRONG CASE FOR CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR THIS TROUBLED COUNTRY NEW TO THIS EDITION A FINAL CHAPTER ON THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN UP TO THE PRESENT DAY REVISED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF NEW MATERIAL PUBLISHED ON THIS TOPIC SINCE 2009 REFRESHED AND UPDATED THROUGHOUT

ILLUSTRATED WITH 52 MAPS AND DIAGRAMS SIXTEEN YEARS AFTER ITS COMMENCEMENT AND SIX YEARS AFTER ITS CESSATION THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR REMAINS AN ENIGMA FOR WESTERNERS SET AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF EARLIER SUCCESSFUL SOVIET MILITARY INTERVENTIONS IN EAST GERMANY 1953 HUNGARY 1956 AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1968 AND OCCASIONAL SOVIET MILITARY PRESSURE ON POLAND THE STARK MILITARY POWER OF THE SOVIET STATE SEEMED TO BE AN IRRESISTIBLE TOOL OF INDEFATIGABLE SOVIET POLITICAL POWER MORE THAN A FEW STRATEGIC PUNDITS AND MILITARY PLANNERS ENVISIONED A BOLD SOVIET STRATEGIC THRUST FROM SOUTHERN AFGHANISTAN TO THE SHORES OF THE PERSIAN GULF TO CHALLENGE WESTERN STRATEGIC INTERESTS AND DISRUPT WESTERN ACCESS TO CRITICAL MIDDLE EASTERN OIL DESPITE THESE FEARS AND DIRE WARNINGS THE SOVIET AFGHAN MILITARY EFFORT SOON LANGUISHED AS THE BRITISH EXPERIENCE BEGAN TO REPEAT ITSELF ALTHOUGH APPEARING TO



HAVE ENTERED AFGHANISTAN IN SEEMINGLY SURGICAL FASHION AND WITH OVERWHELMING FORCE THE SOVIET MILITARY COMMITMENT WAS IN REALITY QUITE LIMITED AND THE IMMENSE AND STARK TERRITORY OF AFGHANISTAN SWALLOWED THE INVADERS UP ACROSS THE LARGELY BARREN LANDSCAPE GUERRILLA FIGHTERS MULTIPLIED AND WITHIN MONTHS THE HITHERTO CURIOUS WORD MUJAHIDEEN TOOK ON NEW MEANING TO THIS DAY THE WESTERN VIEW OF THE AFGHAN WAR HAS BEEN CLOUDED IN MYSTERY AND SHADOWS SOVIET WRITERS HAVE PRESENTED WESTERNERS WITH A MIXTURE OF POLITICAL DIATRIBE MILITARY FABLE ALLEGORY AND ANALOGY SET AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF FEW FACTS WESTERNERS HAVE RECOUNTED THE WAR BASED ON THIS SOVIET MATERIAL SKETCHY MUJAHIDEEN ACCOUNTS THE REPORTS OF THE OCCASIONAL WESTERN WAR CORRESPONDENTS IN AFGHANISTAN AND PURE SUPPOSITION THIS VOLUME THE FIRST FACTUAL MATERIAL TO SHED REAL LIGHT ON THE CONFLICT REPRESENTS A UNIQUE FIRST STEP IN SETTING THE AFGHAN RECORD STRAIGHT

FEW PEOPLE ARE MORE RESPECTED OR BETTER POSITIONED TO SPEAK ON THE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN THAN M HASSAN KAKAR A PROFESSOR AT KABUL UNIVERSITY AND SCHOLAR OF AFGHANISTAN AFFAIRS AT THE TIME OF THE 1978 COUP D'ÉTAT KAKAR VIVIDLY DESCRIBES THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE SOVIET INVASION IN 1979 AND THE ENCOUNTER BETWEEN THE MILITARY SUPERPOWER AND THE POORLY ARMED AFGHANS THE EVENTS THAT FOLLOWED ARE CAREFULLY DETAILED WITH EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS AND AUTHORITATIVE DOCUMENTATION THAT PROVIDE AN UNPARALLELED VIEW OF THIS HISTORICAL MOMENT BECAUSE OF HIS PROMINENCE KAKAR WAS AT FIRST TREATED WITH DEFERENCE BY THE MARXIST GOVERNMENT AND WAS NOT IMPRISONED ALTHOUGH HE OPENLY CRITICIZED THE REGIME WHEN HE WAS PUT BEHIND BARS THE OUTCRY FROM SCHOLARS ALL OVER THE WORLD POSSIBLY SAVED HIS LIFE IN PRISON FOR FIVE YEARS HE CONTINUED COLLECTING INFORMATION MUCH OF IT FROM PROMINENT AFGHANS OF VARYING POLITICAL PERSUASIONS WHO WERE THEMSELVES PRISONERS KAKAR BRINGS FIRSTHAND KNOWLEDGE AND A HISTORIAN'S SENSIBILITY TO HIS ACCOUNT OF THE INVASION AND ITS AFTERMATH THIS IS BOTH A PERSONAL DOCUMENT AND A HISTORICAL ONE KAKAR LIVED THROUGH THE EVENTS HE DESCRIBES AND HIS CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS RATHER THAN PARTY POLITICS INFUSES HIS WRITING AS AFGHANS AND THE

REST OF THE WORLD TRY TO MAKE SENSE OF AFGHANISTAN'S RECENT PAST KAKAR'S VOICE WILL BE ONE OF THOSE MOST LISTENED TO FEW PEOPLE ARE MORE RESPECTED OR BETTER POSITIONED TO SPEAK ON THE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN THAN M HASSAN KAKAR A PROFESSOR AT KABUL UNIVERSITY AND SCHOLAR OF AFGHANISTAN AFFAIRS AT THE TIME OF THE 1978 COUP D'ÉTAT KAKAR VIVIDLY DESCRIBES THE EVE

NEARLY EIGHT YEARS SINCE INITIATING COMBAT OPERATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN THE UNITED STATES AND OUR ALLIES ARE WITNESSING FIRST HAND THE DIFFICULTY OF DENYING SANCTUARY TO THE TALIBAN AND AL QAEDA SIMILAR TO THE MUJAHIDEEN IN THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR TODAY'S INSURGENTS ARE LEVERAGING MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN AND INTERNATIONAL BORDERS TO SURVIVE AGAINST A SUPERPOWER'S COUNTERINSURGENCY EFFORTS AS THE UNITED STATES PREPARES TO SHIFT FOCUS FROM IRAQ TO AFGHANISTAN IT BEHOOVES US TO INCORPORATE LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY SHAPE OUR FORCE AND EQUIPMENT EVOLVE COUNTERINSURGENCY TACTICS AND DOCTRINE AND INTEGRATE THE ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL POWER TO DENY INSURGENT SANCTUARY I CHOSE TO STUDY THE SOVIET EFFORTS TO DENY THE MUJAHIDEEN SANCTUARY BECAUSE I BELIEVE SANCTUARY DENIAL IS A CRITICAL REQUIREMENT FOR OUR SUCCESS IN THE CURRENT FIGHT AGAINST THE TALIBAN AND AL QAEDA THE SOVIET UNION DID NOT ANTICIPATE A DECADE LONG COUNTERINSURGENCY FIGHT AGAINST THE MUJAHIDEEN WHEN IT INVADED THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN DRA IN DECEMBER 1979 DETERMINED TO STABILIZE THE RAPIDLY DETERIORATING POLITICAL MILITARY SITUATION IN ITS NEWEST CLIENT STATE THE SOVIET UNION CONDUCTED A COUP DE MAIN MODELED AFTER SUCCESSFUL INTERVENTIONS IN HUNGARY 1956 AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1968 THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP BELIEVED THAT THE MERE PRESENCE OF SOVIET FORCES WOULD SERVE TO SOBER UP THE MUJAHIDEEN AND ENABLE THE DRA'S COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT TO SUPPRESS THE INSURGENCY FAILING TO APPRECIATE THE WILL OF THE MUJAHIDEEN TO RESIST FOREIGN INVADERS THE SOVIETS MISCALCULATED THE NATURE OF THE WAR INTO WHICH THEY ENTERED INSTEAD OF SIMPLY PROVIDING SECURITY LOGISTICS AND COMBAT SUPPORT FOR DRA FORCES FIGHTING THE MUJAHIDEEN THE CONVENTIONALLY STRUCTURED TRAINED AND EQUIPPED 40TH ARMY ASSUMED THE LEAD AGAINST A DETERMINED GUERRILLA OPPONENT IN SOME OF THE MOST RUGGED TERRAIN ON EARTH THE

SOVIETS PROPERLY IDENTIFIED SANCTUARY AS A CRITICAL REQUIREMENT FOR THE MUJAHIDEEN TO WAGE A SUCCESSFUL RESISTANCE BUT NEVER EFFECTIVELY DEPRIVED THE INSURGENCY OF THIS REQUIREMENT THE SOVIET UNION FAILED TO DENY SANCTUARY TO THE MUJAHIDEEN BECAUSE IT DEPLOYED AN INADEQUATE FORCE TO AFGHANISTAN BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY IT PROVED UNABLE TO COUNTERACT INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE INSURGENCY PREFACE INTRODUCTION SANCTUARY DEFINED GEOGRAPHICAL CONTEXT DEMOGRAPHICS AND CULTURE BACKGROUND POLITICAL TURMOIL IN THE 1970s SOVIET COMBAT OPERATIONS INADEQUATE FORCE TO DENY SANCTUARY COUNTERING INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE MUJAHIDEEN CONCLUSIONS NOTES APPENDIX A AFGHANISTAN S NEIGHBORS APPENDIX B AFGHANISTAN 3 D RELIEF MAP APPENDIX C MAIN ETHNIC GROUPS OF AFGHANISTAN BIBLIOGRAPHY

IN 1984 TAMAROV THEN 19 WAS DRAFTED INTO THE SOVIET ARMY AND POSTED TO AFGHANISTAN WHERE HE SPENT 20 MONTHS IN A MINESWEEPER OUTFIT DESPITE HEAVY OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND DANGER HE MANAGED TO TAKE ARTFUL PHOTOGRAPHS WHICH CAPTURE THE STARK LANDSCAPE FRIENDLY AND UNFRIENDLY AFGHANS AND THE MEN OF HIS PLATOON IN ACTION AND IN REPOSE PHOTOGRAPHS DEPICTING THE HAUNTED FACES OF BOTH SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS THE COUNTRY S RUGGED YET BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN TERRAIN AND THE BANALITY OF DAILY LIFE BETWEEN MISSIONS ARE INTERSPERSED WITH TAMAROV S UNSENTIMENTAL BUT PASSIONATE PROSE IN WHICH HE REVEALS HIS GROWING DISORIENTATION AND TAKES TO TASK HIS GOVERNMENT FOR A CAMPAIGN THAT HAS BEEN WIDELY DUBBED THE SOVIET VIETNAM RETURNING HOME UNINJURED IN 1986 THE AUTHOR SUBSEQUENTLY TRAVELED TO THE UNITED STATES MET WITH VIETNAM VETS AND PAID HIS RESPECTS AT THE WALL ON THE MALL IN WASHINGTON D C SHARING WITH HIS NEW ACQUAINTANCES SOMETHING WHICH OTHERS CANNOT UNDERSTAND MORE THAN A PHOTOGRAPHIC ESSAY AFGHANISTAN OFFERS AN STUNNINGLY PERSONAL VIEW OF COMBAT THAT IS RARELY SEEN BY MOST

THIS IS LIKEWISE ONE OF THE FACTORS BY OBTAINING THE SOFT DOCUMENTS OF THIS **SOVIET COUNTERINSURGENCY IN THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR**

BY ONLINE. YOU MIGHT NOT REQUIRE MORE ERA TO SPEND TO GO TO THE BOOK COMMENCEMENT AS WELL AS SEARCH FOR THEM. IN SOME CASES, YOU LIKEWISE COMPLETE NOT DISCOVER THE PROCLAMATION SOVIET COUNTERINSURGENCY IN THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR THAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR. IT WILL AGREED SQUANDER THE TIME. HOWEVER BELOW, SUBSEQUENT TO YOU VISIT THIS WEB PAGE, IT WILL BE AS A RESULT EXTREMELY EASY TO ACQUIRE AS WITHOUT DIFFICULTY AS DOWNLOAD LEAD SOVIET COUNTERINSURGENCY IN THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR IT WILL NOT BOW TO MANY TIME AS WE NOTIFY BEFORE. YOU CAN ATTAIN IT THOUGH ACCOMPLISHMENT SOMETHING ELSE AT HOME AND EVEN IN YOUR WORKPLACE. SUITABLY EASY! So, ARE YOU QUESTION? JUST EXERCISE JUST WHAT WE ALLOW UNDER AS COMPETENTLY AS EVALUATION **SOVIET COUNTERINSURGENCY IN THE SOVIET AFGHAN WAR** WHAT YOU AS SOON AS TO READ!

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VALUABLE, AND WHERE CAN YOU FIND THE BEST ONES? LET'S DIVE INTO THE WORLD OF FREE EBOOK SITES.

## BENEFITS OF FREE EBOOK SITES

WHEN IT COMES TO READING, FREE EBOOK SITES OFFER NUMEROUS ADVANTAGES.

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THERE ARE COUNTLESS FREE EBOOK SITES, BUT A FEW STAND OUT FOR THEIR QUALITY AND RANGE OF OFFERINGS.

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PROJECT GUTENBERG IS A PIONEER IN OFFERING FREE EBOOKS. WITH OVER 60,000 TITLES, THIS SITE PROVIDES A WEALTH OF CLASSIC LITERATURE IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

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YOU CAN ALSO FIND BOOKS ON VARIOUS SKILLS, FROM COOKING TO PROGRAMMING, MAKING THESE SITES GREAT FOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT.

## SUPPORTING HOMESCHOOLING

FOR HOMESCHOOLING PARENTS, FREE EBOOK SITES PROVIDE A WEALTH OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR DIFFERENT GRADE LEVELS AND SUBJECTS.

## GENRES AVAILABLE ON FREE EBOOK SITES

THE DIVERSITY OF GENRES AVAILABLE ON FREE EBOOK SITES ENSURES THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

### FICTION

FROM TIMELESS CLASSICS TO CONTEMPORARY BESTSELLERS, THE FICTION SECTION IS BRIMMING WITH OPTIONS.

### NON-FICTION

NON-FICTION ENTHUSIASTS CAN FIND BIOGRAPHIES, SELF-HELP BOOKS, HISTORICAL TEXTS, AND MORE.

### TEXTBOOKS

STUDENTS CAN ACCESS TEXTBOOKS ON A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS, HELPING REDUCE THE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF EDUCATION.

### CHILDREN'S BOOKS

PARENTS AND TEACHERS CAN FIND A PLETHORA OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS, FROM PICTURE BOOKS TO YOUNG ADULT NOVELS.

## ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES OF EBOOK SITES

EBOOK SITES OFTEN COME WITH FEATURES THAT ENHANCE ACCESSIBILITY.

### AUDIOBOOK OPTIONS

MANY SITES OFFER AUDIOBOOKS, WHICH ARE GREAT FOR THOSE WHO PREFER LISTENING TO READING.

### ADJUSTABLE FONT SIZES

YOU CAN ADJUST THE FONT SIZE TO SUIT YOUR READING COMFORT, MAKING IT EASIER FOR THOSE WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS.

### TEXT-TO-SPEECH CAPABILITIES

TEXT-TO-SPEECH FEATURES CAN CONVERT WRITTEN TEXT INTO AUDIO, PROVIDING AN ALTERNATIVE WAY TO ENJOY BOOKS.

### TIPS FOR MAXIMIZING YOUR EBOOK EXPERIENCE

TO MAKE THE MOST OUT OF YOUR EBOOK READING EXPERIENCE, CONSIDER THESE TIPS.

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT DEVICE

WHETHER IT'S A TABLET, AN E-READER, OR A SMARTPHONE, CHOOSE A DEVICE THAT OFFERS A COMFORTABLE READING EXPERIENCE FOR YOU.

## ORGANIZING YOUR EBOOK LIBRARY

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## FUTURE OF FREE EBOOK SITES

THE FUTURE LOOKS PROMISING FOR FREE EBOOK SITES AS TECHNOLOGY CONTINUES TO ADVANCE.

## TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES

IMPROVEMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY WILL LIKELY MAKE ACCESSING AND READING EBOOKS EVEN MORE SEAMLESS AND ENJOYABLE.

## EXPANDING ACCESS

EFFORTS TO EXPAND INTERNET ACCESS GLOBALLY WILL HELP MORE PEOPLE BENEFIT FROM FREE EBOOK SITES.

## ROLE IN EDUCATION

AS EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES BECOME MORE DIGITIZED, FREE EBOOK SITES WILL PLAY AN INCREASINGLY VITAL ROLE IN LEARNING.

## CONCLUSION

IN SUMMARY, FREE EBOOK SITES OFFER AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY TO ACCESS A WIDE RANGE OF BOOKS WITHOUT THE FINANCIAL BURDEN. THEY ARE INVALUABLE RESOURCES FOR READERS OF ALL AGES AND INTERESTS, PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES. SO WHY NOT EXPLORE THESE SITES AND DISCOVER THE WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE THEY OFFER?

## FAQs

ARE FREE EBOOK SITES LEGAL? YES, MOST FREE EBOOK SITES ARE LEGAL. THEY TYPICALLY OFFER BOOKS THAT ARE IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN OR HAVE THE RIGHTS TO DISTRIBUTE THEM. HOW DO I KNOW IF AN EBOOK SITE IS SAFE? STICK TO WELL-KNOWN AND REPUTABLE SITES LIKE PROJECT GUTENBERG, OPEN LIBRARY, AND GOOGLE BOOKS. CHECK REVIEWS AND ENSURE THE SITE HAS PROPER SECURITY MEASURES. CAN I DOWNLOAD EBOOKS TO ANY DEVICE? MOST FREE EBOOK SITES OFFER DOWNLOADS IN MULTIPLE FORMATS, MAKING THEM COMPATIBLE WITH VARIOUS DEVICES LIKE E-READERS, TABLETS, AND SMARTPHONES. DO FREE EBOOK SITES OFFER AUDIOBOOKS? MANY FREE EBOOK SITES OFFER AUDIOBOOKS, WHICH ARE PERFECT FOR THOSE WHO PREFER LISTENING TO THEIR BOOKS. HOW CAN I SUPPORT AUTHORS IF I USE FREE EBOOK SITES? YOU CAN SUPPORT AUTHORS BY PURCHASING THEIR BOOKS WHEN POSSIBLE, LEAVING REVIEWS, AND SHARING THEIR WORK WITH OTHERS.

