

The Che Guevara Reader: Writings on Politics and Revolution

Che Guevara was one of the most iconic and influential figures of the 20th century. A revolutionary leader, Marxist theorist, and guerrilla fighter, he dedicated his life to the cause of social justice and the overthrow of imperialism. The Che Guevara Reader brings together a selection of his most important writings, providing an essential to his thought and legacy.



The Che Guevara Reader: Writings on Politics & Revolution by David Deutschmann

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 398 KB

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 272 pages



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Che Guevara was born in Rosario, Argentina, in 1928. He was the son of a wealthy family, but he was always drawn to the plight of the poor and oppressed. After graduating from medical school, he traveled throughout Latin America, witnessing firsthand the poverty and inequality that plagued the region. In 1955, he joined the Cuban Revolution, led by Fidel Castro. Guevara played a key role in the guerrilla campaign that overthrew the Batista dictatorship in 1959.

After the revolution, Guevara served as Cuba's Minister of Industry and then as President of the National Bank. He was also a leading figure in the Cuban government's efforts to promote socialism and internationalism. In 1965, he left Cuba to join the guerrilla movement in Bolivia. He was captured and killed by the Bolivian army in 1967.

Early Writings

Guevara's early writings, such as his Motorcycle Diaries and The African Diary, provide a glimpse into his early political and philosophical development. In these writings, he expresses his sympathy for the poor and oppressed and his belief in the need for social revolution. He also critiques the United States and its role in Latin America.

Guerrilla Warfare

Guevara's most famous work, Guerrilla Warfare, is a manual on how to wage a successful guerrilla campaign. The book is based on Guevara's own experiences in the Cuban Revolution. It provides detailed instructions on how to organize and train a guerrilla army, how to conduct ambushes and raids, and how to survive in the jungle. Guerrilla Warfare has been

used by guerrilla movements around the world, including the Viet Cong, the Sandinistas, and the IRA.

On Revolution

In *On Revolution*, Guevara argues that revolution is the only way to achieve social justice and human liberation. He rejects the idea that revolution can be achieved through peaceful means, and he calls for armed struggle against the forces of oppression. Guevara also discusses the role of the peasantry in revolution, and he emphasizes the importance of internationalism.

Socialism and Communism

Guevara was a committed Marxist, and he believed that socialism was the only way to create a just and equitable society. He argued that capitalism is a system of exploitation and oppression, and he called for its overthrow. Guevara also believed that communism was the ultimate goal of revolution, but he recognized that it would take time to achieve. He was willing to work with non-communist forces to achieve socialism, but he ultimately believed that communism was the only way to create a truly just and free society.

Internationalism

Guevara was a strong believer in internationalism, and he argued that the struggle for socialism and revolution was a global one. He called for unity among all oppressed peoples, and he supported revolutionary movements around the world. Guevara was particularly critical of the United States, which he saw as the main obstacle to social progress in Latin America and the world. He called for the overthrow of the United States government and the establishment of a socialist world.

Legacy

Che Guevara was a complex and controversial figure. He was a brilliant revolutionary leader, a gifted writer, and a dedicated internationalist. He was also a ruthless killer who was responsible for the deaths of many people. Despite his flaws, Guevara remains a symbol of hope and inspiration for millions of people around the world. His writings continue to be read and studied by activists and revolutionaries, and his legacy continues to inspire new generations of fighters for social justice.

The Che Guevara Reader is an essential to the thought and legacy of one of the most important figures of the 20th century. This collection of his most important writings provides a unique insight into his political and philosophical development, and it offers a powerful reminder of the importance of fighting for social justice and human liberation.

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