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Who Rules The World?

Who
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World



Noam
Chomsky

Author of HEGEMONY OR SURVIVAL and FAILED STATES



Synopsis

The world's leading intellectual offers a probing examination of the waning American century, the nature of US policies post-9/11, and the perils of valuing power above democracy and human rights. In an incisive, thorough analysis of the current international situation, Noam Chomsky argues that the United States, through its military-first policies and its unstinting devotion to maintaining a world-spanning empire, is both risking catastrophe and wrecking the global commons. Drawing on a wide range of examples, from the expanding drone assassination program to the threat of nuclear warfare as well as the flashpoints of Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and Israel/Palestine, he offers unexpected and nuanced insights into the workings of imperial power on our increasingly chaotic planet. In the process Chomsky provides a brilliant anatomy of just how US elites have grown ever more insulated from any democratic constraints on their power. While the broader population is lulled into apathy - diverted to consumerism or hatred of the vulnerable - the corporations and the rich have increasingly been allowed to do as they please. Fierce, unsparing, and meticulously documented, *Who Rules the World?* delivers the indispensable understanding of the central conflicts and dangers of our time that we have come to expect from Chomsky.

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Customer Reviews

For some time people have been aware that we live in a government-by-corporation world. Mr Chomsky lays out the nuts and bolts of how this works. For someone who cares, this is a good

starting point at getting an education on the subject. Vilified by conservatives and liberals alike who feed at the corporate troughs, Mr Chomsky sees things as they are. I would recommend any of his books.

I am not a typical reader of Chomsky - my views would be described as 'conservative'. But in my studies over the past 10 years I have tried to read the 'other side'. My conclusion is that our oppressors have benefited from (and probably planned) the great divide between liberals and conservatives. Conservatives trust the "markets" while Liberals trust the government. The truth is that the government and the market are two heads of the same beast when crony capitalism takes over and the oligarchy rules. That is why there was no appreciable difference from Bush to Clinton to Bush to Obama. Both sides need to realize that the oligarchy benefits from this division, and we need to seek common ground to dismantle the power structures that are slowly squeezing the liberties out of our society.

This book is an eye opening account on the atrocities committed in the name of "democracy". There are sources cited for almost every paragraph to, hopefully, satisfy even the most skeptical of readers.

Leave aside all the personal feelings about whether you like Chomsky or not and just read the book its very good and there is alot of information that backs his theory on Who Rules The World. In my opinion he is a genius and has a view on matters that not alot of people want to listen to or read because of his criticism on certain country's governments and policies and people take it personally and therefore view it as offensive.. leave those feelings aside and try to see things from his view..

Noam Chomsky is a national treasure that the nation will never treasure. He lays down a literate and blistering critique of the Establishment's creation of the downward spiral in which we see the United States today, as well as similar issues around the world. Although he seems to repeat himself from chapter to chapter at times, it's because often the root of the problems his discusses is the same. Worth a read.

After I finished reading this book, I felt about the same as Neo did in the movie Matrix after he chose Morpheus's red pill. I once and for all wake up in reality: power rules the world. If I had chosen the blue pill, I would continue to believe that power implies value and responsibility. But

I took the red pill and I now see full-screen that power instead fosters inequity, inequality and unilaterality.

Always Chomsky is an intelligent read ... something we desperately need today as the US of A becomes Trumplandia !!! Keep writing Noam !

Since the end of WWII, the U.S. has been the 'first among unequals,' and remains so' - setting the terms for global discussion on Israel-Palestine, Iran, Latin America, the GWOT, international economics, human rights and justice, globalization, nuclear proliferation, etc. That power, however, has been diminishing since it peaked in 1945. Americans tend to believe that U.S. military supremacy is used only with benevolent intentions. Chomsky begs to differ - reporting an America full of hypocrisy and self-interest. He even points out that we're not the first to supposedly spread benevolence - previously there was France's 'civilizing mission' among its colonies, and Japan's vow to bring 'earthly paradise' to China. (I'm sure Rome had some benevolent motivations for constantly expanding its empire as well.) Prominent researchers in the U.S. have produced compelling evidence that 'economic elites and organized groups have substantial independent impact on U.S. government policy, while average citizens and mass-based interest groups have little or none.' Other studies have demonstrated that the large majority of the population at the lower end of the income/wealth scale are effectively excluded from the political system, while a tiny sector at the top has overwhelming influence, and that over a long period, campaign funding is a good predictor of policy choices. One consequence is large numbers not bothering to vote, and 'class-skewed abstention rates.' Meanwhile, environmental and nuclear threats continue to grow. The term 'dissident' does not apply to those who combat U.S.-supported tyranny abroad such as Nelson Mandela, Reagan's support for the apartheid regime in violation of congressional sanctions, as well as depredations in neighboring countries led to 1.5 million deaths, per a U.N. study. Then there were hundreds of thousands more in Central America, as well the Middle East. (John Coatsworth's "Cambridge History of the Cold War" reports that from 1960 to "the Soviet collapse in 1990, the numbers of political prisoners, torture victims, and executions of nonviolent political dissenters in Latin America vastly exceeded those in the Soviet Union and its East European satellites. Then there was the washing-backed coup in Brazil, backed by Washington and implemented shortly after JFK's assassination, the 1973 coup that installed the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile (Pinochet then killed 3,000 and installed economists trained at the University of Chicago - 9/11/73), and then later, the Reagan-supported Argentine dictatorship. In 1990, Haiti had

its first free election, and the public elected Aristide; the U.S. immediately moved to undermine that government, then lent support to the military junta that took power. Columbia's attorney general's office estimates more than 140,000 people have been killed by paramilitaries, often acting in collaboration with the U.S.-funded military. A similar rationale lay behind U.S. actions in Vietnam and the 'domino theory' - the most tragic application was Indonesia's slaughter in 1965-66 of 500,000+ alleged Communists. Chomsky particularly targets U.S. hypocrisy towards Israel. As for who rules the world now, most Americans would probably say "No one."

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