

RETURN OF A KING: THE BATTLE FOR AFGHANISTAN FREE DOWNLOAD



William Dalrymple | 608 pages | 02 Apr 2013 | Bloomsbury Publishing PLC | 9781408818305 | English | London, United Kingdom

The Men Who Would Be King

Dalrymple understands the tribal and cultural intricacies that elude most western historian writing about Afghanistan or the sub-continent. Lawrence Wright. Prize-winning and bestselling historian William Dalrymple's masterful retelling of Britain's greatest imperial disaster is a powerful and important parable of colonial ambition and cultural collision, folly and hubris, for our times. Dalrymple is a master storyteller, whose special gift lies in the use of indigenous sources, so often neglected by imperial chroniclers. Very few survived — those who were not shot, froze or starved to death. This book is a pastiche of military and diplomatic history, with the addition of lessons on the organizational behavior of the East India Company. The British conveniently had one. Dalrymple has resurrected an oft-told tale and brought it convincingly back to life. The politics and political organization of the multi-ethnic and tribal Afghanistan are also well laid out. In what is arguably the greatest military humiliation ever suffered by the West in the East, more than eighteen thousand cold and hungry British troops, Indian sepoy and camp followers retreated through the icy mountain passes, and of the last survivors who made their final stand at the village of Gandamak, only one man, Dr Brydon, made it through to the British garrison at Jellalabad. Read An Excerpt. Want to Read saving. ... Ever since this fiasco, an entire phalanx of writers has denounced the arrogance, folly and incompetence of the British aggressors of which there was plenty. Return of a King: The Battle for Afghanistan has drawn a predictable lesson: those who invade Afghanistan pay a high price in treasure and blood — and also inflict one on its unlucky peoples. Dalrymple's account is livelier than another well known book on the subject, Peter Hopkirk's, *The Great Game*. But they never controlled the tribes or countryside, never understood the culture and left defeated after the declaration of a holy war against them. In India the British successfully co-opted an entire class of indigenous people, but in Afghanistan it seems they were not able to do so. And British military and political incompetence, from virulent Russophobia to Elphinstone's bizarre passivity towards the rumblings in Kabul, registers with stark clarity. That's as true of this work as it is of the others I've read. From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. Shelves: audio-books, read non-fiction, history of Afghanistan. Martha Raddatz. Dec 31, Bfisher rated it really liked it Shelves: history, military-history. There were numerous insults, both real and perceived, many of them regarding the treatment of Muslim women. That makes the book unique. Here is a bit from the book about this: "The British later learned to follow the Mughal model. This was just one of innumerable stupid decisions resulting from crass ignorance. Jan 25, Laura rated it liked it Recommends it for: Bettie, Carey. While I'm reasonably familiar with the geography of Afghanistan, it would have been good to consult the maps which are at the front of the book and the photographs at the back. I presume that they're in the middle of the regular book at will, something very difficult to Return of a King: The Battle for Afghanistan with a book in electronic format. A saga that makes for marvelous storytelling, filled with heroes, knaves, incompetent fools, and savage, bloodthirsty warriors. This book shows how history can be written like a thriller without sacrificing facts and Return of a King: The Battle for Afghanistan. A 'Must read' for anyone interested in the subject. Read more Gordon was killed. And as the latest occupying force in Afghanistan negotiates its exit, this chronicle seems all too relevant now. They were mostly artwork and copies of publications from the period. Still, it was not feasible to continue occupying Afghanistan forever and so Britain withdraws, leaving Dost Mohammed Khan once again in power after all the carnage and destruction and expenditure of vast sums of money. He also travelled the country during time of war so during NATO's operations and lives in the region. This latest book delights and shocks as he points the finger at both sides for their deceit, treachery and cruelty. But Dalrymple through the narrations of people living in that time, provides a fascinating insight into the immoral antics of Imperial Britain. They now live on a farm outside Delhi. The author spent time in both Afghanistan and Pakistan during its research and elaborates on the obvious parallels with the current situation," [3] Barnaby Rogerson in *The Independent* says "Return of a King is not just an animated and highly literate retelling of a chapter of early 19th-century British military history, but also a determined attempt to reach out. Return of a King: The Battle for Afghanistan influence the politicians and policy-makers of our modern world. Read by Tim Pigott-Smith. The book was mixed in its use of pictures and maps. Also, the same situations occur where small beleaguered British garrisons hold out against constant attack. Persian was the language for official documentation in Central Asia. His Return of a King: The Battle for Afghanistan is always meticulous and his prose engaging. Interesting background to the present situation. One of the main was is the siting of the Cantonment area in Kabul. Like America and its present allies, the British for strategic reason. This is the story of the first 19th century British invasion of Afghanistan. Patriot Number One. But the Afghans declared a holy war Jihad on the Sikhs. I would have liked to have seen some current photographs of existing locations. With modern aircraft, the massacre might at least be avoided this time. This book is Return of a King: The Battle for Afghanistan masterpiece of nuanced writing and research, and a thrilling account of a watershed Victorian conflict. *Six Days of War*. Dalrymple has written some marvellous books on the British in Asia but this, I think, is his best. Quotes from Return of a King *The Long Walk*. For information on Return of a King: The Battle for Afghanistan we process your data, read our Privacy Policy. Retrieved 7 June As if they had restored the pride of Hindustan.

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