

[Free download] Germany: Memories of a Nation

Germany: Memories of a Nation

Neil MacGregor

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Neil MacGregor : Germany: Memories of a Nation before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Germany: Memories of a Nation:

24 of 24 people found the following review helpful. Truly revealing and inspiring By John Heron 800 years in 500 plus pages on each of which you will, unless you are a scholar of Germany, find something you did not know before. Nothing is left out, and even the painful parts of history are dealt with sensitivity and insight. A page turner, I read it straight through in a couple of days something unusual for me. I will ponder it awhile, and then reread it again. The graphics, which I studied on an iPad, are beautifully done. 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Eminently readable history of the former German empire and beyond By Prudence M. Thorner This is an excellent book written by the former director of the British Museum who curated a recent exhibition of the same name. There are no footnotes and the references are not very clearly attributed, but these very omissions make this easy and pleasant to read. For a general audience this is a great introduction to the making of the modern united nation. Questions about Prussia, the Hanseatic League, and the Holy Roman Empire are answered here in a beautifully illustrated format. Neil MacGregor has written a fine account of Germany then and now. The book is printed in Germany and these qualities are a tribute to their superior printing technology. (See my disparaging comments about the poor production of photographer Sally Mann's recent book "Hold Still" and you will understand why I appreciate the quality of this book). This is a book to enjoy now and to refer to often in years to come. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is one of the finest books on German history that I have come across By nmhah I have a degree in history and have read extensively on European and German history. This is one of the finest books on German history that I have come across.

MacGregor's approach is novel in that each chapter is like a short article on a particular topic. Although the flow is chronological, the topics are not detailed expositions of, for example, the Thirty Years' War, but rather a series of tangential and interesting subplots which reveal in their accumulation a fascinating and thoughtful overview of, among other things, what it means to be German. One of the other strengths of the book is that it includes extremely useful maps and contains pictures of nearly all the personalities and pieces of art to which the author refers in the text. A comfortable and hugely enjoyable read.

A major new series from the makers of *A History Of The World In 100 Objects*, exploring the fascinating and complex history of Germany from the origins of the Holy Roman Empire right up to the present day. Written and presented by Neil MacGregor, it is produced by BBC Radio 4, in partnership with the British Museum. While Germanys past is too often seen through the prism of the two World Wars, this series investigates a wider 600-year-old history of the nation through its objects. It examines the key moments that have defined Germanys pastits great, world-changing achievements and its devastating tragediesand it explores the profound influence that Germanys history, culture and inventiveness have had across Europe. The objects featured in the radio series range from large sculptures to small individual artifacts and items that are prosaic, iconic, and symbolic. Each has a story to tell, a memory to invoke.

"Neil MacGregor is our greatest cultural polymath... Anyone who wants to understand Germany should read this." -- Antony Beevor, *Observer*"From sausages and porcelain to the glory days of Bauhaus, MacGregor has produced a dazzling history that goes far beyond the stereotypes of Nazis, forests and leather shorts. The illustrations alone -- the glittering interior of Aachen Cathedral, the engravings of Albrecht Durer -- make you want to jump on the first flight to Berlin." --Dominic Sandbrook, *Sunday Times*About the AuthorNeil MacGregor has been Director of the British Museum since August 2002. He was previously director of the National Gallery in London from 1987 to 2002. His books and BBC Radio series include *A History of the World in 100 Objects* and *Shakespeare's Restless World*.