



# Twentieth-Century World History

*By William J. Duiker*

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## Twentieth-Century World History By William J. Duiker

Duiker's comprehensive, balanced history of the world in the twentieth century provides you with context for interpreting the events that you hear about in the news each day. You'll view history from the broader global perspective, while at the same time gaining insight into the distinctive character of individual civilizations and regions. And to ensure that you'll have a well-rounded understanding of the most decisive moments in recent times, Duiker integrates political, economic, social, and cultural history into a smoothly written narrative. What's more, the text includes a special insert that guides you in using the text's many detailed maps, which help you make important connections between geography and the turn of historic events; timelines that highlight and contrast different cultures and nations, thus giving you an "at-a-glance," holistic perspective on eras and their defining events; photos from William Duiker's own collection that giving you a closer, more personal look at the world we live in; and primary-source documents that illustrate and clarify key points.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

"Although it is a personal decision, all members of the department who teach the contemporary world course use the Duiker text. Key in the choice is readability, conciseness, and length."

"I compared the two texts and selected Duiker for its well-balanced thematic and chronological treatment; more attractive layout than Findley; and maps and visual elements. The third edition is an improvement on the second: the new layout and addition of color makes it visually crisper and more attractive. ... This is a global history text that offers a thematic approach to the twentieth century with a strong narrative. Duiker provides appropriate detail to individual countries and distinctive cultures, and, unlike many texts, it gives full attention to the importance of geography."

"The major strength of the book is that it is concise and well written. Duiker does a good job combining political, economic and cultural aspects of the world since 1850."

"Chapters 1, 2, and 3 are a strength to the book by providing an excellent background to the developments in the nineteenth century that contribute to the direction of the twentieth century. Students find the author's treatment to be straightforward, analytical, and easy to understand. The division of the three chapters seems to be perfect in blocking three major areas that shape the twentieth century."

"He succeeds admirably in achieving his intention - the marriage of global and regional as well as cultural issues."

### **About the Author**

William J. Duiker is liberal arts Professor Emeritus of East Asian studies at The Pennsylvania State University. A former U.S. diplomat with service in Taiwan, South Vietnam, and Washington, D.C., he received his doctorate in Far Eastern history from Georgetown University. At Penn State, he has written extensively on the history of Vietnam and modern China, including the highly acclaimed COMMUNIST ROAD TO POWER IN VIETNAM (revised edition, Westview Press, 1996), which was selected for a Choice Outstanding Academic Book Award in 1982-1983 and 1996-1997. Other books are CHINA AND VIETNAM: THE ROOTS OF CONFLICT (Berkeley, 1987), U.S. CONTAINMENT POLICY AND THE CONFLICT IN INDOCHINA (Stanford, 1995), SACRED WAR: NATIONALISM AND REVOLUTION IN A DIVIDED VIETNAM (McGraw-Hill, 1995), and HO CHI MINH (Hyperion, 2000), which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 2001. While his research specialization is in the field of nationalism and Asian revolutions, his intellectual interests are considerably more diverse. He has traveled widely and has taught courses on the history of communism and non-Western civilizations at Penn State, where he was awarded a Faculty Scholar Medal for Outstanding Achievement in the spring of 1996.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Rachel Garber:**

As people who live in typically the modest era should be upgrade about what going on or details even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era which is always change and make progress. Some

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**John Burns:**

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**Amber Tyson:**

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