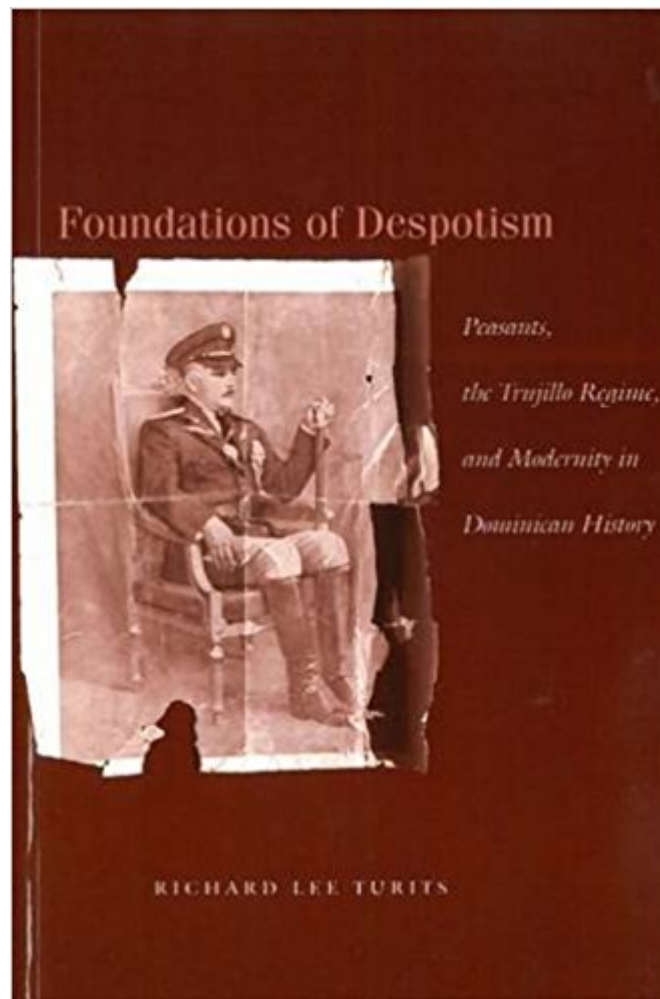


The book was found

Foundations Of Despotism: Peasants, The Trujillo Regime, And Modernity In Dominican History



Synopsis

This book explores the history of the Dominican Republic as it evolved from the first European colony in the Americas into a modern nation under the rule of Rafael Trujillo. It investigates the social foundations of Trujillo's exceptionally enduring and brutal dictatorship (1930-1961) and, more broadly, the way power is sustained in such non-democratic regimes. The author reveals how the seemingly unilateral imposition of power by Trujillo in fact depended on the regime's mediation of profound social and economic transformations, especially through agrarian policies that assisted the nation's large independent peasantry. By promoting an alternative modernity that sustained peasants' free access to land during a period of economic growth, the regime secured peasant support as well as backing from certain elite sectors. This book thus elucidates for the first time the hidden foundations of the Trujillo regime.

Book Information

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Stanford University Press; 1 edition (May 26, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0804751056

ISBN-13: 978-0804751056

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,369,153 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 in Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Dominican Republic #29433 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History #51647 in Books > History > World

Customer Reviews

For me this book was an eye-opening history of the foundation of Generalissimo Trujillo's long-lasting power. When I picked up this title I sought to know, beyond the oppression and excesses, HOW and WHY Dominicans put up with the guy for thirty years. As with Fidel Castro that long a reign takes much more than troops and torture to maintain. Turit's book offered many lessons on statecraft, nation-building and Trujillo's role in their development in DR. The largest lesson from this book was that despite the cruel and twisted aspects of his story Trujillo was actually a highly effective head of state whose early policies did great good to the infant nation. His regime sped up and solidified economic processes that unshackled DR from being a marginal backwater. Principally

this meant 'domesticating' our Dominican grandparents who were for the most part stubbornly nomadic ranchers and gatherers. None had succeeded in this for centuries. He drew the Dominican national boundaries, both territorially and tragically in the sense of identity. He almost literally created the state apparatus of DR. Most shockingly to me he successfully redistributed land to the common man the way so many Latin-American movements of the left promised and often failed to deliver. This last point is the one around which Foundations is centered. Clearly Trujillo acted out of greed and self-interest, but his cunning was in seeing where his interests aligned with those of our then often impoverished, landless Dominican grandparents. Foundations is written in an academic, densely foot-noted style and doesn't have a thrilling narrative. Unless you bring your own curiosity as I did you won't find it as gripping as titles on Trujillo's lurid dark side.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Foundations of Despotism: Peasants, the Trujillo Regime, and Modernity in Dominican History
The Dictator Next Door: The Good Neighbor Policy and the Trujillo Regime in the Dominican Republic, 1930-1945 (American Encounters/Global Interactions)
The Ultimate Dominican Cookbook - Delicious Recipes from The Dominican Republic: Homestyle Dominican Cooking You Can't Resist
Merengue : Dominican Music and Dominican Identity
Blacks, Mulattos, and the Dominican Nation (Classic Knowledge in Dominican Studies)
Social Composition of the Dominican Republic (Classic Knowledge in Dominican Studies)
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Country Studies: A brief, comprehensive study of Dominican Republic
Cities, Peasants and Food in Classical Antiquity: Essays in Social and Economic History
The Dictator's Seduction: Politics and the Popular Imagination in the Era of Trujillo (American Encounters/Global Interactions)
Tropical Zion: General Trujillo, FDR, and the Jews of Sos̃a (American Encounters/Global Interactions)
The Political Ecology of Bananas: Contract Farming, Peasants, and Agrarian Change in the Eastern Caribbean
Peasants, Rebels, Women, and Outcasts: The Underside of Modern Japan
Dead Peasants - A Thriller: A Zoo Crew Novel (Zoo Crew series Book 2)
Trujillo: The Death of the Dictator
Peasants under Siege: The Collectivization of Romanian Agriculture, 1949-1962
El Otro Ramfis Trujillo: Sus Últimos días de vida (Spanish Edition)
The Costs of Regime Survival: Racial Mobilization, Elite Domination and Control of the State in Guyana and Trinidad (American Sociological Association Rose Monographs)
Buying into the Regime: Grapes and Consumption in Cold War Chile and the United States (American Encounters/Global Interactions)
Law and Ecology: The Rise of the Ecosystem Regime (Ecology and Law in Modern Society)
Dictators and Democrats: Masses, Elites, and Regime Change

[Dmca](#)