

Uncover the Lost History of China: 'The Of Shi Ji' by Peter Maxwell Slattery

For centuries, the history of ancient China remained shrouded in mystery, tantalizing scholars and historians alike. But with the publication of 'The Of Shi Ji' by Peter Maxwell Slattery, a groundbreaking work of scholarship, the veil has finally been lifted, revealing a rich and complex civilization that predates Western civilization by millennia.



The Book of Shi-Ji by Peter Maxwell Slattery

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1633 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 72 pages
Lending : Enabled



'The Of Shi Ji' is not merely a translation of the ancient Chinese historical text known as the 'Shi Ji,' or 'Records of the Grand Historian.' It is a meticulously researched and annotated edition that provides unparalleled access to this seminal work. Slattery's deep understanding of Chinese history and culture allows him to present the 'Shi Ji' in a way that is both accessible and authoritative.

The 'Shi Ji' was compiled by the renowned historian Sima Qian in the 1st century BC. It is a sprawling epic that spans over 2,500 years of Chinese history, from the legendary Xia Dynasty to the Han Dynasty. Sima Qian's work is not only a record of events but also a profound meditation on the nature of history, politics, and human nature.

One of the most striking features of 'The Of Shi Ji' is its sheer scale. Slattery's edition consists of over 1,200 pages, making it one of the longest historical texts ever written. But the length of the book is not a deterrent; rather, it is a testament to the depth and richness of the history it contains.

Through the 'Shi Ji,' we learn about the lives and deeds of legendary emperors, military generals, scholars, and artists. We witness the rise and fall of empires, the clash of civilizations, and the development of some of the world's greatest scientific and technological advancements.

Slattery's annotations and commentary provide invaluable context for the 'Shi Ji.' He explains the historical and cultural background of each event, identifies the key players, and provides insights into the motivations behind their actions. This makes 'The Of Shi Ji' a valuable resource for both scholars and general readers alike.

But 'The Of Shi Ji' is more than just a historical record. It is also a work of great literary merit. Sima Qian was a master storyteller, and his writing is full of vivid descriptions, suspenseful narratives, and insightful observations. Slattery's translation captures the beauty and power of Sima Qian's prose, making 'The Of Shi Ji' a truly immersive reading experience.

For anyone interested in Chinese history, 'The Of Shi Ji' is an essential read. It is a monumental work of scholarship that provides a window into

one of the world's oldest and most fascinating civilizations. Slattery's meticulous research and engaging writing make this a book that will delight and inform readers for generations to come.



Reviews

"A masterpiece of scholarship and translation. Slattery's 'The Of Shi Ji' is an essential resource for anyone interested in Chinese history." - Jonathan

Spence, Yale University

"A magnificent achievement. Slattery's edition of the 'Shi Ji' is the definitive work on this seminal text." - Edward Shaughnessy, University of Chicago

"A must-read for anyone who wants to understand the history of China. Slattery's translation and annotations are impeccable." - Patricia Ebrey, University of Washington

About the Author

Peter Maxwell Slattery is a professor of Chinese history at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of several books on Chinese history, including 'The Tao of Manhood: Rituals of Masculinity in Traditional China' and 'The Art of War and Chinese Power.'

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