

Revolution, Repression, and Memory in El Salvador, 1920-1932



To Rise in Darkness: Revolution, Repression, and Memory in El Salvador, 1920-1932: Revolution, Repression, and Memory in El Salvador, 1920–1932

by Jeffrey L. Gould

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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In the 1920s and 1930s, El Salvador underwent a period of great social and political upheaval. A series of peasant uprisings, known as the Pipil Revolt, were met with brutal repression by the government. In the wake of the revolt, the Salvadoran government implemented a series of policies aimed at suppressing dissent and consolidating its power. These policies included the massacre of thousands of peasants, the imprisonment of political dissidents, and the censorship of the press.

The Pipil Revolt was a response to the growing inequality and exploitation in El Salvador. The country's economy was dominated by a small elite, while the majority of the population lived in poverty. The government was corrupt and authoritarian, and it often used violence to suppress dissent.

The Pipil Revolt began in 1932, when a group of peasants attacked a government garrison in the town of Izalco. The uprising quickly spread to other parts of the country, and within a matter of weeks, the rebels had control of much of the countryside. The government responded with overwhelming force, and within a few months, the revolt had been crushed.

The government's repression of the Pipil Revolt was one of the most brutal in Latin American history. Thousands of peasants were killed, and many more were imprisoned or tortured. The government also destroyed entire villages and forced tens of thousands of people to flee their homes.

The legacy of the Pipil Revolt continues to haunt El Salvador today. The country has never fully recovered from the violence and trauma of that period. The government's repression of the revolt created a climate of fear and distrust that has lasted for generations. The country has also been plagued by political violence and instability, and it has never been able to achieve true democracy.

In recent years, there has been a growing movement in El Salvador to remember the victims of the Pipil Revolt and to demand justice for the crimes that were committed. In 2012, the government passed a law that declared the revolt a "national tragedy" and established a commission to investigate the crimes that were committed. The commission's report, which was released in 2015, found that the government had committed genocide against the Pipil people.

The government's recognition of the genocide is a significant step towards healing the wounds of the past. However, there is still much work to be done. The government needs to implement the recommendations of the

commission's report, including providing reparations to the victims of the genocide and their families. The government also needs to take steps to address the root causes of the genocide, such as poverty and inequality.

The legacy of the Pipil Revolt is a reminder of the dangers of authoritarianism and repression. It is also a reminder of the importance of fighting for justice and human rights. The people of El Salvador have suffered greatly, but they have never given up hope. They continue to fight for a better future, a future in which all Salvadorans can live in peace and dignity.



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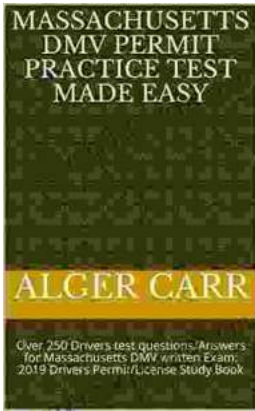
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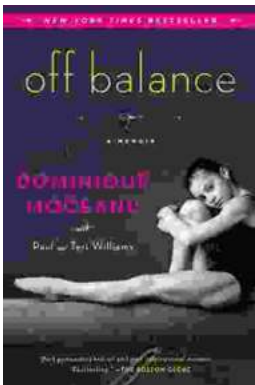
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