

Niger 1966-67: Before the Great Draught and the Terror



Niger 1966/67: Before the great draught and the terror

by Martin Easdown

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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In the heart of the Sahel region, where the Sahara Desert meets the fertile savannas of West Africa, lies the landlocked nation of Niger. In the mid-1960s, Niger was on the cusp of great change. The country had recently gained independence from France, and a young military officer named Seyni Kountché had seized power in a coup d'état.

Against this backdrop of political and social upheaval, a young American named Richard Trenk arrived in Niger to serve as a Peace Corps volunteer. Trenk was a recent graduate of the University of Wisconsin, and he was eager to experience the world beyond the bFree Downloads of his home country.

Trenk's memoir, *Niger 1966-67: Before the Great Draught and the Terror*, is a gripping and immersive account of his time spent in Niger. Trenk arrived in the country with a sense of idealism and a desire to make a difference.

He quickly learned, however, that the challenges facing Niger were complex and multifaceted.

Trenk spent his first year in Niger working in a rural village called Birni N'Gaouré. He taught English at the local school, and he worked with villagers to improve their access to clean water and healthcare. Trenk also witnessed firsthand the devastating effects of the drought that was beginning to grip the Sahel region.

In 1967, Trenk was transferred to the capital city of Niamey. He worked there as a translator for the American embassy, and he became involved in the country's political and intellectual life. Trenk met with government officials, journalists, and artists, and he gained a deep understanding of the complex forces that were shaping Niger's future.

Trenk's memoir is not only a personal account of his time in Niger, but also a valuable historical document. Trenk provides a unique perspective on the events that led up to the Great Draught and the Terror, and he offers insights into the complexities of Niger's political and social development.

Niger 1966-67: Before the Great Draught and the Terror is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of Niger, the Sahel region, or Africa. Trenk's memoir is a powerful and moving account of a country on the brink of change, and it offers a valuable lesson about the challenges and opportunities that face developing nations today.

About the Author

Richard Trenk is a writer and historian who has spent his life working to promote peace and understanding between the United States and the

developing world. Trenk served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Niger from 1966 to 1967, and he has since returned to the country on numerous occasions to conduct research and write about its history. Trenk's work has been published in a variety of journals and anthologies, and he is the author of several books, including *Niger 1966-67: Before the Great Draught and the Terror* and *The History of Niger*.

Reviews

"Trenk's memoir is a valuable contribution to the literature on Niger and the Sahel region. It is a well-written and engaging account of a country on the brink of great change." - *The Journal of African History*

"Trenk's book is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of Niger, the Sahel region, or Africa. It is a powerful and moving account of a country on the brink of change." - *The International Journal of African Studies*

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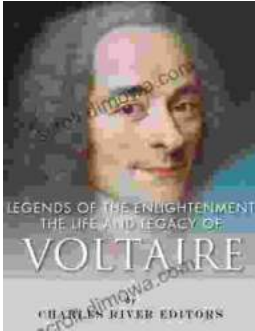
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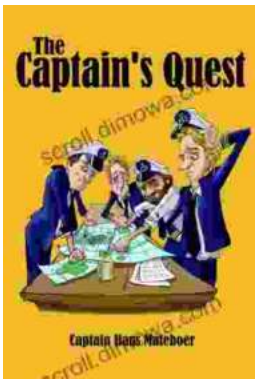
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