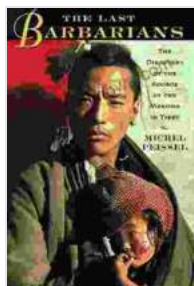


Unveiling the Source of the Mekong: An Epic Exploration into the Heart of Tibet



The Last Barbarians: The Discovery Of The Source Of The Mekong In Tibet by Michel Peissel

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 445 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 272 pages
Paperback	: 192 pages
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Dimensions	: 5.83 x 0.47 x 8.27 inches



The Mekong River, the lifeblood of Southeast Asia, winds its way through six countries, stretching over 4,350 kilometers. Its source, however, remained a tantalizing mystery until the intrepid journey of two French explorers in the early 20th century.

The Explorers: Jean Dupuis and Francis Garnier

In 1866, Jean Dupuis, a French naval officer and explorer, set out on a mission to explore the Mekong River. He was accompanied by Francis Garnier, a young naval lieutenant who had already gained a reputation for his bravery and exploration skills.

The Expedition

Dupuis and Garnier traveled up the Mekong River in a small boat, facing numerous challenges along the way. They battled strong currents, treacherous rapids, and hostile tribes.

Undeterred, they pressed on, navigating through the rugged gorges and dense jungles of northern Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia. In 1868, they reached the border of Tibet, where they faced their greatest obstacle.

The Tibetan Plateau

The Tibetan Plateau, known as "the Roof of the World," is a vast, barren, and unforgiving landscape. Dupuis and Garnier knew that crossing it would be perilous, but they were determined to find the source of the Mekong.

They hired local guides and pack animals, and set off into the unknown. The journey was arduous. They crossed high mountain passes, endured freezing temperatures, and faced altitude sickness.

The Discovery

After weeks of grueling travel, Dupuis and Garnier finally reached the source of the Mekong River. It was a small, unassuming spring nestled in a high valley in the Tanggula Mountains.

The discovery was a momentous achievement. It not only revealed the origins of one of the world's greatest rivers but also opened up the Tibetan Plateau to further exploration.

The Legacy

The expedition of Dupuis and Garnier had a profound impact on the world. It expanded our knowledge of geography and helped to shape our understanding of the natural world.

The discovery of the source of the Mekong River also had a significant impact on the political landscape of Southeast Asia. It gave France a foothold in the region and helped to pave the way for colonization.

The Discovery of the Source of the Mekong in Tibet is a captivating tale of exploration, adventure, and discovery. It is a testament to the indomitable spirit of the human race and the endless wonders that lie within our world.

Today, the source of the Mekong River is a popular tourist destination. Visitors can trek to the spring and witness the humble origins of one of Asia's most iconic rivers.

The legacy of Dupuis and Garnier lives on, inspiring future generations of explorers and adventurers.

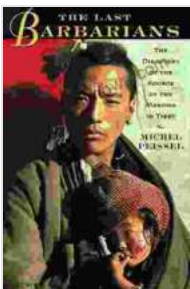
Image Gallery





Further Reading

- Jean Dupuis on Britannica.com
- Francis Garnier on Britannica.com
- The Mekong River: Uncovering the Source in Tibet

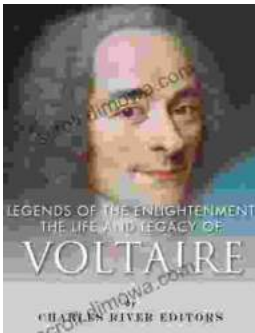


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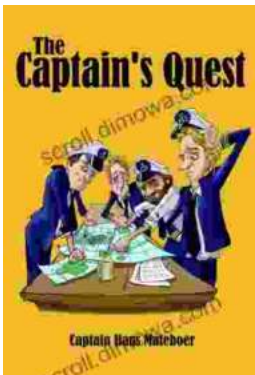
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