

# Communism

The twentieth century cannot be properly understood unless we understand communism: its origins, growth, demise and legacy. This brief overview of the history of communism challenges us to think about its role in shaping the contemporary world. This book shows how the modern communist movement emerged out of radical millenarian movements of the Middle Ages and the English Civil War, becoming a mass movement of industrial society, seeking to overturn capitalism and replace it with a society of equality, justice, harmony and co-operation. It traces the growth of modern communism from its beginnings in the early nineteenth century to its position of global power at the end of the Second World War. Why did communism grow so quickly? Why did it spread to turn almost half of the world red by the mid-1970s? What impact did it have upon capitalism and capitalist society?

Realities of the street-level American Communist experience during the worst years of the Depression

In 1940, American socialist-turned-conservatist politician Benjamin Gitlow first published this work of political autobiography, *I Confess: The Truth About American Communism*. The book proved to be controversial and widely noticed, pushing Gitlow into the public eye as a leading opponent of American Communism. To this day, it remains an important primary document for the study of American Communism in the

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1920s and 1930s. “This book is a faithful and, resolutely candid account from the inside—and what is more important, from the top—of a vital phase of recent American history. The history is secret, and might well have remained so but for the extraordinary poise and courage of this man, Ben Gitlow, and his ultimate recovery of clear vision and unmixed devotion to his ideals.”—Max Eastman, Introduction

This book is designed to bring the far-flung facts about Communism into a single volume. It contains a distillation of more than one hundred books and treatises—many of them written by Communist authors. It attempts to present the Communist in his true native elements, stripped of propaganda and pretense. Hence, the title, *The Naked Communist*. A panoramic study of Communism might easily degenerate into a long list of dates, names, and platitudes without helping the student to gain a genuine understanding of the history and philosophy of Marxist thought and Communism. Therefore, in this book, an attempt has been made to present Communism as the living, breathing force in the earth which it really is. The political development, the philosophy, the economic theory and the big names in international Communism have all been presented in their historical setting. This eBook includes the original index, illustrations, footnotes, table of contents and page numbering from the printed format. The collapse of communism was one of the most defining moments of the twentieth century. At its peak, more than a third of the world's population had lived under communist power. What is communism? Where did the idea come from and what

attracted people to it? What is the future for communism? This Very Short Introduction considers these questions and more in the search to explore and understand communism. Explaining the theory behind its ideology, and examining the history and mindset behind its political, economic and social structures, Leslie Holmes examines the highs and lows of communist power and its future in today's world. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

Spanish Marxism Versus Soviet Communism is the first historical study of the P.O.U.M. to appear in English. Drawing from his multi-volume work on the subject, which was published in Spanish and Catalan, Victor Alba has collaborated with Stephen Schwartz to produce a condensed and amplified study that is far more than a translation. Outside Spain, the political movement known as the Workers Party of Marxist Unification (Partido Obrero de Unificacion Marxist or P.O.U.M.) is chiefly known as the revolutionary group with which George Orwell fought during the Spanish Civil War of the 1930s. The events in which the P.O.U.M. found itself at the center of conflict between Iberian revolutionaries and Soviet interests remain a controversial topic for historians and other writers. This book presents a detailed picture of the organization

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and its main antecedent, the Workers' and Peasants' Bloc, in the context of a stimulating working class political culture. Those interested in Catalan history as well as historians of Western European Marxism and the Spanish Civil War will find this book useful. It will also be of interest to those concerned with Orwell and his experience in Spain. A fitting tribute to the P.O.U.M.'s great struggle against Stalinism, *Spanish Marxism Versus Soviet Communism* will surely stand out among the array of books that have been published on the Spanish Civil War period as a definitive study.

A timely update to the phenomenal national bestseller. Soon after its quiet release during the height of the Red Scare in 1958, *The Naked Communist* exploded in popularity, selling almost two million copies to date and finding its way into the libraries of the CIA, the FBI, the White House, and homes all across the United States. From the tragic falls of China, Korea, Russia, and the UN, to the fascinating histories of Alger Hiss, Whittaker Chambers, Elizabeth Bentley, and General MacArthur, *The Naked Communist* lays out the entire graphic story of communism, its past, present, and future. After searching unsuccessfully for a concise literature on the communist threat, W. Cleon Skousen saw the urgent need for a comprehensive book that could guide the American conversation. So he distilled his FBI experience, decades of research, and more than one hundred communist books and treatises into one clarifying, readable volume that became a touchstone of American values and earned praise from the likes of President Ronald Reagan, Glenn Beck, and Ben Carson. Lauded by one reviewer as

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“the most powerful book on communism since J. Edgar Hoover’s *Masters of Deceit*,” this text draws a detailed picture of the communist as he sees himself: stripped of propaganda and pretense. Readers gain a unique insight into the inner workings of communism—its appeal, its history, its basic and unchanging concepts, even its secret timetable of conquest. Among the many questions *The Naked Communist* answers are:

- \* Who gave the United States’ nuclear secrets to the Russians?
- \* How did the FBI fight communism after it was forced underground in 1918?
- \* Why did the West lose 600 million allies after World War II?
- \* What really happened in Korea?
- \* What is communism’s great secret weapon?
- \* What lies ahead?
- \* What can I do to stop communism?
- \* How can we fight communism without a major war?

Now updated for 2017, this edition includes a chapter on the forty-five Communist Goals, detailing how forty-four of those goals have been achieved in the U.S. already, as well as a chapter on the making of *The Naked Communist*, shedding light on how this book has sold almost two million copies. As relevant now as it was sixty years ago, Skousen’s groundbreaking work provides a renewed understanding of one of the greatest threats facing America today. Praise for W. Cleon Skousen: “No one is better qualified to discuss the threat to this nation from communism. You will be alarmed, you will be informed, and you’ll be glad you heard him.”—President Ronald Reagan “I have never given any volume such an unqualified endorsement.”—CBS national broadcaster Paul Harvey “I went back and I read *The Naked Communist*, and at the end of that, Skousen

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predicted [that] someday soon you won't be able to find the truth in schools or in libraries or anywhere else because it won't be in print anymore. So you must collect those books. It's an idea I read from Cleon Skousen from his book in the 1950s, *The Naked Communist*, where he talked about [how] someday the history of this country's going to be lost because it's going to be hijacked by intellectuals and communists and everything else. And I think we're there."—Glenn Beck, host of the nationally syndicated Glenn Beck Radio Program "The Naked Communist lays out the whole progressive plan. It is unbelievable how fast it has been achieved."—Dr. Ben Carson (The Sean Hannity Show; May 23, 2014) "I feel certain that your efforts on this important subject will receive widespread attention and consideration."—J. Edgar Hoover, first Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation "We believe in a moral code. Communism denies innate right or wrong. As W. Cleon Skousen has said in his timely book, *The Naked Communist*: The communist 'has convinced himself that nothing is evil which answers the call of expediency.' This is a most damnable doctrine. People who truly accept such a philosophy have neither conscience nor honor. Force, trickery, lies, broken promises are wholly justified."—Ezra Taft Benson, United States Secretary of Agriculture under President Eisenhower

Analyzes the growth of the U.S. Communist Party during the Depression of the 1930s and examines the party activities of the decade

"If you are curious and open to the life around you, if you are troubled as to why,

how and by whom political power is held and used, if you sense there must be good intellectual reasons for your unease, if your curiosity and openness drive you toward wishing to act with others, to ‘do something,’ you already have much in common with the writers of the three essays in this book.” — Adrienne Rich

With a preface by Adrienne Rich, *Manifesto* presents the radical vision of four famous young rebels: Marx and Engels’ *Communist Manifesto*, Rosa Luxemburg’s *Reform or Revolution* and Che Guevara’s *Socialism and Humanity*.

A different kind of politics for a new kind of society--beyond work, scarcity and capitalism In the twenty-first century, new technologies should liberate us from work. Automation, rather than undermining an economy built on full employment, is instead the path to a world of liberty, luxury and happiness—for everyone. Technological advance will reduce the value of commodities—food, healthcare and housing—towards zero. Improvements in renewable energies will make fossil fuels a thing of the past. Asteroids will be mined for essential minerals. Genetic editing and synthetic biology will prolong life, virtually eliminate disease and provide meat without animals. New horizons beckon. In *Fully Automated Luxury Communism*, Aaron Bastani conjures a vision of extraordinary hope, showing how we move to energy abundance, feed a world of 9 billion, overcome work,

transcend the limits of biology, and establish meaningful freedom for everyone. Rather than a final destination, such a society merely heralds the real beginning of history.

Explores the history of European communist parties and governments and key figures throughout the 20th century.

Busky examines the history of Marxist-Leninist parties and governments in Asia, Africa, and the Americas, with biographies of key figures from their beginnings to the ends of their careers. An up-to-date work, the volume incorporates the latest scholarship on the topic. While focused mainly on the Third World, it also presents a detailed history of Marxist-Leninist parties in the United States and other developed nations such as Australia and New Zealand. Busky presents a full-length examination of the history of Maoism and the rise of the People's Republic of China to the post-Cultural Revolution China of today. In addition, Buskey examines the American wars against communist and other leftist nations and movements, from the Korean War to Vietnam and the wars of Central America. He also looks at U.S. covert action against what officials saw as communist threats in Iran, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Chile, Granada, and elsewhere. A detailed synthesis that will be of value to beginning students and researchers as well as scholars in comparative politics and history,



socialism, and communism.

At the height of the cold war, southern segregationists exploited the reigning mood of anxiety by linking the civil rights movement to an international Communist conspiracy. Jeff Woods tells a gripping story of fervent crusaders for racial equality swept into the maelstrom of the South's siege mentality, of crafty political opportunists who played upon white southerners' very real fear of Communists, and of a people who saw lurking enemies and detected red propaganda everywhere. In their strange double identity as both defiant Confederate flag-wavers fiercely protecting regional sovereignty and as American superpatriots, many southerners stood ready to defend against subversives be they red or black. Concentrating on the phenomenon at its most intense period, Woods makes vivid the fearful synergy that developed between racist forces and the anti-Communist cause, reveals the often illegal means used to wash the movement red, and documents the gross waste of public funds in pursuing an almost nonexistent threat. Though ultimately unsuccessful in convincing Americans outside of Dixie that the civil rights protests were controlled by Moscow, the southern red scare forced movement activists to distance themselves from the Marxist elements in their midst -- thereby gaining the sympathy of the American people while losing the support of some of their most

passionate antiracist campaigners. A product of vast archival research and the latest literature on this increasingly popular subject, this is the first book to consider the southern red scare as a unique regional phenomenon rather than an offshoot of McCarthyism or massive resistance. Addressing the fundamental struggle of Americans to balance liberty and security in an atmosphere of racial prejudice and ideological conflict, it will be equally compelling for students of civil rights, southern history, the cold war, and American anti-Communism.

Communism was one of the most powerful political and intellectual movements of the modern world; at the height of its influence over a third of the worlds population lived under Communist rule. And yet very few predicted either its bewildering rise or sudden decline, while even close observers were mystified by its frequent convulsions and turbulent politics. In *The Red Flag*, David Priestland provides an original account of the Communist movement that fully explores its global impact. He not only discusses the ideas and motivations of its principal thinkers and leaders - from Marx to Mao, from Stalin to Che Guevara, but also asks why Communism inspired its rank and file from the militants of 1920s Russia and the guerrilla fighters of China to the Marxist students of Ethiopia and the urban terrorists of Europe in the 1970s. At same the time *The Red Flag* explores the experience of living under Communism for its millions of subjects. In

his lively and absorbing narrative Priestland stresses how varied a phenomenon Communism was. He traces its emergence in the aftermath of the French Revolution, and shows how those early ideas evolved and mutated as they moved across time and place, from the barricades of Europe in 1848 to the villages of Nepal today. As Priestland shows, Communists may have promised to build just and modern societies, but just as they destroyed old structures of privilege, they simultaneously built new ones. This central paradox, together with economic failure and a history of horrifying violence would, by the 1980s, leave the Communist project in tatters. Even so, Communist parties are still in power in Asia and Latin America and, as Priestland emphasizes, Communism has played a central role in the history of the modern world - not only through its militaristic political systems, but also its broader influence on ideas and culture. At a time when the post-Cold War order is itself in crisis and we enter a new phase of global political and economic uncertainty, *The Red Flag* is essential reading. 'Everywhere you will find that the wealth of the wealthy springs from the poverty of the poor' Fuelled by anger at injustice and optimism about humankind's ability to make a better, truly communal society, the anarchist writings of Peter Kropotkin have influenced radicals the world over, from nineteenth-century workers to today's activists. One of twenty new books in the bestselling Penguin Great Ideas series. This new selection showcases a diverse list of thinkers

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who have helped shape our world today, from anarchists to stoics, feminists to prophets, satirists to Zen Buddhists.

A brand-new installment of the beloved Politically Incorrect Guide series! The Politically Incorrect Guide to Communism is a fearless critique of freedom's greatest ideological adversary, past and present.

The Secret World of American Communism (1995), filled with revelations about Communist party covert operations in the United States, created an international sensation. Now the American authors of that book, along with Soviet archivist Kyrill M. Anderson, offer a second volume of profound social, political, and historical importance. Based on documents newly available from Russian archives, The Soviet World of American Communism conclusively demonstrates the continuous and intimate ties between the Communist Party of the United States of America (CPUSA) and Moscow. In a meticulous investigation of the personal, organizational, and financial links between the CPUSA and Soviet Communists, the authors find that Moscow maintained extensive control of the CPUSA, even of the American rank and file. The widely accepted view that the CPUSA was essentially an idealistic organization devoted to the pursuit of social justice must be radically revised, say the authors. Although individuals within the organization may not have been aware of Moscow's influence, the leaders of the organization most definitely were. The authors explain and annotate ninety-five documents, reproduced here in their entirety or in large part, and they quote from hundreds of others to reveal the actual workings of the American Communist party. They show that: • the USSR covertly provided a large part of the CPUSA budget from the early 1920s to the end of the 1980s; • Moscow issued orders, which the CPUSA obeyed, on issues ranging from what

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political decisions the American party should make to who should serve in the party leadership;

- the CPUSA endorsed Stalin's purges and the persecution of Americans living in Russia.

The inexorable rise of Communism was the most momentous political phenomenon of the first half of the twentieth century. Its demise in Europe and its decline elsewhere have produced the most profound political changes of the last few decades. In this illuminating book, based on forty years of study and a wealth of new sources, Archie Brown provides a comprehensive history as well as an original and compelling analysis of an ideology that has shaped the world. Tracing the story of Communism from its nineteenth-century roots, the book shows how the political movement Karl Marx described as a 'spectre haunting Europe' expanded throughout the world during the twentieth century, and how the principles and precepts of this revolutionary system became a living reality for many millions of ordinary people. Even today, although Communism has been widely discredited in the West, a quarter of humanity - in Asia and Latin America - still lives under its rule. Archie Brown explores the appeal of Communism to its adherents, its resounding successes and its catastrophic failures. In the 1950s and '60s, as tensions mounted within Eastern Europe, internal struggles came to dominate party politics, and fresh challenges from the West exerted increasing pressure on the Communist states to reform. The book considers why so many of these apparently invincible regimes collapsed when they did, often extremely suddenly, dislocating the lives of so many overnight. A groundbreaking work from an internationally renowned specialist, *The Rise and Fall of Communism* promises to be the definitive study of the most remarkable political and human story of our times.

Based on a wealth of archival material released after Mao's death, this book offers a revisionist

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account of the introduction and triumph of Marxism in China. Dirlik shows that, in 1919, at the outset of the May Fourth Movement, anarchism was the predominant ideology among revolutionaries and intellectuals and Marxism was virtually unknown. Three years later, however, the Communist Party of China had emerged as the unchallenged leader of the Left. Dirlik disputes long-held beliefs about the domestic origins of Chinese Communism to argue that Communist thought and organization were brought into radical circles by the Comintern. Though Chinese radicals would not have turned to Communism unassisted, he concludes, Marxist ideology took hold easily when introduced from the outside. This book will prove indispensable to scholars of Chinese history and politics, Asian studies, Marxism, and comparative communism.

Robert Service's critically acclaimed and compellingly readable history of world communism  
The Black Book of Communism Crimes, Terror, Repression Harvard University Press  
"Sixteen states came to be ruled by communist parties during the 20th century. Only five of them remain in power today. This book explores the nature of communist regimes-what they share in common, how they differed from each other, and how they differentially evolved over time. It finds that these regimes all came to power in the context of warfare or its aftermath, followed by the consolidation of power by a revolutionary elite that came to value "revolutionary violence" as the preferred means to an end, based upon Marx's vision of apocalyptic revolution and Lenin's conception of party organization. All these regimes went on to "build socialism" according to a Stalinist template, and were initially dedicated to "anti-imperialist struggle" as members

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of a "world communist movement." But their common features gave way to diversity, difference and defiance after the death of Joseph Stalin in 1953. For many reasons, and in many ways, those differences soon blew apart the world communist movement. They eventually led to the collapse of European communism. The remains of communism in China, Vietnam, Laos, North Korea, and Cuba were made possible by the first three transforming their economic systems, opening to the capitalist international order, and abandoning "anti-imperialist struggle." North Korea and Cuba have hung on due to the elites avoiding splits visible to the public. Analytically, the book explores, throughout, the interaction among the internal features of communist regimes (ideology and organization), the interactions among them within the world communist movement, and the interaction of communist states with the broader international order of capitalist powers"--

"Prepared at the request of the late Senator Thomas J. Dodd, Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act and Other Internal Security Laws of the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate."--T.p.

In his major work on communism, the international bestseller *The Passing of an Illusion*, the eminent French historian François Furet devoted a lengthy footnote to German historian Ernst Nolte's interpretation of fascism. Nolte responded, a correspondence ensued, and the result was the remarkable exchange presented in this volume. *Fascism and Communism* offers readers the rare opportunity to witness and

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learn from a confrontation between two of the world's most distinguished historians over one of the most serious subjects of our time. Each from a different perspective, Furet and Nolte offer compelling arguments for the common genealogy of these two ideologies as well as reasons for the intellectual community's rejection of this explosive thesis throughout the twentieth century. This discussion leads to a deeper understanding of the nature of totalitarianism as well as the trajectory and interpretation of modern European history.

Communism is evil, right? Not exactly. The ideas behind communism were revolutionary and ahead of its time--but reading old and tired translations of the manifesto make it hard to shed light on its ideas. Let BookCaps help with this fresh and modern translation of one of the most banned documents ever written! The original text is also presented in the book, along with a comparable version of both text. We all need refreshers every now and then. Whether you are a student trying to cram for that big final, or someone just trying to understand a book more, BookCaps can help. We are a small, but gr

The story of socialism and communism is a saga of idealism and cynicism, revolution and repression, power and powerlessness. The entire political and economic history of the modern era is contained in this account, forming a detailed and lively panorama. The world is still grappling with age-old questions regarding governance, equality, justice, and freedom. As this enthralling text details so vividly, socialism and



communism attempted to answer these questions definitively. In that they failed, but in doing so, they highlighted the importance of the questions themselves and of the ordinary people whose lives hang in the balance, waiting for answers

Writer and critic Vivian Gornick's long-unavailable classic exploring how Left politics gave depth and meaning to American life "Before I knew that I was Jewish or a girl I knew that I was a member of the working class." So begins Vivian Gornick's exploration of how the world of socialists, communists, and progressives in the 1940s and 1950s created a rich, diverse world where ordinary men and women felt their lives connected to a larger human project. Now back in print after its initial publication in 1977 and with a new introduction by the author, *The Romance of American Communism* is a landmark work of new journalism, profiling American Communist Party members and fellow travelers as they joined the Party, lived within its orbit, and left in disillusionment and disappointment as Stalin's crimes became public.

Communism, capitalism, work, crisis, and the market, described in simple storybook terms and illustrated by drawings of adorable little revolutionaries. Once upon a time, people yearned to be free of the misery of capitalism. How could their dreams come true? This little book proposes a different kind of communism, one that is true to its ideals and free from authoritarianism. Offering relief for many who have been numbed by Marxist exegesis and given headaches by the earnest pompousness of socialist politics, it presents political theory in the simple terms of a children's story,

accompanied by illustrations of lovable little revolutionaries experiencing their political awakening. It all unfolds like a story, with jealous princesses, fancy swords, displaced peasants, mean bosses, and tired workers—not to mention a Ouija board, a talking chair, and a big pot called “the state.” Before they know it, readers are learning about the economic history of feudalism, class struggles in capitalism, different ideas of communism, and more. Finally, competition between two factories leads to a crisis that the workers attempt to solve in six different ways (most of them borrowed from historic models of communist or socialist change). Each attempt fails, since true communism is not so easy after all. But it's also not that hard. At last, the people take everything into their own hands and decide for themselves how to continue. Happy ending? Only the future will tell. With an epilogue that goes deeper into the theoretical issues behind the story, this book is perfect for all ages and all who desire a better world.

In moving but understated prose, he describes his own coming to terms with the harm done by compliance and his gradual shift into a more politically active stance."--BOOK JACKET.

2018 Reprint of 1920 Edition. Full facsimile of the original edition. Not reproduced with Optical Recognition software. With this now-classic work, Lenin aimed to encapsulate the lessons the Bolshevik Party had learned from its involvement in three revolutions in 12 years--in a manner that European Communists could

relate to, for it was to them he was speaking. He also further develops the theory of what the "dictatorship of the proletariat" means and stresses that the primary danger for the working-class movement in general is opportunism on the one hand, and anti-Marxist ultraleftism on the other.

"When communism took power in Eastern Europe it remade cities in its own image, transforming everyday life and creating sweeping boulevards and vast, epic housing estates in an emphatic declaration of a noncapitalist idea. The regimes that built them are now dead and long gone, but from Warsaw to Berlin, Moscow to postrevolutionary Kiev, the buildings remain inhabited, populated by people whose lives were scattered by the collapse of communism. *Landscapes of Communism* is a journey of historical discovery, plunging us into the lost world of socialist architecture. Recalling the work of W.G. Sebald and Rebecca Solnit, Owen Hatherley, a brilliant, witty, young urban critic shows how power was wielded in these societies by tracing the sharp, sudden zigzags of official communist architectural style: the superstitious despotic rococo of high Stalinism, with its jingoistic memorials, palaces, and secret policemen's castles; East Germany's obsession with prefabricated concrete panels; and the metro systems of Moscow and Prague, a spectacular vindication of public space that went further than any avant-garde ever dared. Throughout his journeys across the

former Soviet empire, Hatherley asks what, if anything, can be reclaimed from the ruins of Communism--what residue can inform our contemporary ideas of urban life? "--

With astonishing authority and clarity, Richard Pipes has fused a lifetime's scholarship into a single focused history of Communism, from its hopeful birth as a theory to its miserable death as a practice. At its heart, the book is a history of the Soviet Union, the most comprehensive reorganization of human society ever attempted by a nation-state. This is the story of how the agitation of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, two mid-nineteenth-century European thinkers and writers, led to a great and terrible world religion that brought down a mighty empire, consumed the world in conflict, and left in its wake a devastation whose full costs can only now be tabulated.

Collects and analyzes seventy years of communist crimes that offer details on Kim Sung's Korea, Vietnam under "Uncle Ho," and Cuba under Castro.

Although deconstruction has become a popular catchword, as an intellectual movement it has never entirely caught on within the university. For some in the academy, deconstruction, and Jacques Derrida in particular, are responsible for the demise of accountability in the study of literature. Countering these facile dismissals of Derrida and deconstruction, Herman Rapaport explores the

incoherence that has plagued critical theory since the 1960s and the resulting legitimacy crisis in the humanities. Against the backdrop of a rich, informed discussion of Derrida's writings -- and how they have been misconstrued by critics and admirers alike -- *The Theory Mess* investigates the vicissitudes of Anglo-American criticism over the past thirty years and proposes some possibilities for reform.

An examination of communism's origin, development and implementation, supported by summaries and discussion questions. Coverage ranges from Marx's conception of the idea and Gorbachev's reforms to the ideology's future throughout the communist world.

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