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The Red Fort

The story of the Indian Mutiny of 1857

James Leasor

Description

A year after the Crimean War ended, an uprising broke out in India which was to have equal impact on the balance of world power and the British Empire's role in world affairs.

The revolt was against the East India Company which, not entirely against its will, had assumed responsibility for administering large parts of India. The ostensible cause of the mutiny sprang from a rumour that cartridges used by the native Sepoy troops were greased with cow's fat and pig's lard –cows being sacred to the Hindus, and pigs abhorred by the Mohammedans.

But the roots of the trouble lay far deeper, and a bloody and ineptly handled war ensued. The Red Fort is a breathtaking account of the struggle, with all its cruelties, blunderings and heroic courage.

When peace was finally restored, the India we know today began to emerge.

Biography

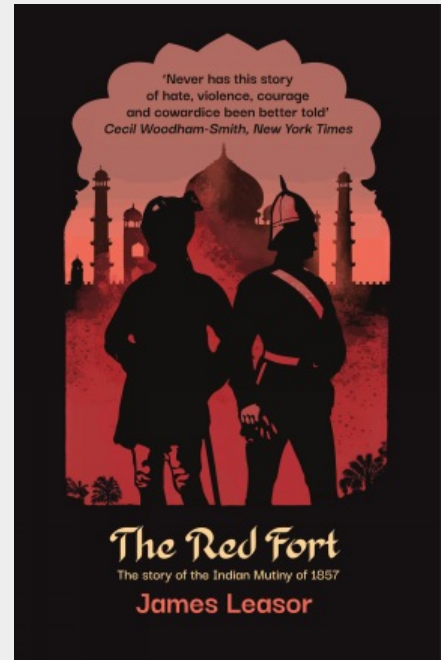
James Leasor was one of the bestselling British authors of the second half of the 20th Century. He wrote over 50 books including a rich variety of thrillers, historical novels, histories and biographies.

Reviews/Endorsements

'This is a battle piece of the finest kind, detailed, authentic and largely written from original documents. Mr. Leasor has a formidable gift of narrative. Never has this story of hate, violence, courage and cowardice been better told.'

Cecil Woodham-Smith, *New York Times*

Advance Information



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Thema

NHF: Asian history

NHWF: Early modern warfare (including gunpowder warfare)

Keywords

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Empire; Hero; East India Company; John Company

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