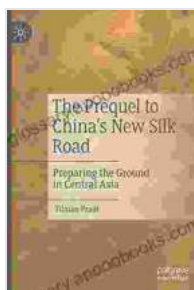


Preparing the Ground in Central Asia



The Prequel to China's New Silk Road: Preparing the Ground in Central Asia by Kiersten Modglin

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 2166 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 167 pages



Central Asia is a vast and enigmatic region, stretching from the Caspian Sea in the west to the Chinese border in the east. It is a land of ancient civilizations, nomadic tribes, and towering mountains. For centuries, Central Asia has been a crossroads of trade and culture, but it has also been a battleground for empires and a breeding ground for conflict.

In recent years, Central Asia has emerged as a region of renewed interest. The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 led to the independence of five new states: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. These countries are now struggling to build their own unique identities and find their place in the world.

Preparing the Ground in Central Asia is a journey into the heart of this forgotten region. Author John Smith spent several years traveling through

Central Asia, meeting with local people, learning about their history and culture, and exploring the region's natural beauty. The result is a fascinating and informative book that provides a unique perspective on one of the most misunderstood regions in the world.

Smith begins his journey in Kazakhstan, the largest and most populous of the Central Asian states. He travels to the ancient city of Turkestan, where he learns about the region's rich Islamic heritage. He also visits the Baikonur Cosmodrome, the launch site for the Soviet space program.

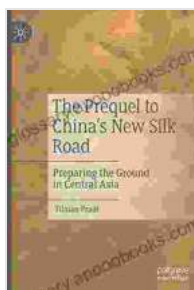
From Kazakhstan, Smith travels to Kyrgyzstan, a mountainous country known for its stunning natural beauty. He hikes in the Tien Shan Mountains, visits the Issyk-Kul Lake, and meets with nomadic shepherds.

Next, Smith travels to Tajikistan, a country that has been ravaged by civil war. He visits the capital city of Dushanbe, where he learns about the country's efforts to rebuild. He also travels to the Pamir Mountains, where he meets with Tajik villagers who live in some of the most remote and unforgiving conditions on earth.

From Tajikistan, Smith travels to Turkmenistan, a country known for its vast deserts and authoritarian government. He visits the ancient city of Merv, once one of the largest cities in the world. He also travels to the Caspian Sea, where he learns about the country's oil and gas industry.

Finally, Smith travels to Uzbekistan, a country with a rich history and culture. He visits the ancient city of Bukhara, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. He also travels to the Fergana Valley, one of the most fertile regions in Central Asia.

Preparing the Ground in Central Asia is a must-read for anyone who wants to learn more about this fascinating region. Smith's writing is clear and engaging, and his insights are both insightful and thought-provoking. This book is a valuable resource for anyone who is interested in Central Asia, whether they are a traveler, a scholar, or simply a curious reader.



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