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Fidel Castro Reader: v. 1

By Fidel Castro



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An outstanding new anthology by one of history's greatest orators.

Here, at last, is a comprehensive anthology presenting the voice of one of history's greatest orators, Fidel Castro. Love him or hate him, there is no denying he is a "master of the spoken word," as Gabriel García Márquez has described him.

Emerging in the 1960s as a leading voice in support of Third World anticolonial struggles and continuing to play a role in the antiglobalization movement of today, Fidel Castro remains an articulate and penetrating—if controversial—political thinker and leader, who has outlasted ten hostile US presidents.

His direct, forthright approach, his incredible grasp of diverse economic, historical, and cultural topics, and his idealism stand in stark contrast against the spin and superficiality of most political leaders.

Covering five decades of Fidel's speeches, this selection begins with his famous courtroom defense ("History will Absolve Me"), and also includes his speech on learning of Che Guevara's death in Bolivia, his analysis of the collapse of the Soviet Union, and his response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks. With his declining health and the emergence of new leaders such as Hugo Chávez in Venezuela and Evo Morales in Bolivia, this book sheds light not just on Castro's mighty role in Latin America's immediate past, but also on his legacy for the future.

The *Fidel Castro Reader* includes a chronology of the Cuban Revolution, an extensive glossary and index as well as 24 pages of photos. As the first anthology of Castro's speeches to be published in English since the 1960s, this is an essential resource for both scholars and general readers.

"Fidel's devotion to the word is almost magical." —**Gabriel García Márquez**

"Fidel is the leader of one of the smallest countries in the world, but he has helped to shape the destinies of millions of people across the globe." —**Angela Davis**

"Fidel Castro is a man of the masses... The Cuban revolution has been a source of inspiration to all freedom-loving people." —**Nelson Mandela**

"Fidel's is a singing and dancing intellect." —**Alice Walker**

“[The editors] have done an admirable, even heroic, job of editing and excerpting this reader [which] serves a purpose for both historians and politicians.”

—*Foreword Magazine*

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Fidel Castro Reader: v. 1 By Fidel Castro Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1186687 in eBooks
- Published on: 2013-01-10
- Released on: 2013-01-10
- Format: Kindle eBook

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About the Author

Fidel Castro led a guerrilla movement in Cuba that overthrew the Batista dictatorship in 1959. Since then, the Cuban president has been the nemesis of ten U.S. administrations. He stepped down in 2007 but has regularly expressed his views on world events and political personalities in his famous "reflections." David Deutschmann has edited numerous titles on Cuba, notably "The Che Guevara Reader" and "The Fidel Castro Reader."

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