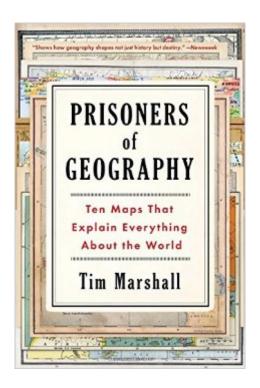
The book was found

Prisoners Of Geography: Ten Maps That Explain Everything About The World





Synopsis

In the bestselling tradition of Why Nations Fail and The Revenge of Geography, an award-winning journalist uses ten maps of crucial regions to explain the geo-political strategies of the world powers. All leaders of nations are constrained by geography. Their choices are limited by mountains, rivers, seas, and concrete. To understand world events, news organizations and other authorities often focus on people, ideas, and political movements, but without geography, we never have the full picture. Now, in the relevant and timely Prisoners of Geography, seasoned journalist Tim Marshall examines Russia, China, the USA, Latin America, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, Japan and Korea, and Greenland and the Arctica "their weather, seas, mountains, rivers, deserts, and bordersâ "to provide a context often missing from our political reportage: how the physical characteristics of these countries affect their strengths and vulnerabilities and the decisions made by their leaders. In ten, up-to-date maps of each region, Marshall explains in clear and engaging prose the complex geo-political strategies of these key parts of the globe. What does it mean that Russia must have a navy, but also has frozen ports six months a year? How does this affect Putinâ ™s treatment of the Ukraine? How is Chinaâ ™s future constrained by its geography? Why will Europe never be united? Why will America never be invaded? Shining a light on the unavoidable physical realities that shape all of our aspirations and endeavors, Prisoners of Geography is the critical guide to one of the major (and most often overlooked) determining factors in world history.

Book Information

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: Scribner (October 27, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1501121464

ISBN-13: 978-1501121463

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (55 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #10,440 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > History > Historical Study & Educational Resources > Historical Geography #12 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Geography #14 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Human

Geography

Customer Reviews

Using physical geography with a bit of climatology thrown in, author Tim Marshall explains Planet Earth's geo-politics in a refreshing and stimulating way. His structure is to lay out ten maps of continents and countries and to delve into the specifics of oceans, rivers, mountains, deserts and climate to explain how some countries have expanded greatly (Russia), others not at all (Korea) and why certain places in the world lend themselves to strife and conflict, while others lead to greater economic opportunity, cooperation, trade and stability."Prisoners of Geography" is a bold work. Some readers may think that Marshall's approach is reductionist in a 19th century sort of way, that everything can be explained by geo-determinism. I found it quite the opposite. Marshall's analysis of Japan and Korea (one of his ten maps) and of India and Pakistan (another of the ten) explain how in these situations, two different nation-states and cultures butt-up against each other and unfortunately are stuck in a permanent dance pose that neither wants to be in. His map of Africa with its current political boundaries resulted when six 19th century European colonial powers in the second "Great Game," arbitrarily drew lines on a map. A century later, the post-WWII drive to independence among these weak colonies resulted in several dozen new nation states most of which lack a well-defined cultural, linguistic and religious, as well as a primary tribal or ethnic identity. Most of these new African nations are destined to continue as weak nation-states for the immediate and foreseeable future, "prisoners of geography" as Marshall would say.

Wealth, Poverty and Politics: An International PerspectiveRecently, I read Thomas Sowellâ ™s outstanding new book â œWealth, Poverty and Politics: An International Perspectiveâ • in which the author argues passionately and convincingly that it is geography and not the so-called evils of capitalism that accounts for much of the economic disparity in the world today. Thus, when I spotted Tim Marshallâ ™s new book â œPrisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Explain Everything About the Worldâ • I decided to take my investigation into this subject to a whole other level. This definitely proved to be time very well spent. According to some in the media with a political ax to grind, we in the developed world are something akin to vultures swooping down intent on robbing third world nations of their wealth and natural resources. This is the constant drumbeat. Rarely do the reporters who cobble together these stories take the time to consider why these countries have been unable to mine or extract these assets themselves. What you will discover in this book is that it all too often boils down to impediments caused by geography. Economic development in Africa has been stymied for centuries by a number of factors such as a lack of deepwater harbors, rivers that are simply not navigable and tropical diseases. It is much the same story in Latin America where mountainous terrain, jungles and a lack of deep harbors restrain development. You will discover that

save for certain geographic obstacles the nation of Brazil would already be an economic powerhouse. Meanwhile, geography has implications for rich and powerful nations as well.

Download to continue reading...

Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Explain Everything About the World What's Up with Our Dad?: Medikidz Explain Colorectal Cancer (Medikidz Explain [Cancer XYZ]) What's Up with Richard?: Medikidz Explain Leukemia (Medikidz Explain [Cancer XYZ]) What's Up with Lyndon?: Medikidz Explain Osteosarcoma (Medikidz Explain [Cancer XYZ]) Maps, Maps, Maps! (Displaying Information) World Regional Maps Coloring Book: Maps of World Regions, Continents, World Projections, USA and Canada Discovering the World of Geography, Grades 7 - 8: Includes Selected National Geography Standards Charting the World: Geography and Maps from Cave Paintings to GPS with 21 Activities (For Kids series) Wetlands of the American Midwest: A Historical Geography of Changing Attitudes (University of Chicago Geography Research Papers) Barron's AP Human Geography with CD-ROM, 6th Edition (Barron's AP Human Geography (W/CD)) Discovering Maps: A Children's World Atlas & Guide to Reading Maps The Complete Book of Maps and Geography, Grades 3 - 6 Maps and Geography (Ken Jennings' Junior Genius Guides) Maps and Mapping (Young Discoverers: Geography Facts and Experiments) Prisoners of Our Thoughts Spartan Up!: A Take-No-Prisoners Guide to Overcoming Obstacles and Achieving Peak Performance in Life Honor Bound: American Prisoners of War in Southeast Asia, 1961-1973 The Devil's Causeway: The True Story of America's First Prisoners of War in the Philippines, and the Heroic Expedition Sent to Their Rescue Prisoners in the Palace: How Princess Victoria became Queen with the Help of Her Maid, a Reporter, and a Scoundrel Under the Blood-Red Sun (Prisoners of the Empire)

Dmca