

Unveiling the Long Goodbye: The Soviet Withdrawal From Afghanistan

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The Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan marked a pivotal moment in the history of the Cold War and the global geopolitical landscape. Dr. Mohammed Kakar's book, "Long Goodbye: The Soviet Withdrawal From Afghanistan," provides an in-depth analysis of this complex event, shedding light on its causes, consequences, and enduring legacy.

The Genesis of Soviet Intervention:





Long Goodbye: The Soviet Withdrawal from Afghanistan

by Artemy Kalinovsky

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2542 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 320 pages



In 1979, the Soviet Union intervened in Afghanistan, ostensibly to support a communist regime that was facing an Islamist insurgency. However, the reasons behind the invasion were far more nuanced, involving a combination of geopolitical concerns, the Brezhnev Doctrine, and a desire to establish a buffer zone against perceived Western influence.

The Afghan Resistance:



The Afghan resistance movement, known as the Mujahideen, played a crucial role in the eventual Soviet withdrawal. Comprising a diverse coalition of guerrilla fighters from different ethnic and ideological backgrounds, the Mujahideen received significant support from the United States and other Western powers.

Stalemate and Negotiations:

The Soviet-Afghan War dragged on for almost a decade, with neither side able to achieve a decisive victory. The Soviets faced fierce resistance from the Mujahideen, while the Mujahideen lacked the resources and organization to mount a full-scale offensive. This stalemate led to a protracted negotiation process, facilitated by the United Nations.

The Geneva Accords and Soviet Withdrawal:



In 1988, the Soviet Union and Afghanistan signed the Geneva Accords, which established a timetable for the Soviet withdrawal. The accords also called for the establishment of a transitional government and the cessation of foreign interference in Afghanistan.

Aftermath and Legacy:



The Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan was completed in February 1989. However, the country's problems were far from over. The Afghan civil war continued, and the Taliban eventually emerged as a dominant force. The Soviet war in Afghanistan had a profound impact on global politics, leading to the collapse of the Soviet Union and the rise of new geopolitical dynamics.

Dr. Mohammed Kakar's Expertise:

Dr. Mohammed Kakar, the author of "Long Goodbye," is well-equipped to provide an authoritative account of the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan. As a former Afghan diplomat and scholar, Kakar has had firsthand experience with the complexities of the region. His book draws on

extensive research, including interviews with key players involved in the withdrawal process.

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"Long Goodbye: The Soviet Withdrawal From Afghanistan" is a must-read for anyone interested in international relations, Cold War history, and the enduring challenges of Afghanistan. Dr. Mohammed Kakar's comprehensive analysis provides valuable insights into this pivotal event, offering a nuanced understanding of its causes, consequences, and legacy.



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