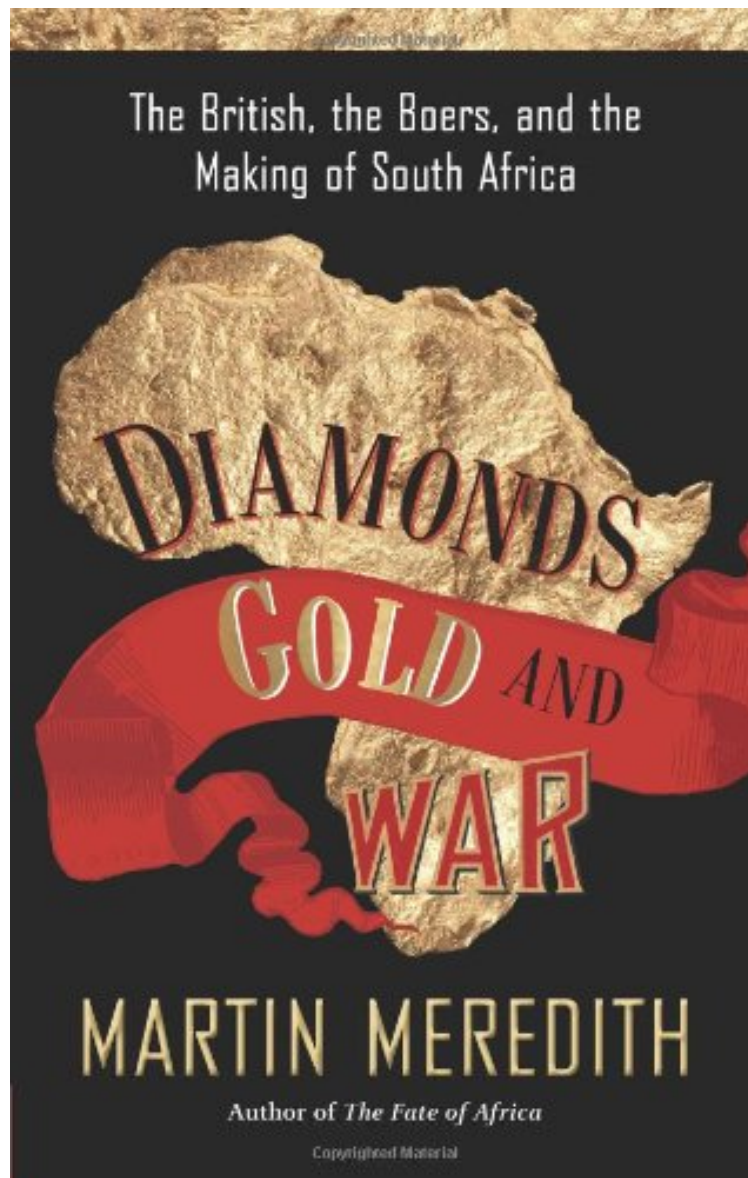


(Free download) Diamonds, Gold, and War: The British, the Boers, and the Making of South Africa

Diamonds, Gold, and War: The British, the Boers, and the Making of South Africa

Martin Meredith

*ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#101925 in Books PublicAffairs 2008-09-23 2008-09-23 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.25 x 1.50 x 6.13l, 1.69 #File Name: 1586486411592 pages | File size: 68.Mb

Martin Meredith : Diamonds, Gold, and War: The British, the Boers, and the Making of South Africa before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Diamonds, Gold, and War: The British, the Boers, and the Making of South Africa:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. South Africa before apartheidBy B. SmithI found this a fascinating history of South Africa in the pre-Apartheid era when the Brits and Afrikaners and indigenous people were competing for influence and territory. I learned a lot about some major characters in SA history and about its gold and diamond industries. Very readable too.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is a great read, and does a wonderful job of explaining ...By OverheaterThis is a great read, and does a wonderful job of explaining how South Africa ended up the way it did. It's not the most detailed history of the Boer War, but it's not trying to be. It covers a long stretch of history, and explains the long relationship of the Africans, Boers, British, and the diamond and gold industries. The author provides a fascinating narrative, the pages fly by.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. History without the modern political spin.By Trevor RussellGreat read. It was exactly what I was looking for, the author gave the history of South Africa without getting bogged down in looking at it through the modern day political lens. Most books about colonization spend time denouncing it to show the reader how sorry they are for the sins of the past as if they committed them. This book just gave the facts in a concise way. The author was able to really show the contrast between the British and the Boers.

Southern Africa was once regarded as a worthless jumble of British colonies, Boer republics, and African chiefdoms, a troublesome region of little interest to the outside world. But then prospectors chanced upon the world's richest deposits of diamonds and gold, setting off a titanic struggle between the British and the Boers for control of the land. The result was the costliest, bloodiest, and most humiliating war that Britain had waged in nearly a century, and the devastation of the Boer republics. The New Yorker calls this magisterial account of those years #147;[an] astute history.#133; Meredith expertly shows how the exigencies of the diamond (and then gold) rush laid the foundation for apartheid."

"Despite the depth of scholarly research it contains, this book reads not as dry history but as a vivid and thrilling account of the forging of southern Africa into its present distinctive shape and character. Martin Meredith captures the colours and textures of the land and brings to life the extraordinary figures who peopled it and whose influence lingers on. His descriptions of Rhodes and Kruger, of Robinsion and Barnato and all the other actors, rogues and heroes of this epic drama played out upon the scorched African veldt are filled with fascinating insights and rich with anecdotes which bring them bursting from these pages. This is a book that will take a prominent place upon my bookshelf and which I know I will re-read time and again over the years ahead." -- Wilbur Smith, author of *The Quest and River God*"Enthralling....Martin Meredith has made good use not only of recent scholarly work by also of contemporary sources... [Meredith] tells the story lucidly so that the reader can draw his own moral." -- *The Spectator*, October 31, 2007"Meredit offers an unvarnished portrait of what might be called 'Britain's worst hour... Diamonds, Gold, and War is a fine history of the formation of the most powerful country in Africa. It will certainly make uncomfortable reading for Rhodes' scholars, who may be shocked to learn of the bloodshed caused by the man whose name they wear with pride." -- *The American*, October 26, 2007"No stone is left unturned in this dynamic analysis of an intriguing period in African history." -- *Kirkus s*, July 15, 2007"[an] astute history... Meredith expertly shows how the exigencies of the diamond (and then gold) rush laid the foundation for apartheid." -- *New Yorker*, October 8, 2007"engrossing...Anyone interested in African history and the British Empire will find this book fascinating." -- *Winnipeg Free Press*, October 7, 2007"A many-faceted, sensibly incisive overview of events that could easily be oversimplified, and have been in earlier accounts." -- *New York Times*, November 29, 2007About the AuthorMartin Meredith is a journalist, biographer, and historian who has written extensively on Africa and its recent history. His previous books include *Mugabe* and *The Fate of Africa*. He lives near Oxford, England.