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Japan: Who Governs?: The Rise Of The Developmental State



Synopsis

“Chalmers Johnson long has been America’s most penetrating, provocative analyst of Japan’s political economy. . . . The scholarship is superb, and the analysis persuasive and enlightening. . . . An accessible, handy compilation of insights that undergird revisionism [the view that Japan’s politico-economic system differs far more from the Western model than most Westerners realize]. . . . Juicy insights, such as Johnson’s explanation of structural corruption as it’s revealed by the career of the late Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka, provide more than enough meat to chew on and relish.” —Robert Neff, *Business Week*

The godfather of Japanese revisionism, author of *MITI and the Japanese Miracle* and president of the Japan Policy Research Institute explains how and why Japan has become a world power in the past 25 years. Johnson lucidly explains here how the Japanese economy will thrive as it moves from a producer-dominated economy to a consumer-oriented headquarters for all of East Asia.

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Customer Reviews

"As Chalmers Johnson argues in this vital and engaging book, the halcyon days of American ascendancy cannot last...Get hold of this prescient book and keep it for that rainy day." --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Chalmers Johnson can be an off putting person and author, quite full of himself and harshly critical of those who do not agree with him. Putting that aside this is clearly one of the best books about

Japan and the Japanese government I have ever read. I have been in and out of Japan for the past 40 years and now live here 1/2 time. With the exception of one chapter where he misguessed the future development of Japanese foreign policy this now 14 year old book remains the best analysis of how Japan works that I have ever read. It is a collection of articles and essays written by Johnson and republished as a single book. If you want to understand how and why Japan's government functions, and get at least a solid introduction to the developmental state this book is a must read. It is also a good way to get a solid introduction to the developmental state form of economic control and management which worked so well in Japan, Korea, Taiwan and now China.

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