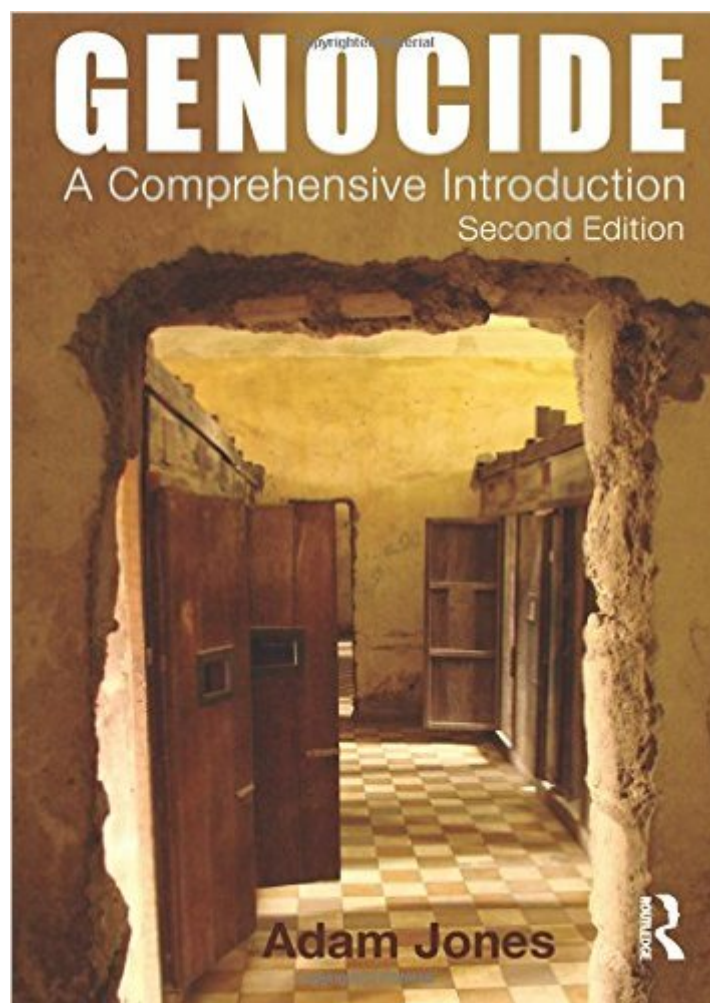


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Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction



Synopsis

Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction is the most wide-ranging textbook on genocide yet published. The book is designed as a text for upper-undergraduate and graduate students, as well as a primer for non-specialists and general readers interested in learning about one of humanity's enduring blights. Fully updated to reflect the latest thinking in this rapidly developing field, this new edition: provides an introduction to genocide as both a historical phenomenon and an analytical-legal concept, including an extended discussion of the concept of genocidal intent, and the dynamism and contingency of genocidal processes discusses the role of state-building, imperialism, war, and social revolution in fueling genocide supplies a wide range of full-length case studies of genocides worldwide, each with an accompanying box-text explores perspectives on genocide from the social sciences, including psychology, sociology, anthropology, political science/international relations, and gender studies considers "The Future of Genocide," with attention to historical memory and genocide denial; initiatives for truth, justice, and redress; and strategies of intervention and prevention. Written in clear and lively prose, liberally sprinkled with over 100 illustrations and maps, and including personal testimonies from genocide survivors, Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction has established itself as the core textbook of the new generation of genocide scholarship. An accompanying website (www.genocidetext.net) features a broad selection of supplementary materials, teaching aids, and Internet resources.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a good, solid, thorough introduction to a subject that is far too neglected (presumably because people can't bear to read about it). I hope this book will make genocide more widely known and understood, and will get people to do something about it; there is a good chapter here on prevention and warning signs. I do, however, have to agree with the reviewer who complains about the binding. I hope for a third edition and I hope Routledge invests more in making it more usable.

The book is great but the publisher must have planned to bind the book in the worst way possible to make pages fall out simply by turning them so that used copies are useless and those planning to read it or needing to buy it for class must always purchase brand new books

This book is a major achievement. It provides a thorough introduction to the subject of genocide, and the author displays an impressively broad familiarity with the literatures on specific cases of genocide. The case study chapters provide appropriate depth while remaining concise, and the thematic chapters provide interesting analysis of genocide from different perspectives. One crucial issue that any book on genocide must grapple with is how to define genocide, and Jones discusses various definitions at some length. Readers may dispute Jones's preferred definition of genocide, and even more so his inclusion of certain cases as episodes of genocide (he even considers the 9/11 attacks as potentially genocidal). But while the inclusion of some historical episodes under the framework of genocide is debatable, Jones's discussion of those cases no doubt provides good fodder for discussion in classes that assign this text. I did have one stylistic quibble with the book: the author's excessive direct quoting of sources. This is something I teach my own writing students to avoid, and the book would benefit from cutting back on direct quotes. Otherwise the book is well written, and even enjoyable to read despite the grim subject matter. The suggested further readings at the end of each chapter are also especially helpful. [This review is for the book's 2006 edition, but I thought it would be more useful here under the more recent edition.]

A thorough and comprehensive examination of this phenomenon which continues to plague the human race. Very well written and can be appreciated by the average reader and the academic alike. I recommend this book to all who are interested in history.

Proved quite helpful in teaching the Genocide projects in the high school Anthropology class I teach. It broke down well the individual history of each major genocide of the last century, although arguably a bit weak as to the genocidal campaigns against Native Americans, Aborigines, and other

indigenous colonized peoples. This book does address well the attempts to define and combat genocide since World War II and leaves us with some ideas, if not complete solutions, on how best to stop this dark side of human history from repeating itself.

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