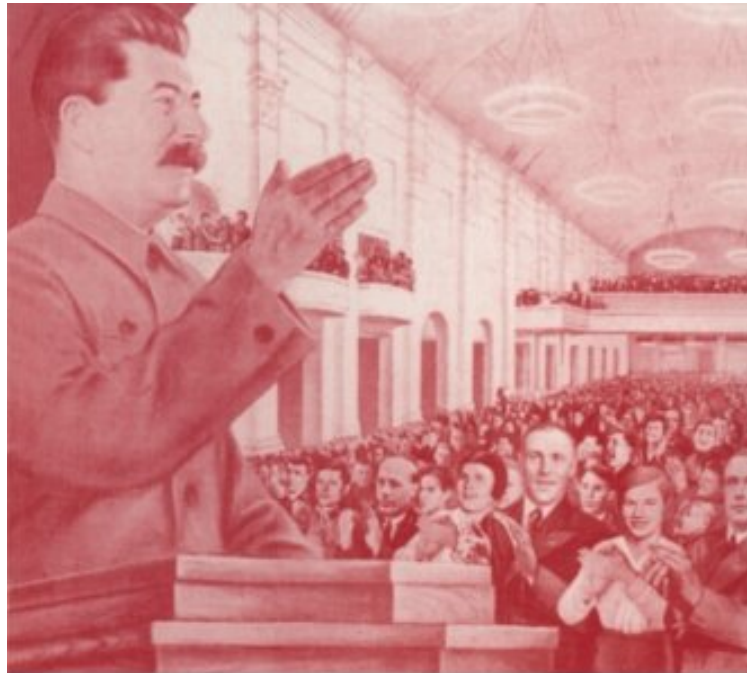


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Terror, Propaganda
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Sarah Davies : Popular Opinion in Stalin's Russia: Terror, Propaganda and Dissent, 1934-1941 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Popular Opinion in Stalin's Russia: Terror, Propaganda and Dissent, 1934-1941:

Between 1934 and 1941 Stalin unleashed what came to be known as "The Great Terror" against millions of Soviet citizens. This book is a study of how ordinary Russians experienced life during this period. Sarah Davies' study uses NKVD and Party reports, letters and other evidence to show that, despite propaganda and repression, the people continued to criticize Stalin and the Soviet regime, and complain about particular policies. This book sheds light on a hugely important part of Russia's social, political and cultural history.

"From her research in the archives of Leningrad, Novosibirsk, and Moscow, Sarah Davies of the University of Durham builds a fascinating picture of grumbling and alienation and shows that along with complaints about the lack of bread there remained a faith in the revolution, even socialism, and a sense that the egalitarian promise of 1917 had been violated." Ronald Grigor Suny, *Slavic* "...interesting and commendable...offers convincing evidence of the pervasiveness of Stalin's power and his ability to dominate, if not control, public opinion in the Soviet Union." *Choice*"In this important study, Sarah Davies uses recently declassified sources...to reconstruct the parameters of 'popular opinion' in the Leningrad Region during the Second and Third Five-Year Plans. ...there should be no doubt that this study enriches our understanding of a crucial period in Soviet history and that it deserves the attention of specialists." Jeffrey J. Rossman, *The Russian* "...an interesting and balanced book that presents the views of enthusiastic supporters of the regime, and also the dissonant voices of those who either blatantly rejected the official discourse or manipulated it for their own goals." Alison Rowley, *Canadian Slavonic Papers*"This is an interesting, impressively researched study." Michael Jabara Carley, *Canadian Journal of History*"This short volume makes a valuable contribution to the literature on life under Stalinism." Thomas Kuehn, *Historian*