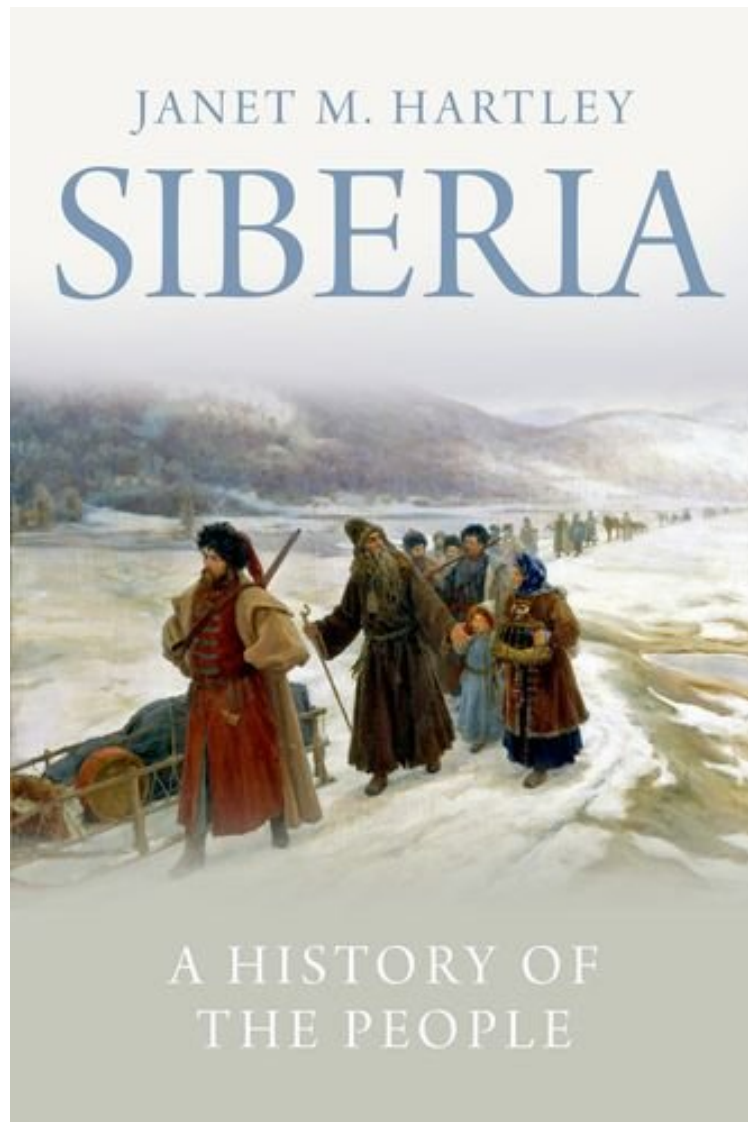


[Free] Siberia: A History of the People

Siberia: A History of the People

Janet M. Hartley

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#1080868 in Books Yale University Press 2014-09-09 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.20 x 1.40 x 6.20l,
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Janet M. Hartley : Siberia: A History of the People before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Siberia: A History of the People:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Perfect introduction and summary of Siberian life. By Andrew I decided to do some research on Russia and Siberia for a book and found this masterpiece. This book covers the history of Siberia including Russian expansion, lifestyles, native peoples and political issues within Siberia. It's written in a very descriptive, yet easy format dividing the different topics and categories of Siberian life. Most interesting was how

much Russian history there is involved in Siberia and how important Siberia was for the expansion of the Russian Empire and how important it became during the Collectivism. Well done Ms. Hartley. I'm looking forward to more material!

Larger in area than the United States and Europe combined, Siberia is a land of extremes, not merely in terms of climate and expanse, but in the many kinds of lives its population has led over the course of four centuries. Janet M. Hartley explores the history of this vast Russian wasteland—whose very name is a common euphemism for remote bleakness and exile—through the lives of the people who settled there, either willingly, desperately, or as prisoners condemned to exile or forced labor in mines or the gulag. From the Cossack adventurers' first incursions into "Sibir" in the late sixteenth century to the exiled criminals and political prisoners of the Soviet era to present-day impoverished Russians and entrepreneurs seeking opportunities in the oil-rich north, Hartley's comprehensive history offers a vibrant, profoundly human account of Siberia's development. One of the world's most inhospitable regions is humanized through personal narratives and colorful case studies as ordinary—and extraordinary—everyday life in "the nothingness" is presented in rich and fascinating detail.

'In this excellent book, Janet M Hartley. . . elegantly captures the essence of a place of extremes by describing its people, both the settlers and the settled, the free and the unfree. . . Hartley's beautifully chosen and told compendium of life stories down the centuries illuminates a region where, today, Asiatic faces are as numerous as Slavic ones, and believers are as likely to be Buddhist or shamanic as Christian — a place that's still more full of human extremes than pretty much anywhere else, and all of them brought about by Russian rule.'—Vanora Bennett, *The Sunday Times*