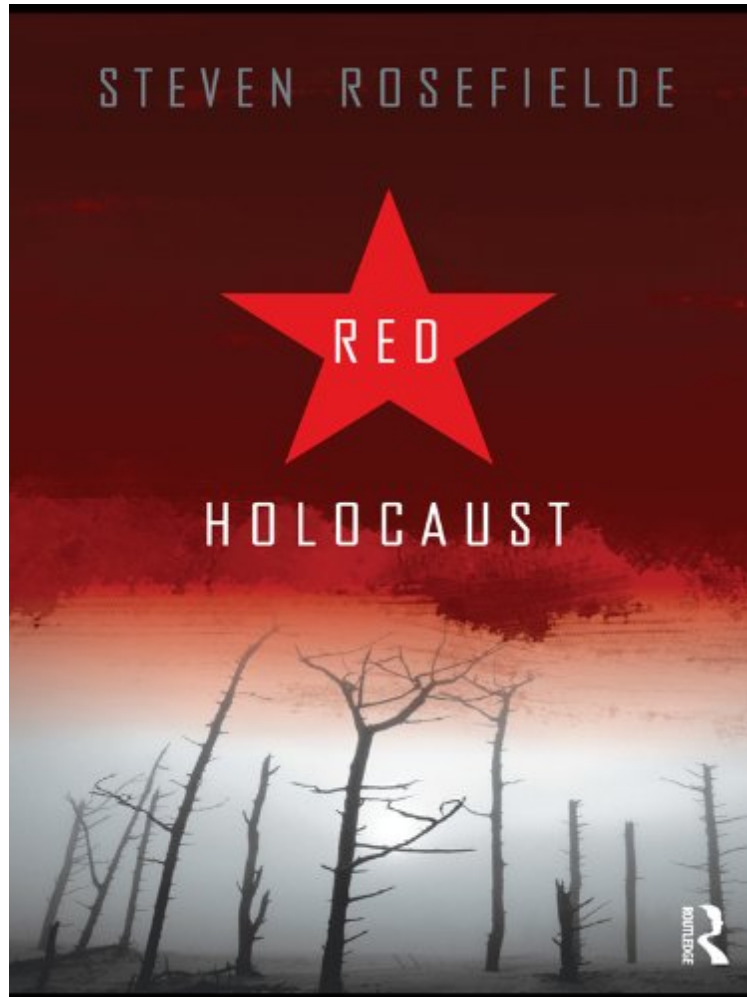


Red Holocaust

Steven Rosefielde

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Steven Rosefielde : Red Holocaust before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Red Holocaust:

14 of 16 people found the following review helpful. A Chilling Account of the Forgotten Millions Who Lost Their Lives in Little-Discussed Holocausts By Comma Master Please ignore the hateful, anti-human nonsense in the previous review, which does not deny but rationalizes mass murders committed by communist regimes. Under the logic of that review, Nazi Germany was justified in committing mass murder to defend itself from the threat of the Soviet Union. This book is a very well researched account of the mass killing committed by various communist regimes. Contra the previous review, Karl Marx should be blamed for the effects of communism in practice because various communist leaders were merely following his and Engels' teachings, which did call for collective farming and the total nationalization of industry, both of which cause mass impoverishment and require repression and terror to enforce. It is true that most Russians lived for centuries as serfs, but so what? Under Stalin, they were once again transformed into serfs in everything but name -- and under more repressive circumstances. So far as the quick industrialization of these

countries, again so what? That industrialization was accompanied by an unprecedented drop in living standards and millions of deaths. The whole point of industrialization is to increase living standards, but in the case of all communist countries, the opposite occurred. Granted, by the 1970s, the Russian people were better off than they had been under Stalin, but that is only because the Soviet regime had by that point allowed for greater, if still paltry, ownership of private farm plots, whose produce accounted for nearly one-third of all agricultural grain output. Yet even with this increase in "prosperity," the Russian people still lived in a level of poverty unimaginable to even the poorest American. As for China, socialist industrialization cost the lives of tens of millions of people and created unspeakably impoverished living standards. Though the left decries income inequality, Mao's western sycophants were surprisingly silent about the massive income inequality in Maoist China, where the vast majority of people endured on the verge of starvation while a few top party members lived lives of luxury. Furthermore, though the author of the preceding review refers to widespread "slavery" in pre-Maoist China, he neglects to mention that during the Great Leap Forward period, hundreds of millions of Chinese were forced out of their homes, had their belongings confiscated, and made to work long hours in excruciating farm work. Those who could not work hard enough were often beaten and tortured -- sometimes to death. Anyone who defends this evil system, which cost tens of millions of lives and impoverished hundreds of millions of people, is as bad as a Holocaust denier and should be condemned by society.

2 of 18 people found the following review helpful. I cannot say that this author (he wrote several books ...By Ilya) cannot say that this author (he wrote several books on the same topic with similar titles) unravels incorrect things. However, what he does is to simply make royalties on the tragedy of peoples of the Soviet Union. A correct reply to these books will be a best-seller in English on the crimes of the U.S. governments 1960s-2010s with a title "Americans. The Destroyers of Nations."

3 of 32 people found the following review helpful. Yawn...Same old anti-communist nonsense. By Sean Oliver

The problem with anti-communist authors is their myopic refusal to look beyond "communism" to explain why Stalin, Mao, Pol Pot, and their regimes were such bloody disasters. The causes of the "Red Holocaust" was not communist/Marxist theory. Although their rulers borrowed slogans and superficial concepts from Marx, and warped and twisted them to suit their needs, the huge death toll wasn't Marx's fault - it was the regimes' attempt to modernize and industrialize almost overnight due to external military threats which caused economic disruption and widespread social chaos leading to millions of deaths. These huge countries were similar in demographics (80-90% uneducated agrarian peasants treated as little more than slaves for centuries), in history (centuries of despotic tyrants who held no value in human life leading to revolution) and both China and Russia since 1930 were under threat by fully mechanized enemy armies, whose war-making industry meant doom for them unless they rapidly industrialized also. It was the need to industrialize these vast nations overnight which caused the social shock, famine, and economic holocaust, not "communism". The use of terror was again caused by the need to build a fully industrialized nation in 5 years, and due to the regime's fear of internal/external enemies who were determined to stop this.

Twentieth and twenty-first century communism is a failed experiment in social engineering that needlessly killed approximately 60 million people and perhaps tens of millions more. These high crimes against humanity constitute a Red Holocaust that exceeds the combined carnage of the French Reign of Terror, Ha Shoah, Showa Japan's Asian holocaust, and all combat deaths in World War I and II. This fascinating book investigates high crimes against humanity in the Soviet Union, eastern and central Europe, North Korea, China, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia 1929-2009, and compares the results with Ha Shoah and the Japanese Asian Holocaust. As in other studies, blame is ascribed to political, ideological and personal causes, but special emphasis is given to internal contradictions in Marx's utopian model as well as Stalinist and post-Stalinist transition systems concocted to realize communist ends. This faulty economic engineering forms a bridge to the larger issue of communism's historical failure. The book includes:- a comprehensive study of the transcommunist holocaust- a judicial assessment of holocaust culpability and special pleadings- an obituary for Stalinism everywhere except North Korea, and a death watch for contemporary communism in China, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, North Korea, Cuba and Nepal- a comparative assessment of totalitarian high crimes against humanity- a call for memory as a defense against recurrent economic, racial and ethnic holocausts. The book will be useful to undergraduate and higher level students interested in Russian history, Stalism, communism, North and South Korean economic performance and international affairs. Steven Rosefielde is a Professor of Economics at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and a member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences.

'A thorough, well-documented study' - CHOICE About the Author Steven Rosefielde is a Professor of Economics at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and a member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences. One of the world's leading experts in Soviet/Russian Studies, Comparative Economic Systems and International Security, he is the author of numerous books including the Russian Economy: From Lenin to Putin (2007).