

## Who Was Fidel Castro

Describes the life of the leader of Cuba, outlines the four stages of the Cuban Revolution, narrates his successes and failures, and includes a timeline extending from 1926 through 2002.

Describes how the policies of dictator Fidel Castro has affected the economy, social conditions, and international influence of Cuba.

A vivid biography goes beyond the story of one man steering a nation on a perilous course to track the people of a small nation caught in the uncertainty of perpetual revolution.

Economic and social progress is not only possible without the dog-eat-dog competition of capitalism, but socialism remains the only way forward for humanity. He describes the decisive place of Cuban volunteer combatants in the final stage of the struggle in Angola against the invasion forces of the South African apartheid regime. Introduction by Mary-Alice Waters, photos, map, notes, index.

This is the story of the period in which Fidel Castro and his young *compañeros*, including two women, were imprisoned after the July 26, 1953, attack on the Moncada military garrison in Santiago de Cuba and how the Batista dictatorship was eventually forced to release them. From solitary confinement, Fidel Castro wrote: "I don't think we are wasting our time in prison? For us this prison is an academy of struggle, and when the time comes, nothing will be able to stop us." The author Mario Mencía has included in this book many previously unpublished photographs and documents, including Fidel Castro's letters from prison, as well as an extensive glossary and chronology that are invaluable for students of Cuban history. "Mario Mencía's *The Fertile Prison* is the most comprehensive account of Castro's time in prison." Peter Bourne, author of *Castro*.

"Also: 'Cuba--twenty years of revolution' by Jack Barnes"--Cover.

My Life A Spoken Autobiography Simon and Schuster My Life Penguin Books

Early in Ann Louise Bardach's Cuban voyage she came across *Cartas de Presidio* or *The Prison Letters of Fidel Castro*. Edited by Luis Conte Aguero, who was the recipient of most of these letters, they are cited in every important work from Hugh Thomas' opus *Cuba* to Tad Szulc's Fidel biography, and everything in between and since. These twenty-one letters (nine to Conte Aguero, six to his late sister and close collaborator, Lidia, one to his wife Mirta, one to his comrade in combat, Melba Hernandez letters, one to the great scholar Jorge Manach) are regarded as the single most valuable and revelatory document regarding Fidel Castro and the Cuban Revolution. Never before published in English, these letters were written when Castro was imprisoned for his failed attack on the Moncada from 1953 to 1955 and reveal a man of spectacular ambition and steely determination. A man, who despite being incarcerated to serve a lengthy prison term, never wavers in his confidence that he will one day rule Cuba.

Describes the rise to power of the revolutionary leader opposed to the corruption and violence of the Batista regime, and the many strands of his more than thirty years of rule.

The issues confronting a changing world are frankly discussed in this lively dialogue between two of Latin America's most controversial political figures. In this wide-ranging conversation, Fidel Castro discusses the collapse of the Soviet Union, an historical evaluation of Stalin, the future of socialism, the role of ideas in today's world, Cuba's relations with the United States from Kennedy to Bush, human rights in the Third World, homosexuality, literature and music. *Face to face with Fidel Castro* is one of the most important political books to emerge from

Latin America in the 1990s.

Traces the political course along which Fidel Castro organized a revolutionary movement that culminated in the 1959 victory of workers and farmers over the U.S.-backed Batista dictatorship. Contains the full text of "History Will Absolve Me", Castro's reconstruction of his 1953 courtroom speech explaining the political and social goals of the revolution.

Fidel Castro is one of the most interesting and controversial personalities of our time – he has become a myth and an icon. He was the first Cuban Caudillo – the man who freed his country from dependence on the USA and who led his people to rediscover their national identity and pride. Castro has outlived generations of American presidents and Soviet leaders. He has survived countless assassination attempts by the CIA, the Mafia, and Cubans living in exile. He has become one of the greatest politicians of the 20th Century. His biography, and the history of his country exemplify the tensions between East and West, North and South, rich and poor. As Castro's life draws to a close, the question as to what will become of Cuba is more important than ever. Will Castro open Cuba to economic reform and democratization, or stick to his old slogan socialism or death? In this remarkable, up-to-date reconstruction of Castro's life, Volker Skierka addresses these questions and provides an account of the economic, social, and political history of Cuba since Castro's childhood. He draws on a number of little-known sources, including material from the East German communist archives on Cuba, which were until recently inaccessible. This is an exciting, painstakingly researched, and authoritative account of the life of one of the most extraordinary political figures of our time.

'You cannot kill ideas. Fidel, for the Third World, was not merely another leader. He was the mirror of its aspirations. That mirror will never be shattered.' - From the Introduction Fidel Castro's speeches were classrooms for the revolution. Through these speeches, Fidel came before the people to explain the conjuncture and problems the government faced with honesty and by putting them into historical context. Each of his speeches is a tour de force of explication, a history lesson, a sociology lesson, a political lesson, and even a lesson on literature. Fidel reached back to revolutionaries from an earlier time and dug into the data produced by the government. The traditions, experiences, and oral histories of national liberation and Marxism-Leninism articulated by Fidel came alive as he spoke to new audiences engaged in building a socialist experiment just miles away from the heart of the empire. Fidel Castro launched a battle of ideas in defense of socialist thought and the permanent mobilization of the people's consciousness. The speeches collected in this book carry forward the battle of ideas that framed the last decades of Fidel's life until he left us on 26 November 2016 at the age of ninety.

Dr. Jeffrey M. Elliot and former Rep. Mervyn M. Dymally here contribute a lengthy, revealing interview with Cuban President Fidel Castro, discussing a wide-ranging series of topics dealing with local and international politics and economics, as well as the future of Cuba, the third world, Central and South America, and the United States.

An Ocean Press classic featuring a wide-ranging and fascinating dialogue on religion and revolution

Takes up U.S.-Cuba relations, Cuba's role in the fight against apartheid rule in South Africa, the overthrow of the Grenada revolution, and the social consequences of the foreign debt in Latin America and the Caribbean.

This book argues that Fidel Castro's political support of Africa was not motivated by economic, selfish, or geopolitical considerations, but instead by altruism, certainty in his worldview, and the historical connection between the peoples of Cuba and Africa.

"The Secret Fidel Castro" follows what intelligence services call a CPP (short for Comprehensive Personality Profile), which focuses on different aspects of Castro's actions and personality. The main thesis of this book is that there are many different Castros.

Fidel Castro is perhaps the most charismatic and controversial head of state in modern times. A dictatorial pariah to some, he has become a hero and inspiration for many of the world's poor, defiantly charting an independent and revolutionary path for Cuba over nearly half a century. Numerous attempts have been made to get Castro to tell his own story. But only now, in the twilight of his years, has he been prepared to set out the details of his remarkable biography for the world to read. This book is nothing less than his living testament. As he told reporters, his desire to finish checking its text was the one thing that kept him going through his recent illness. He presented a copy of the book in its Spanish edition to his compadre President Hugo Chávez of Venezuela. In these pages, Castro narrates a compelling chronicle that spans the harshness of his elementary school teachers; the early failures of the revolution; his intense comradeship with Che Guevara and their astonishing, against-all-odds victory over the dictator Batista; the Cuban perspective on the Bay of Pigs and the ensuing missile crisis; the active role of Cuba in African independence movements (especially its large military involvement in fighting apartheid South Africa in Angola); his relations with prominent public figures such as Boris Yeltsin, Pope John Paul II, and Saddam Hussein; and his dealings with no less than ten successive American presidents, from Eisenhower to George W. Bush. Castro talks proudly of increasing life expectancy in Cuba (now longer than in the United States); of the half million students in Cuban universities; and of the training of seventy thousand Cuban doctors nearly half of whom work abroad, assisting the poor in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. He is confronted with a number of thorny issues, including democracy and human rights, discrimination toward homosexuals, and the continuing presence of the death penalty on Cuban statute books. Along the way he shares intimacies about more personal matters: the benevolent strictness of his father, his successful attempt to give up cigars, his love of Ernest Hemingway's novels, and his calculation that by not shaving he saves up to ten working days each year. Drawing on more than one hundred hours of interviews with Ignacio Ramonet, a knowledgeable and trusted interlocutor, this spoken autobiography will stand as the definitive record of an extraordinary life lived in turbulent times.

The CIA analyst who tracked Castro for decades explores the mind and motivations of the man who governed Cuba for nearly half a century. On trial in Santiago for leading a bloody assault on the city's Moncada garrison, young revolutionary leader Fidel Castro uttered a phrase in court that would come to serve as a rallying cry for his 26th of July Movement and his regime thereafter: "History will absolve me." Despite the fact that his methods resulted in great loss of life on both sides, Castro never wavered in his belief that in the final reckoning his life's work would be vindicated—his

violence necessary in bringing a new government to Cuba and a new political model to the developing world. For decades, CIA analyst Brian Latell tracked Castro relentlessly—getting to know his habits, his fears, and the passions that drove him. In this book, the author of *After Fidel* and *Castro's Secret* steps from the shadows to paint a complex and nuanced portrait of the man he came to know better than any other intelligence target—revealing the mind and motivations of one of the most mercurial, passionate, and dominating leaders of the twentieth century. “One of America’s foremost Cuba analysts.” —George J. Tenet, former CIA director

From his current home in Madrid, Cuban-born writer and journalist Montaner attempts a total synthesis of the Cuban revolution, recounting the history, finding the roots and the causes that explain it, describing the psychological traits of the protagonists, and drawing a critical assessment. Among o

When Fidel Castro died on November 25, 2016, many people around the world responded with mixed emotions. Learn all about the man who shaped Cuba for more than half a decade. After overthrowing Fulgencia Batista in 1959, Fidel Castro became the leader of an island country only ninety miles away from Florida. While in power, Castro outlasted ten US presidents and turned the small nation into a one-party state with influence over the entire world. Called a leader by some and a dictator by others, Castro defined not one but several eras in world politics.

A biography of the president of Cuba, Fidel Castro, discussing his childhood, family, revolutionary activities, and role as leader of his country since 1959.

"Little more than a hagiography from a prominent scholar, written from a less-than-critical perspective. Book emphasizes Castro's 'political and social thoughts,' and author states that 'fundamentally, my worldview and Castro's coincide' (p. xii). Still, book is useful because it shows how Marxism, Castro's ambitions, and the international context shaped the Cuban Revolution. Good notes and bibliography included"--*Handbook of Latin American Studies*, v. 57.

From the euphoria of the early years of the revolution to its near collapse in the 1990s, Julio Garcia Luis has selected a broad range of material to provide a sweeping vision of post-Batistan Cuba. Photographs, essays and documentary evidence examine the challenges, defeats and impact on the world of the greatest popular revolution in 20th century history. Includes contributions from Fidel Castro, Che Guevara, Raul Castro and John F. Kennedy.

The voice of one of history's greatest orators-Fidel Castro-is captured for posterity in a single volume.

He is the only world leader to have outlasted nine US presidents, has survived over 600 assassination attempts and remains one of the twentieth century s most controversial figures. Here Castro tells his story in full for the first time, speaking openly about everything from his parents and earliest influences to his imprisonment, guerrilla war and the Cuban revolution and on to the Bay of Pigs, the missile crisis and his relationship with Che Guevara. He also remembers the people he knew, from John F. Kennedy to Ernest Hemingway. Whatever your views on Castro are, this is an essential record of an incredible life and even more

extraordinary times."

Castro discusses the historic importance of the anticapitalist revolutions in 1979 in Grenada and Nicaragua; Cuba's internationalist missions in Angola and Ethiopia; relations with the U.S. government and with Cubans living in the United States; the fight within the Nonaligned Movement to forge a front of struggle against imperialist exploitation; and the proletarian internationalism that has guided the foreign policy of the Cuban government since the 1959 revolution.

There are few living international figures who fascinate the world more than Fidel Castro. He is at once an infamous historical figure, a modern-day politician and one of the last of his kind. From the leader of a revolution to one who has been accused of dictatorship, exploiting the power of his position to become one of the wealthiest leaders in the world, Fidel Castro's life away from the public eye has remained largely unscrutinised. Despite the world's longstanding desire to know more, biographers have thus far barely scratched the surface of Castro's life and reign. No one with any real knowledge or intimacy of Castro has ever been able to come forward to tell their story - partly because so few people can claim that distinction, and partly because the few who can would never make it out of Cuba. At long last, though, at the end of Castro's life, someone has. Juan Sanchez, former personal chaperone to Castro and, later, fugitive from the vindictive regime, offers a shocking exposure of the man to whom he was devoted for seventeen years - a man whose secret life is entirely different from the facade he presents to the people of Cuba.

Rhetoric during and after the Cold War years has painted starkly contrasting portraits of Cuba's Fidel Castro: an unblemished idealist on the one hand, a ruthless dictator on the other. This insightful book, the most intimate and dispassionate biography of the revolutionary leader to date, shows that neither assessment is true. Leycester Coltman, British ambassador to Cuba in the early 1990s, came as close to personal friendship with Castro as any foreigner was permitted. With frequent contact and regular conversations, Coltman was in a unique position to observe the dictator's personality in both public and private situations. Here he presents a close-up view of the man who for half a century has been loved, admired, feared, and hated, but seldom really understood. Coltman chronicles the events of the Cuban leader's extraordinary life from the political activism of his university days in Havana to periods of exile, imprisonment, and guerilla warfare alongside Che Guevara, to the uncertainties of his old age. Drawing on personal observation and archival sources in Cuba and abroad, Coltman explores the contradiction between the private character and the public reputation, and highlights the complexities of the consummate actor who continues to play a crucial role on the international stage.

A political biography of the Cuban revolutionary by a journalist who first interviewed him in the Sierra Maestra mountains in 1957 when the Cuban government and the world press believed him to be dead.

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