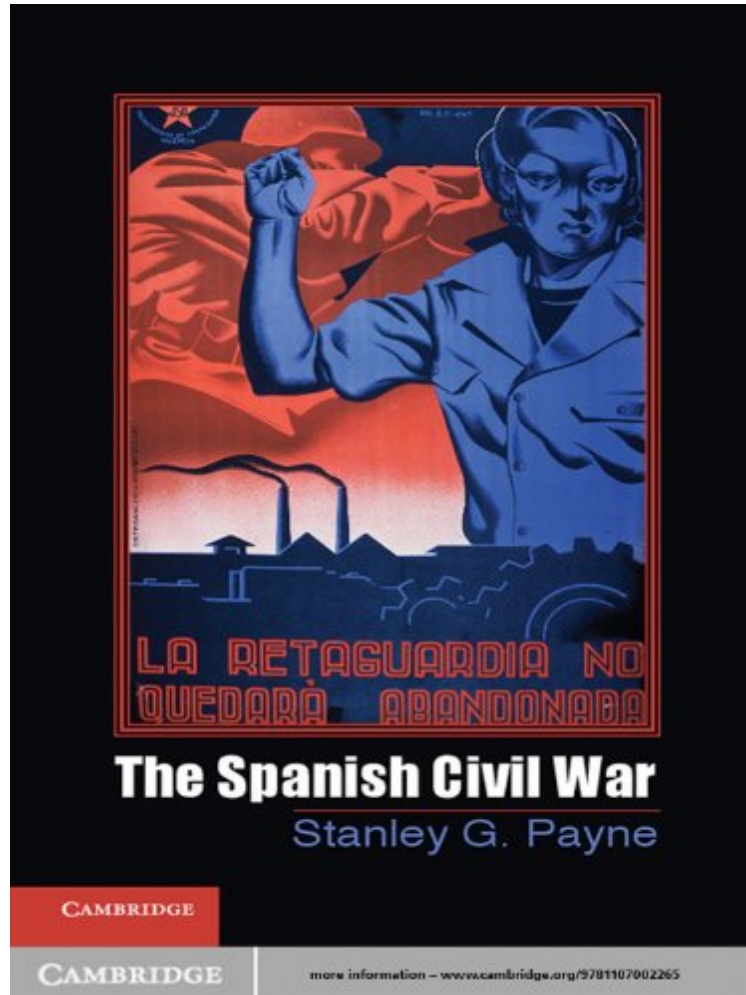


(Get free) The Spanish Civil War (Cambridge Essential Histories)

## The Spanish Civil War (Cambridge Essential Histories)

Von Stanley G. Payne

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**Von Stanley G. Payne : The Spanish Civil War (Cambridge Essential Histories)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Spanish Civil War (Cambridge Essential Histories):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Pertinent Events with Excellent AnalysisVon Gene TProfessor Payne has written an extraordinarily compact history of the struggle that captures its major elements and accompanies the story with sober analysis devoid of the polemics that tend to characterize other recent histories on the subject appearing in paperback.The recounting of dramatic events is also placed in the international, domestic historical and cultural context essential for a better understanding of the overall conflict and the ideological extremes shaped by the confluence of these contextual factors.Payne effectively takes on some of the sticky old myths that continue to appear in other new works. The facts he assembles and the

cogent analysis of them avoid cavalier demonization and exculpation. The book gave me a better appreciation of just how much the events surrounding the cataclysms reflected a genuine, bottom-up working class revolution. And likewise, the importance that Spain's own leftist parliamentary leaders and the Soviets placed on downplaying, for the outside world, the revolutionary aspects of the struggle they so laboriously sought to harness. The tactic, which never reflected abandonment by Stalin of longer term strategic aims, helped significantly to project a simplified image abroad of a conflict between liberal democracy with a social democratic slant and fascist tyranny. Also interesting was Payne's depiction of how each side often managed to resist efforts of their foreign sponsors to move them in directions deemed contrary to their own goals or perceived interests. In reviewing some of the frequent critiques by military analysts of the handling of combat operations, the author likewise provides a variety of perspectives that help the reader better understand the dilemmas faced by each side at the time. The Spanish Civil War left an indelible mark on 20th century Europe. For a reader generally familiar with the subject or one completely new to it, Payne provides an excellent, easy-to-read understanding of its multiple dimensions and complexities. Such an understanding, aided by a healthy historical detachment, could also serve as a useful aid in evaluating the perennial dilemma surrounding outside intervention in civil wars elsewhere. If you only have time for one book on Spain's major 20th century war, this latest book by Payne -- probably the subject's foremost English language historian -- is the one to read. I took the liberty below of excerpting two passages I think represent the balance and context marking this new book: Pg 104 " Mass executions began almost immediately in the Spanish war, even sooner than in Russia, where organized mass killings started only in 1918, when the Bolsheviks officially instituted the Red Terror. .. The conflict in Spain was the last revolutionary civil war of the generation that followed World War I, feeding on the propaganda, fears, and hatreds generated by its predecessors. Associated with this was the fact that the 1930s were a time of growing tension in which the earlier example of Bolshevism was followed by the rise of fascism - a deadly combination that evoked increasingly widespread fear and hatred. More specific to Spain was the run-up to the revolution, with increasing political violence since 1931 producing approximately 2,500 deaths during the intervening years. Even the Russian revolution of 1917 did not have this kind of violent prelude, which was without precedent." (The reference refers to "domestic," aside from Russia's WWI involvement.) Pg. 143 " For the three principal democracies, the Spanish war was troublesome, and each approached it differently. To their citizens the Spanish war was sort of political mirror in which they saw the reflection of whatever issues concerned them most. For militant antifascists, the war was a great antifascist struggle, and for militant anticommunists it was an anti-communist crusade. The extreme left saw it as a great revolution, Catholics and conservatives as a crucial struggle to defend Christian civilization. Those who believed that German expansionism was the primary menace saw in Spain an opportunity to thwart German policy. Those whose primary goal was simply to avoid broader war at all costs - and these were the largest single sector - supported nonintervention, regardless of whichever side they viewed as having the best cause or being less objectionable."

**Kurzbeschreibung** This book presents a new history of the most important conflict in European affairs during the 1930s, the Spanish Civil War. It describes the complex origins of the conflict, the collapse of the Spanish Republic and the outbreak of the only mass worker revolution in the history of Western Europe. Stanley Payne explains the character of the Spanish revolution and the complex web of republican politics, while also examining the development of Franco's counter-revolutionary dictatorship. Payne gives attention to the multiple meanings and interpretations of war and examines why the conflict provoked such strong reactions at the time, and long after. The book also explains the military history of the war and its place in the history of military development, the non-intervention policy of the democracies and the role of German, Italian and Soviet intervention, concluding with an analysis of the place of the war in European affairs, in the context of twentieth-century revolutionary civil wars. **Pressestimmen** Payne, drawing on his knowledge and research on Spanish history, has written a legible (rather than just academic) history of the origins, political and military development, and consequences of the Spanish Civil War. His familiarity with twentieth-century European history enables him to place it in a comparative perspective. An important and objective work that . . . will generate interesting debates. Juan J. Linz, Sterling Professor Emeritus of Political and Social Science, Yale University Stanley Payne has written a fine introductory history of the Spanish Civil War. Based on an unrivalled mastery of the huge historiography of the topic, Paynes volume convincingly dispels many of the myths that still surround the fratricidal conflict. It will be indispensable not just to students but to anyone interested in understanding one of the bitterest wars of the twentieth century. Dr. Julius Ruiz, University of Edinburgh This is an extremely insightful book that has remarkably condensed analytical power. Payne's vast knowledge has generated an up-to-date and inclusive history of the Spanish conflict. He situates the Spanish Civil War in the context of revolutionary and counterrevolutionary confrontations in Europe, from the French Revolution to World War II. Furthermore, he succinctly and skillfully places the conflict within the long history of Spain. There is no better synthesis. Michael Seidman, University of North Carolina at Wilmington It seems providential that one S. Payne should produce the most accomplished non-native writing on Spain's recent past. In his sixth decade of research, Stanley Payne has acquired

wisdom beyond maturity. No living historian thinks so broadly or writes so cogently. Few authorities survey the scarred landscape of the tortured twentieth century with such a cool, forensic gaze. His standards of consideration and interpretation are elevated and for readers, elevating. Perhaps surprisingly, this latest book is Payne's first comprehensive study of the Spanish Civil War. It prioritizes recent work without neglecting the packed storehouse of earlier scholarship. It should become an indispensable guide to its endlessly complex and supremely significant subject. Rob Stradling, Professor Emeritus of History, Cardiff University"Essential for interwar and/or modern Spain graduate collections. Highly recommended." -Choice"Stanley Payne's study of the Spanish Civil War and the events leading up to that cataclysm is the latest work by one of America's premier historians of Europe." -Paul Gottfried, The American Conservative

ber das ProduktThis book is the first general history of the Spanish Civil War to provide a clear and objective account of its origins in Spanish domestic affairs. It treats controversial issues of revolution, counter-revolution, political repressions and foreign intervention and non-intervention, as well as giving a detailed military examination that is presented in non-technical terms for students and non-specialist readers.