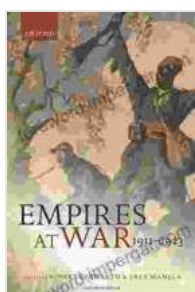


Unveiling the Secrets of Empires At War: The Greater War 1911-1923

In the annals of history, there lies a forgotten conflict that cast a long shadow over the 20th century: the Greater War of 1911-1923. While the world remembers the horrors of the World Wars, this earlier conflict, spanning a decade, set the stage for those cataclysmic events.



Empires at War: 1911-1923 (The Greater War) by Erez Manela

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 7675 KB

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 304 pages

Lending : Enabled



The Spark Ignited: The Balkan Wars of 1912-1913



The fuse was lit in the Balkans, a region long simmering with ethnic tensions. In 1912, a Balkan League of Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Montenegro declared war on the Ottoman Empire, seeking to liberate their fellow Orthodox Christian subjects.

The Ottoman Empire, weakened by decades of internal strife and economic decline, fought desperately but was overwhelmed by the combined might of the Balkan allies. The war ended with the Treaty of London in 1913, which stripped the empire of most of its European territories.

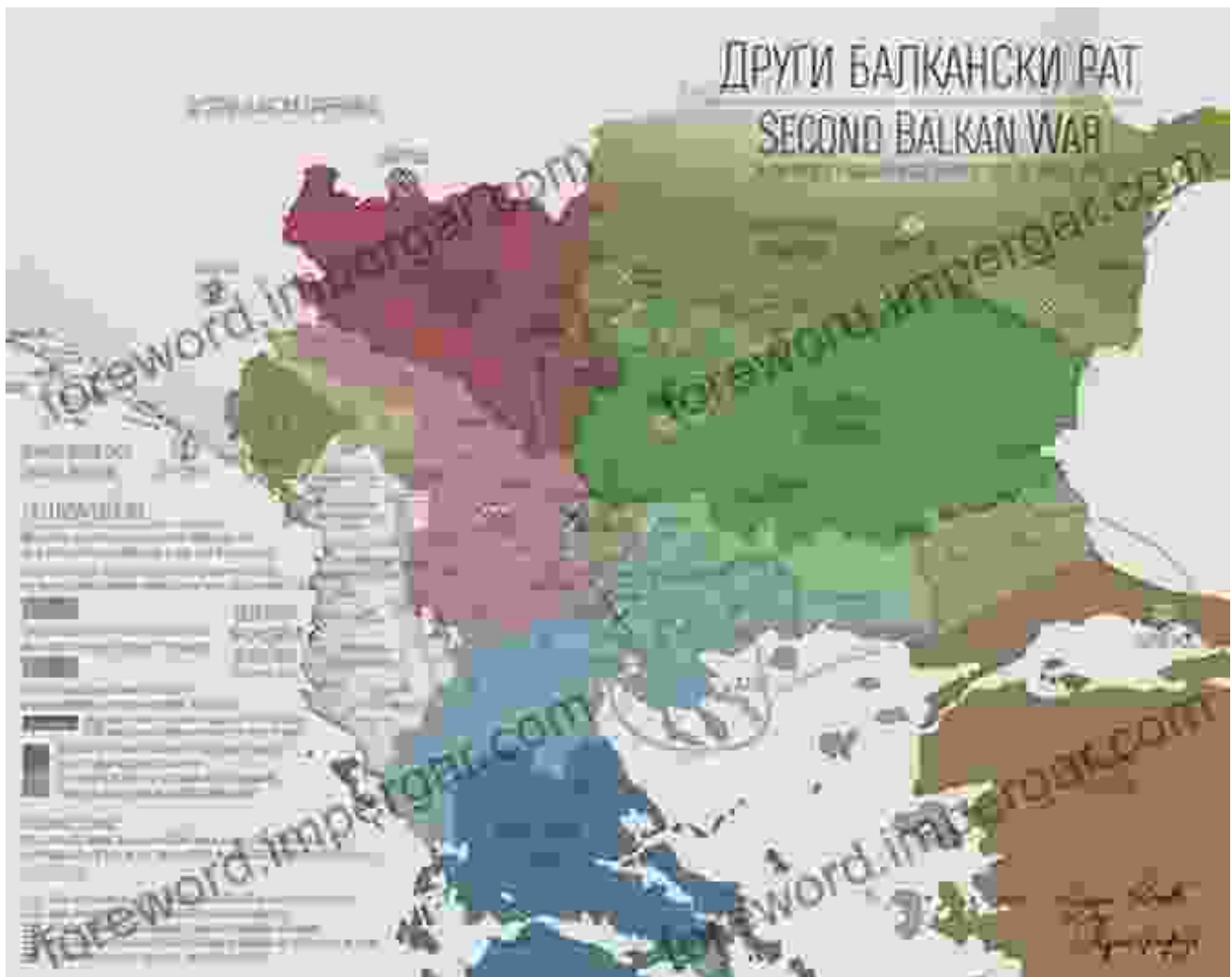
The Cousins' Quarrel: The First Balkan War



The First Balkan War was a complex conflict, involving shifting alliances and multiple fronts. Bulgaria, initially allied with Serbia and Greece, turned against its former allies, seeking to expand its territories.

The war was characterized by fierce fighting and widespread atrocities. The Ottomans, desperate to hold onto their remaining possessions, committed massacres against the Armenian and Greek populations.

The Great Powers Intervene: The Second Balkan War



The Second Balkan War erupted in 1913, as Bulgaria, dissatisfied with the terms of the Treaty of London, attacked Serbia and Greece. This time, Romania and the Ottoman Empire joined the war against Bulgaria.

The Great Powers, fearing a wider conflict, intervened and pressured Bulgaria to sue for peace. The Treaty of Bucharest ended the war, leaving Bulgaria with reduced territories and a bitter sense of resentment.

The Ottoman Empire in Decline: The Loss of Libya and Albania

The Shadow of the Great War: Alliances and Tensions



The Greater War set the stage for the outbreak of World War I in 1914. Alliances forged and tensions simmering during this earlier conflict would shape the larger global conflict to come.

Germany and Austria-Hungary formed the Central Powers, while France, Russia, and Great Britain formed the Triple Entente. The Ottoman Empire, seeking to regain its lost territories, allied itself with the Central Powers.

The Catalyst: The Sarajevo Assassination



On June 28, 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary was assassinated in Sarajevo, the provincial capital of Bosnia-Herzegovina (formally annexed by Austria-Hungary in 1908). The assassin, Gavrilo Princip, was a Serbian nationalist who believed that Franz Ferdinand's rule threatened Serbian independence.

Austria-Hungary, supported by Germany, seized upon the assassination as a pretext to crush Serbia. When Russia mobilized to defend Serbia, Germany declared war on Russia and France.

The Impact and Aftermath of the Forgotten War



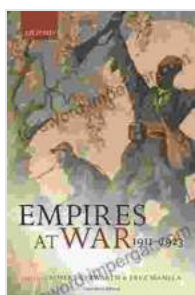
The Greater War had a profound impact on the world. The Ottoman Empire collapsed, giving rise to new independent states in the Middle East. The Balkans remained a volatile region, with ethnic tensions continuing to simmer.

The war also left a bitter legacy of resentment and unresolved territorial disputes that would fuel future conflicts, including World War II. The rise of nationalism and imperialism had set the stage for a century of global conflict.

: A Forgotten Conflict with Lasting Consequences

The Greater War of 1911-1923 is a forgotten conflict, but its impact on the 20th century cannot be overstated. It was a pivotal conflict that set the stage for World War I and shaped the geopolitical landscape of the Middle East and the Balkans.

In *Empires At War 1911-1923: The Greater War*, renowned historian Dr. Peter Langer provides a comprehensive account of this forgotten war, shedding light on its forgotten battles, alliances, and consequences. Through meticulous research and vivid storytelling, Dr. Langer brings to life this pivotal conflict that shaped the course of the 20th century.



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