

Torbjørn Færøvik

Mao's Kingdom. A Story of Suffering
Maos rike. En lidelseshistorie

Cappelen Damm 2012
620 Pages
English sample translation available

NON-FICTION
HISTORY



PHOTO: FREDRIK ARFF

Almost 40 years have passed since the death of Chairman Mao. We have now a better understanding of what happened under his rule. Brave Chinese citizens have stepped forward with their stories and researchers have had access to archives which were closed for a long time. Frightening facts have emerged; millions starved to death and the famine reached its height during Mao's so-called "Great Leap Forward" (1958-61). Recent research indicates that his terrifying attempt at mass mobilisation led to some 45 million deaths. A few years later, Mao initiated the Cultural Revolution, which lasted for a decade. Once more, a horribly large number of people were sacrificed on the altar of the revolution.

In *Mao's Kingdom: A Story of Suffering* the much praised writer Torbjørn Færøvik tells the story of events during Mao's rule. He bases his well-documented account on recent research and individuals' accounts. In this masterly, deeply committed work, Færøvik discusses the consequences of the brutal political dictates, and also explains what made them possible.

Torbjørn Færøvik has an M.A. and has specialised in Asian history. He has more than 25 years experience as a foreign correspondent, and has been working as an international reporter for the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation.

PREVIOUS TITLES

The Middle Realm (Midtens rike), 2009
Children of Buddha (Buddhas barn), 2006
Mahatma Gandhi, 2004
China: A Journey Along the River of Life (Kina. En reise på livets elv), 2003
Marco Polo, 2002
The Road to Xanadu (Veien til Xanadu), 2001
India, 1999
The Dream of Asia (Drømmen om Asia), 1997
South and East Asia (Sør- og Øst-Asia), 1974

PRIZES

The Brage Prize 2012 for *Mao's Kingdom*
The Brage Prize 1999 for *India*

FOREIGN SALES

Denmark, Netherlands, Poland

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