

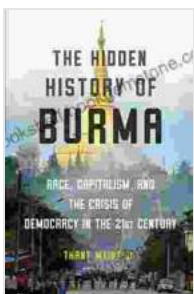
# Race, Capitalism, and the Crisis of Democracy in the 21st Century

In the 21st century, the world is facing a profound crisis of democracy. This crisis is characterized by a decline in trust in government, a rise in political polarization, and a growing sense of inequality. While this crisis has many causes, one of the most important is the way that race and capitalism are intertwined in our societies.

## Race and Capitalism

Race is a social construct that has been used to justify discrimination and oppression throughout history. In the United States, race has been used to justify slavery, segregation, and mass incarceration. Today, race continues to shape our lives in many ways, from the opportunities we have to the way we are treated by the police.

Capitalism is an economic system based on the private ownership of property and the accumulation of capital. Capitalism has been the dominant economic system in the world for centuries, and it has shaped our societies in profound ways. Capitalism has created great wealth, but it has also led to inequality, poverty, and environmental destruction.



## The Hidden History of Burma: Race, Capitalism, and the Crisis of Democracy in the 21st Century: Race, Capitalism, and Democracy in the 21st Century

by Thant Myint-U

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2908 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 301 pages



## **The Intertwined History of Race and Capitalism**

The histories of race and capitalism are intertwined. In the United States, the development of capitalism was closely tied to the enslavement of Africans. The profits from slavery helped to build the American economy, and the system of white supremacy that justified slavery continues to shape our society today.

In the 20th century, capitalism underwent a major transformation. The rise of industrial capitalism led to the creation of a new working class, and the struggle between workers and capitalists became a central feature of political life. However, race continued to play a major role in shaping the working class. In the United States, for example, black workers were often excluded from unions and denied access to good-paying jobs.

## **The Crisis of Democracy in the 21st Century**

The crisis of democracy in the 21st century is a direct result of the way that race and capitalism are intertwined. The rise of inequality and the decline of the middle class have led to a loss of faith in the ability of government to solve our problems. This has led to a rise in populism and nationalism, and a weakening of democratic institutions.

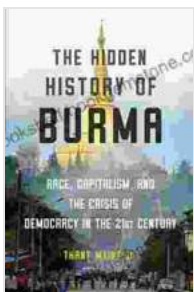
In the United States, the election of Donald Trump is a symptom of the crisis of democracy. Trump's campaign was based on a racist and xenophobic appeal to white voters, and his policies have only further divided the country. Trump's presidency has also been marked by a series of attacks on democratic institutions, including the media, the judiciary, and the rule of law.

## The Way Forward

The crisis of democracy in the 21st century is a serious threat to our societies. If we want to address this crisis, we need to confront the way that race and capitalism are intertwined. We need to build a more just and equitable economy, and we need to challenge the racism that continues to divide our societies.

There are no easy solutions to the crisis of democracy, but we must not give up. The future of our democracy depends on our ability to come together and build a better world for all.

The crisis of democracy in the 21st century is a complex issue with many causes. However, one of the most important causes is the way that race and capitalism are intertwined. We cannot hope to address this crisis without confronting the racism that continues to divide our societies and the inequality that is undermining our democracy.



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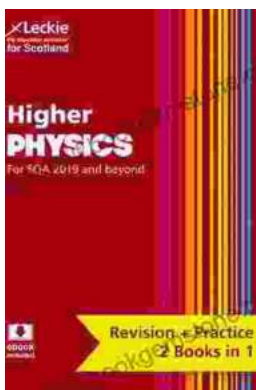
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