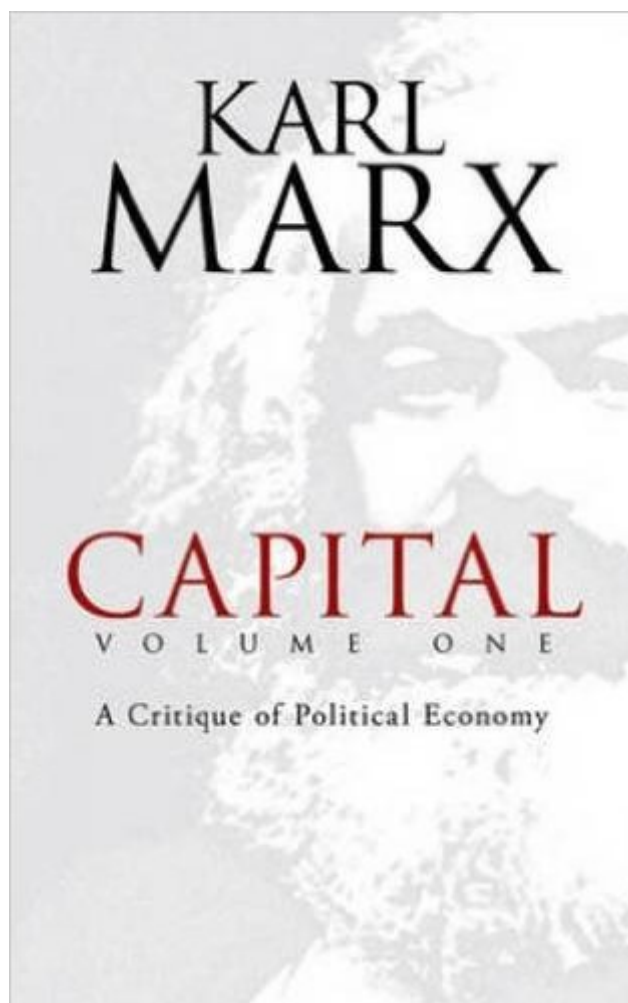


The book was found

Capital, Volume One: A Critique Of Political Economy



Synopsis

Hailed by Friedrich Engels as "the bible of the working class," this 1867 classic of political economics changed the course of history. Thirty years in the making, *Capital*, Volume I was the first installment of Karl Marx's three-part *Das Kapital* and the only volume published during his lifetime. Marx declared that society is evolving from crude, unbalanced economic systems toward a utopian state; specifically, communism. His critiques of private property and class struggles aroused tremendous interest and exercised an influence that resonates to this day. Marx offers a penetrating analysis of capitalism's inner workings, examining commodities, value, money, and other factors related to the system's historic origins and contemporary functions. These considerations form the framework for his conclusion: the system cannot be reformed and must be overthrown by a revolution, resulting in a socialist society in which production serves the needs of every individual rather than generating profits for the few.

Book Information

Paperback: 880 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications (March 17, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486477487

ISBN-13: 978-0486477480

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 1.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (116 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #223,918 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #347 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Political Economy](#) #677 in [Books > Business & Money > Economics > Economic Conditions](#) #25582 in [Books > History](#)

Customer Reviews

Marx's *CAPITAL* is frequently condemned by people who've never read it, and lauded by other people who don't fully understand it. I've read it and I don't think I fully understand it, but the main points of the text are pretty clear; Marx drills them into the reader as he unfolds his theory of the basis of capitalism. First, a note on what *CAPITAL* is not. It is not a "communist" tract, though it is a foundation for communist thought. Marx follows two main trains of thought -- the first is observational, the second diagnostic. He explains how capitalism works, and why it works that way. Disagreeable as some of his ideas may be, they cannot be brushed away by citing the examples of

Stalin and Pol Pot to discredit them. Unlike the typical Communist dictator, Marx was a hard-working scholar, a clear thinker, a fundamentally honest writer. His familiarity with the whole spectrum of economic and philosophical writings that preceded him is unquestionable, and CAPITAL is probably more impressive to a reader who's read THE WEALTH OF NATIONS (Adam Smith), if nothing else. The capitalism of Marx's time (mid-19th century) had dismal effects on the "proletariat" or working-class, and CAPITAL cannot be fully appreciated without some knowledge of how England, the most industrialized nation in the world, looked at that period of history. Charles Dickens is one writer who "exposed" the condition of the poor, in a more acceptable (though no less wordy) fashion it seems. CAPITAL is certainly an important book and it is not the unreadable monstrosity it's reputed to be. It is repetitious, but usually the repetition includes some new twist as Marx proceeds from one aspect of his theory to the next.

It is difficult to write a review for a book that is so widely known, which so much has been written about, and which inspires such extreme degrees of both love and hatred. I also freely admit that I am far from being an expert in Marxian economics or economics in general (when I have gained more confidence in my understanding of Marxian economics I intend to update my review). There are two main criticisms of Marx that are very often leveled against Capital and against Marx's thought in general that I think are invalid and I would like to get them out of the way at the beginning of my review. The first criticism often leveled against Marx is based on the idea that the failure of the various "socialist" states, the various economic difficulties those states faced while they existed, as well as the atrocities that were often committed in Marx's name, constitute irrefutable evidence of the falsity of Marx's main ideas. The point I would make in this regard is that the title of Marx's book is Capital and for good reason. Marx's book is about the functioning and the dynamics of an economy dominated by capital, or the private ownership of the means of production, and the social relations that are inherent to such a system. In other words, Marx's book is about capitalism not about socialism. His analysis of the dynamics of a capitalist society and economy has to be assessed on its own terms and should not be assessed based on the problems faced by, or the relative inefficiencies of, the socialist economies. In my opinion there is much in Marx's analysis of capitalism that is both valid, and often brilliant, and which does not in anyway rely for its validity on the possibility or desirability of a fully planned or state run economy.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Capital, Volume One: A Critique of Political Economy Capital / Libro primero. El proceso de produccion del capital / 3 (Spanish Edition) Capital / Libro segundo. El proceso de circulacion del

capital / 4 (Spanish Edition) Cooking for One: 365 Recipes For One, Quick and Easy Recipes (Healthy Cooking for One, Easy Cooking for One, One Pot, One Pan) How to Boil an Egg: Poach One, Scramble One, Fry One, Bake One, Steam One The First Modern Economy: Success, Failure, and Perseverance of the Dutch Economy, 1500-1815 Freer Markets, More Rules: Regulatory Reform in Advanced Industrial Countries (Cornell Studies in Political Economy) The Hollow Hope: Can Courts Bring About Social Change? Second Edition (American Politics and Political Economy Series) The Price of Wealth: Economies and Institutions in the Middle East (Cornell Studies in Political Economy) Segregation in Federally Subsidized Low-Income Housing in the United States: (Praeger Series in Political Economy) Dealing with Losers: The Political Economy of Policy Transitions Recovery From Schizophrenia: Psychiatry and Political Economy Global Political Economy State Power and World Markets: The International Political Economy Manufacturing Consent: The Political Economy of the Mass Media Origins of Economic Thought and Justice (Political and Social Economy) Theories Of Comparative Political Economy The Choice for Europe: Social Purpose and State Power from Messina to Maastricht (Cornell Studies in Political Economy) City Politics: The Political Economy of Urban America (7th Edition) Understanding the Political World: A Comparative Introduction to Political Science (11th Edition)

[Dmca](#)