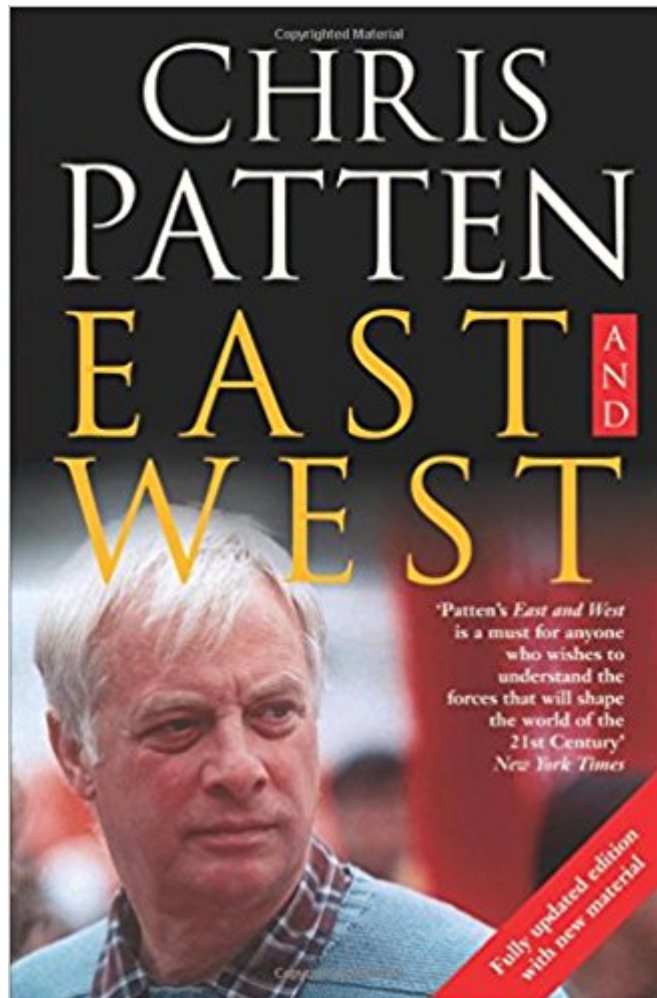




The book was found

East And West



Synopsis

In June of 1997, over a century and a half of British rule in Hong Kong came to an end. Chris Patten writes about his experiences as the last governor of the colony of Hong Kong. He explains why he adopted the stance that he did, and how he fought his battles.

Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Pan Books; New Ed edition (September 10, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0330373080

ISBN-13: 978-0330373081

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 1 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.9 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,107,772 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #70 in Books > History > Asia > Hong Kong #25110 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Political Science #37293 in Books > Business & Money > Economics

Customer Reviews

Excellent!

An American friend in Beijing once said that anyone who has spent time among the Chinese eventually concocts a "grand unified theory of China." To a remarkable extent, Chris Patten didn't. Patten was the last British governor of Hong Kong, and during his five years there he gained a reputation as a combative opponent of the Chinese Communist government and as a champion of Hong Kong's nascent democracy. One might expect, therefore, that his book would be another example of the "China-bashing" so popular among those Western opinion-makers who relish a fight with Beijing. Instead, Patten offers calm, non-alarmist advice, with the wise observation that we would be better off not treating China as a special case. "The alleged uniqueness of China," he says, "blurs comprehension and mangles policy-making." He notes that one side of the how-to-deal-with-China debate is dominated by appeasement-minded "Old China Hands," while the other features hardliners who see China as "the last evil empire." Both outlooks are wrong, Patten says: "We are lured into thinking that there is a special, an exact way of dealing with China - which turns out on close examination to be one part correct and four parts mumbo-jumbo." While both the

confrontational and appeasement mindsets distort Western policy, what is even worse is the Western tendency to oscillate between the two approaches. Patten observes that "one minute we sell arms to Taiwan and stamp our feet about human-rights abuses, the next we are prepared to eat the humblest of pies and even curtail our own civil liberties (trying to segregate demonstrators, for example, lest they are seen by a visiting Chinese leader) to accommodate Chinese Communist prejudices." This gives the hard men in Beijing the opportunity to play the two sides off against each other, particularly during the ludicrous annual debate in the U.S. Senate over China's "most-favoured-nation" trade status. Patten sarcastically describes how senators bluster about China having to shape up, whether on human rights, arms proliferation, property rights or market access. The Chinese respond with a few symbolic gestures and muse about buying their new jetliners from Europe's Airbus rather than Boeing. Meanwhile, business interests furiously lobby the senators and worry publicly about losing access to the "world's biggest market." The senators eventually endorse the status quo for another year and the Chinese come away with all their cynicism about Western "values" intact. Patten recommends a different approach, tougher than the Old China Hands might like but not overtly confrontational. Simply put, he says China should be treated like any other country, held to the same standards. If China mistreats political dissidents, the West should be as critical as it was regarding the Soviet Union and South Africa. On trade, Chinese access to Western markets must be matched by openness and transparency in the Chinese economy. Sensibly, Patten recommends delinking trade from political issues so China cannot play its usual game of releasing a few dissidents in return for trade concessions. There are weaknesses in East And West, including long sections of political boilerplate and a studied unwillingness to confront the legacy of Western imperialism in China. But Patten displays admirably clear thinking on the current situation and good counsel regarding future dealings with Beijing's red mandarins.

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

The East Coast Cookbook: Real East Coast Recipes for Authentic East Coast Cooking West of the Indus 7,000 Miles through the cradle of Civilization West Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran , Iraq & on the Turkey (Travel Middle East) Easy Jamaican Cookbook: 50 Unique and Authentic Jamaican Recipes (Jamaican Cookbook, Jamaican Recipes, Jamaican Cooking, West Indian Cookbook, West Indian Recipes, West Indian Cooking Book 1) Vol.1. Explanation of Sumerian and Assyrian Tablets, Slabs and seals and Translation of Cuneiform Inscriptions (Illustrated History of the Civilizations, ... Middle East, Near East, and Asia Minor.) Photographies East: The Camera and Its Histories in East and Southeast Asia (Objects/Histories) Democracy and Youth in the Middle East: Islam, Tribalism and the Rentier State in Oman (Library of Modern Middle East Studies) Syria and Iran: Diplomatic

Alliance and Power Politics in the Middle East (Library of Modern Middle East Studies) Power and Policy in Syria: Intelligence Services, Foreign Relations and Democracy in the Modern Middle East (Library of Modern Middle East Studies) Harley Loco: A Memoir of Hard Living, Hair, and Post-Punk, from the Middle East to the Lower East Side Online Activism in the Middle East: Political Power and Authoritarian Governments from Egypt to Kuwait (Library of Modern Middle East Studies) MiG-23 Flogger in the Middle East: Mikoyan i Gurevich MiG-23 in Service in Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Libya and Syria, 1973 until Today (Middle East@War) Writing Off the Beaten Track: Reflections on the Meaning of Travel and Culture in the Middle East (Contemporary Issues in the Middle East) Coffee and Coffeehouses: The Origins of a Social Beverage in the Medieval Near East (Publications on the Near East) Greater Middle East Region: Including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Libya and Turkey (Hammond Greater Middle East Region Map) 1995 East African Handbook: With Mauritius, Madagascar and Seychelles (Footprint East Africa Handbook) African Safari: Big Game Hunting in British East Africa, the Sudan, and Portuguese East Africa (1908) (Linked Table of Contents) Everyday Life in the Muslim Middle East, Third Edition (Indiana Series in Middle East Studies) East Bay Out: A Personal Guide to the East Bay Regional Parks From Resilience to Revolution: How Foreign Interventions Destabilize the Middle East (Columbia Studies in Middle East Politics) The Middle East on the Eve of Modernity: Aleppo in the Eighteenth Century (Study of the Middle East Institute Ser)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)