

(Download pdf) America As Empire: Global Leader or Rogue Power?

America As Empire: Global Leader or Rogue Power?

Von James Garrison

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Von James Garrison : America As Empire: Global Leader or Rogue Power? before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised America As Empire: Global Leader or Rogue Power?:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An Empire to end all Empires?Von Dr. Hartmut HeuermannThe United States is at a crossroads in its national history, says Jim Garrison, president of the State of the World Forum. He contends that America has transitioned from republic to empire, betraying the heritage of the founding fathers and pursuing an ill-fated course toward militarism and

imperialism. Unless the country proves capable of redefining its course and act in the service of larger global interests, it is bound to head for decline, if not disaster. Its military ambitions could well turn out to be its unmaking: "Military might seeks to make durable what is inherently unstable. But under current circumstances, further consolidating military supremacy in an increasingly unsustainable international system might turn out to be more like arranging deck chairs on the Titanic". As depicted by Garrison, the world's political, economic, ethnic, and ecological problems are such as to prohibit procrastination and selfish conduct. In global perspective, there is no longer the need for any nation to dominate others but a common interest to render the need for domination obsolete. The powers of this earth must learn to act jointly if they wish to ensure survival in peace. Garrison's arguments carry conviction. And yet, while his analysis of the world's political and ecological ailments is to the point and his appeals to American policymakers are urgent, he underestimates the powerful effect of ideology. In other words: Even though his diagnosis is undoubtedly correct, the therapeutical prescriptions, however reasonable, are likely to remain ineffective. It is not probable that the power-craving instinct in the minds of American ideologues will abandon the cherished notion of American supremacy. For the taste of power is sweet to those who wield power. President Obama's well-intentioned proclamations notwithstanding, U.S. governments, whether liberal or conservative, will not easily relinquish their claims to world leadership and opt for global partnership. To recapture the noble spirit and enlightened philosophy of the founding fathers and to shape current policies accordingly seems well-nigh impossible today. Neither can a country with a military budget of more than 500 billion dollars instill much trust among the peoples of the world. Nor can a capitalist system which has repeatedly shown a precarious instability serve as a model to a globalized economy. Garrison's observation about America's challenges are astute and his vision of a better future is attractive but not very realistic. The concept of American leadership presupposes nations who desire to be led - American style. There may not be very many.

Kurzbeschreibung In *America as Empire*, Jim Garrison urges us to face up to the complexities and responsibilities inherent in the indisputable fact that America is now the world's single preeminent power. "America", Garrison writes, "has become what it was founded not to be: established as a haven for those fleeing the abuse of power, it has attained and now wields near absolute power. It has become an empire." Garrison traces the roots of the American empire to the very beginnings of the republic, in particular to the historic willingness of United States' to use military might in the defense of two consistent --- if sometimes contradictory --- foreign policy objectives: protection of American commercial interests and promotion of democracy. How long can the American empire last? Garrison looks at American history within the context of the rise and fall of empires and argues that the U. S. can gain important insights into durability from the Romans. He details the interplay between military power, political institutions, and legal structures that enabled the Roman empire at its apogee to last for longer than America has as a country. But the real question is, what kind of empire can and should America be? As the sole superpower, America must lead in shaping a new global order, just as after World War II Roosevelt and Truman took the lead in shaping a new international order. That international order is now crumbling under the pressures of globalization, persistent poverty, terrorism and fundamentalism. Garrison outlines the kinds of cooperative global structures America must promote if its empire is to leave a lasting legacy of greatness. Garrison calls for Americans to consciously see themselves as a transitional empire, one whose task is not to dominate but to catalyze the next generation of global governance mechanisms that would make obsolete the need for empire. If this is done, America could be the final empire. From Publishers Weekly Garrison, president of the State of the World Forum, reviews America's rise to the de facto status of an "imperial republic" and suggests that the country can "articulate a vision of greatness" that will lead the rest of the world into liberal democracy. Garrison is undoubtedly correct that no other nation is powerful enough to lead the charge, and his historical analysis is strong despite its brevity. Yet the author's emphasis on the positive prospects for "the first planetary civilization" will strike many as overly optimistic. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. **Kurzbeschreibung** In *America as Empire*, Jim Garrison urges us to face up to the complexities and responsibilities inherent in the indisputable fact that America is now the world's single preeminent power. "America", Garrison writes, "has become what it was founded not to be: established as a haven for those fleeing the abuse of power, it has attained and now wields near absolute power. It has become an empire." Garrison traces the roots of the American empire to the very beginnings of the republic, in particular to the historic willingness of United States' to use military might in the defense of two consistent --- if sometimes contradictory --- foreign policy objectives: protection of American commercial interests and promotion of democracy. How long can the American empire last? Garrison looks at American history within the context of the rise and fall of empires and argues that the U. S. can gain important insights into durability from the Romans. He details the interplay between military power, political institutions, and legal structures that enabled the Roman empire at its apogee to last for longer than America has as a country. But the real question is, what kind of empire can and should America be? As the sole superpower, America must lead in shaping a new global order, just as after World War II

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