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C. M. Woodhouse, TLS

# The Great Game

ON SECRET SERVICE IN HIGH ASIA



# The Great Game On Secret Service In High Asia

**Peter Hopkirk**

## **The Great Game On Secret Service In High Asia:**

**The Great Game** Peter Hopkirk, 2001 For nearly a century the two most powerful nations on earth Victorian Britain and Tsarist Russia fought a secret war in the lonely passes and deserts of Central Asia Those engaged in this shadowy struggle called it The Great Game a phrase immortalized in Kipling s Kim When play first began the two rival empires lay nearly 2 000 miles apart By the end some Russian outposts were within 20 miles of India This book tells the story of the Great Game through the exploits of the young officers both British and Russian who risked their lives playing it Disguised as holy men or native horsetraders they mapped secret passes gathered intelligence and sought the allegiance of powerful khans Some never returned

**The Great Game** Peter Hopkirk, 1994-05-15 THE GREAT GAME THE EPIC STORY BEHIND TODAY S HEADLINES Peter Hopkirk s spellbinding account of the great imperial struggle for supremacy in Central Asia has been hailed as essential reading with that era s legacy playing itself out today The Great Game between Victorian Britain and Tsarist Russia was fought across desolate terrain from the Caucasus to China over the lonely passes of the Pamirs and Karakorams in the blazing Kerman and Helmund deserts and through the caravan towns of the old Silk Road both powers scrambling to control access to the riches of India and the East When play first began the frontiers of Russia and British India lay 2000 miles apart by the end this distance had shrunk to twenty miles at some points Now in the vacuum left by the disintegration of the Soviet Union there is once again talk of Russian soldiers dipping their toes in the Indian Ocean The Washington Post has said that every story Peter Hopkirk touches is totally engrossing In this gripping narrative he recounts a breathtaking tale of espionage and treachery through the actual experiences of its colorful characters Based on meticulous scholarship and on the spot research this is the history at the core of today s geopolitics

*Taming the Imperial Imagination* Martin J. Bayly, 2016-05-19 Taming the Imperial Imagination marks a novel intervention into the debate on empire and international relations and offers a new perspective on nineteenth century Anglo Afghan relations Martin J Bayly shows how throughout the nineteenth century the British Empire in India sought to understand and control its peripheries through the use of colonial knowledge Addressing the fundamental question of what Afghanistan itself meant to the British at the time he draws on extensive archival research to show how knowledge of Afghanistan was built refined and warped by an evolving colonial state This knowledge informed policy choices and cast Afghanistan in a separate legal and normative universe Beginning with the disorganised exploits of nineteenth century explorers and ending with the cold strategic logic of the militarised scientific frontier this book tracks the nineteenth century origins of contemporary policy expertise and the forms of knowledge that inform interventions in Iraq Afghanistan and elsewhere today

[Social and Economic Change in the Pamirs \(Gorno-Badakhshan, Tajikistan\)](#) Frank Bliss, 2006-05-02 This work takes a comprehensive look at the history anthropology and recent social and economic development of the Pamiri people in Gorno Badakhshan Eastern Tajikistan

*Setting the East Ablaze* Peter Hopkirk, 2001 Peter Hopkirk s book tells for the first time the story of the Bolshevik attempt

between the wars to set the East ablaze with the new gospel of Marxism Lenin's dream was to liberate the whole of Asia but his starting point was British India A shadowy undeclared war followed Among the players in this new Great Game were British Indian intelligence officers and the professional revolutionaries of the Communist International There were also Muslim visionaries and Chinese warlords as well as a White Russian baron who roasted his Bolshevik captives alive Here is an extraordinary tale of intrigue and treachery barbarism and civil war whose echoes continue to be heard in Central Asia today

**From Archaeology to Spectacle in Victorian Britain** Shawn Malley,2016-04-15 In his examination of the excavation of ancient Assyria by Austen Henry Layard Shawn Malley reveals how by whom and for what reasons the stones of Assyria were deployed during a brief but remarkably intense period of archaeological activity in the mid nineteenth century His book encompasses the archaeological practices and representations that originated in Layard's excavations radiated outward by way of the British Museum and Layard's best selling Nineveh and Its Remains 1849 and were then dispersed into the public domain of popular amusements That the stones of Assyria resonated in debates far beyond the interests of religious and scientific groups is apparent in the prevalence of poetry exhibitions plays and dioramas inspired by the excavation Of particular note correspondence involving high ranking diplomatic personnel and museum officials demonstrates that the treasures brought home to fill the British Museum served not only as signs of symbolic conquest but also as covert means for extending Britain's political and economic influence in the Near East Malley takes up issues of class and influence to show how the middle class Layard's celebrity status both advanced and threatened aristocratic values Tellingly the excavations prompted disturbing questions about the perils of imperial rule that framed discussions of the social and political conditions which brought England to the brink of revolution in 1848 and resurfaced with a vengeance during the Crimean crisis In the provocative conclusion of this meticulously documented and suggestive book Malley points toward the striking parallels between the history of Britain's imperial investment in Mesopotamia and the contemporary geopolitical uses and abuses of Assyrian antiquity in post invasion Iraq

**Intelligence and Government in Britain and the United States** Philip H.J. Davies,2012-04-06 Bringing a dose of reality to the stuff of literary thrillers this masterful study is the first closely detailed comparative analysis of the evolution of the modern British and American intelligence communities Intelligence and Government in Britain and the United States A Comparative Perspective is an intensive comparative exploration of the role of organizational and political culture in the development of the intelligence communities of America and her long time ally Each national system is examined as a detailed case study set in a common conceptual and theoretical framework The first volume lays out that framework and examines the U S intelligence community The second volume offers the U K case study as well as overall conclusions Particular attention is paid here to the fundamentally different concepts of what intelligence entails in the United States and United Kingdom as well as to the nations different approaches to managing change and information intensive activities The impact of these differences is demonstrated by examining the evolution of the

two intelligence communities from their inceptions prior to World War II through their development during the Cold War and the transformations that have taken place since especially in the wake of the September 2001 terrorist attacks and 2003 invasion of Iraq

**The Challenge of K2** Richard Sale, 2011-12-13 K2 is a legend one of the most demanding mountaineering challenges in the world and one of the most treacherous. Extreme unpredictable weather and the acutely difficult climbing conditions test the technique endurance and psychological strength of the most experienced mountaineers to the limit and often beyond. Many of the men and women who have sought to reach the summit have failed often with tragic consequences over 70 of them have died or disappeared. Yet this the second highest mountain on Earth continues to exercise for the worlds top mountaineers a special and all too often lethal attraction. Richard Sales fascinating new book traces the climbing history of K2 over the last 150 years he shows in graphic detail how it acquired this awesome reputation it was during the first serious attempts on the summit in the 1930s and 1950s that K2 became known as the Savage Mountain

The Oxford Book of Spy Stories Michael Cox, 1997 These 29 tales of political intrigue wartime and peace time scheming feature works by such authors as Frank O Connor Ian Fleming Graham Greene and Len Deighton. Together with Michel Cox s fascination Introduction they form a wonderfully entertaining literary into a world of intrigue and deception

**India Handbook**, 1996 **On Secret Service East of Constantinople** Peter Hopkirk, 2006 Under the banner of a Holy War masterminded in Berlin and unleashed from Constantinople the Germans and the Turks set out in 1914 to foment violent revolutionary uprisings against the British in India and the Russians in Central Asia. It was a new and more sinister version of the old Great Game with world domination as its ultimate aim. Here told in epic detail and for the first time is the true story behind John Buchan s classic wartime thriller Greenmantle recounted through the adventures and misadventures of the secret agents and others who took part in it. It is an ominously topical tale today in view of the continuing turmoil in this volatile region where the Great Game has never really ceased

**Himmler's Crusade** Christopher Hale, 2003 In 1938 on the eve of war a Nazi expedition set out through British India on a mission sponsored by Himmler himself. Their aim was to find the roots of the Aryan people high in the sacred mountains of Tibet. It was led by two complex individuals one Ernst Schafer a swashbuckling naturalist who was using the Nazis to pursue his own ends the other Bruno Beger so committed to the cause he ended up conducting experiments on prisoners in Auschwitz. The expedition quickly found itself battling hostility from the British being manipulated by the Tibetans and struggling with the primitive conditions of Lhasa. Every step was recorded in diaries letters and reports back to Delhi and London by the suspicious British and to Berlin by the Germans. It was also documented in masses of extraordinary photographs many of which are reproduced here

*Isabella Bird and 'a Woman's Right to Do what She Can Do Well* Olive Checkland, 1996 **Central Asia File** Central Asian Studies Association, 1990 **Encyclopedia of the Victorian Era** James Eli Adams, 2004 Contains 627 alphabetically arranged essays that examine significant people places and events in the social political and intellectual history of Great Britain during

the sixty four year reign of Queen Victoria from 1837 to 1901      **Tajikistan and the High Pamirs** Robert Middleton,Huw Thomas,Monica Whitlock,Markus Hauser,2008 Now recovering from the misfortunes of the 20th century the travails of Soviet rule and several years of civil war it is able to offer visitors not only its legacies of cultural and ethnic diversity but also unparalleled opportunities for adventure      **Dances in Deep Shadows** Michael Occleshaw,2006 This volume is an appraisal of the revolution and Civil War in Russia it shows that the clash between communism and capitalism was never as clear cut as later historians sought to claim In revolutionary Russia it reveals a teeming underground of espionage double dealing and adventurism      *South Asian Handbook* ,1994      *Himalaya* P. S. Saklani,2005 Contributed articles      **Kabul** Dominic Medley,Jude Barrand,2003 As usual Bradt guides lead the way in exploring areas in the news This new mini guide format features Background information to Kabul and the surrounding area Comprehensive advice on safety security and health People and culture in depth Hotels guesthouses and B Bs plus restaurants and bars Up to date telephone numbers websites and other communications information Beyond Kabul towns and cities within easy reach of the capital Maps and town plans Words phrases and Afghan proverbs

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