1492 - 1992

The Legacy of Columbus

Howard Zinn

Discussing the legacy of Columbus, including 500 years of indigenous resistance, "bothers the defenders of Western civilization, those people who have benefited from Western civilization, or who think they will benefit from it in some way. They are bothered by the fact that more and more Americans want to look at what happened then from a different point of view. Because we've been looking at it from one point of view for all these hundreds of years, looking at slavery from a white point of view, at Columbus from a white point of view, at women and the issue of sexual equality from the male point of view, looking at history from very specific, limited points of view. People have begun to look at history from the point of view of those people who have been invisible, overlooked, oppressed." –Howard Zinn, from the CD

In this instant classic, recorded on the eve of the quincentennial, legendary historian Howard Zinn returns to the themes he popularized in his masterful A People's History of the United States—how we interpret history, and what that tells us about the struggles of the vast majority of folks typically written out of the narrative. With his trademark wit, erudition, and generosity, he stands history on its head, to better illuminate, understand, and act upon the past, present, and future.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Howard Zinn was one of the country's most beloved and respected historians, the author of numerous books and plays including, Marx in Soho, You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train, and the best-selling A People's History of the United States, and a passionate activist for radical change.

ACCOLADES

"Howard's life and work are a persistent reminder that our own subjective judgments of the likelihood of success in engaging human problems are of little interest, to ourselves or others. What matters is to take part, as best we can, in the small actions of unknown people that can stave off disaster and bring about a better world, to honor them for their achievement, to do what we can to ensure that these achievements are understood and carried forward." –Noam Chomsky

"What can I say that will in any way convey the love, respect, and admiration I feel for this unassuming hero who was my teacher and mentor." –Alice Walker



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