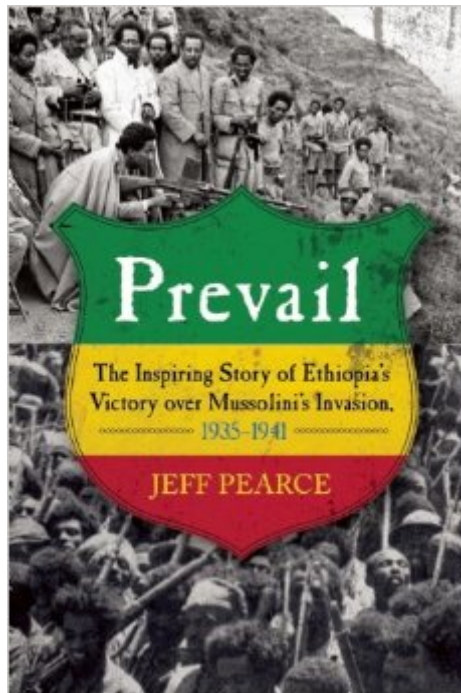


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Prevail: The Inspiring Story Of Ethiopia's Victory Over Mussolini's Invasion, 1935-1941



Synopsis

It was the war that changed everything, and yet it's been mostly forgotten: in 1935, Italy invaded Ethiopia. It dominated newspaper headlines and newsreels. It inspired mass marches in Harlem, a play on Broadway, and independence movements in Africa. As the British Navy sailed into the Mediterranean for a white-knuckle showdown with Italian ships, riots broke out in major cities all over the United States. Italian planes dropped poison gas on Ethiopian troops, bombed Red Cross hospitals, and committed atrocities that were never deemed worthy of a war crimes tribunal. But unlike the many other depressing tales of Africa that crowd book shelves, this is a gripping thriller, a rousing tale of real-life heroism in which the Ethiopians come back from near destruction and win. Tunnelling through archive records, tracking down survivors still alive today, and uncovering never-before-seen photos, Jeff Pearce recreates a remarkable era and reveals astonishing new findings. He shows how the British Foreign Office abandoned the Ethiopians to their fate, while Franklin Roosevelt had an ambitious peace plan that could have changed the course of world history—had Chamberlain not blocked him with his policy on Ethiopia. And Pearce shows how modern propaganda techniques, the post-war African world, and modern peace movements all were influenced by this crucial conflict—a war in Africa that truly changed the world. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history—books about World War II, the Third Reich, Hitler and his henchmen, the JFK assassination, conspiracies, the American Civil War, the American Revolution, gladiators, Vikings, ancient Rome, medieval times, the old West, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

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Customer Reviews

I came across a Facebook post for Prevail and immediately ordered the book. I set aside several things I had been reading thinking I would make quick work of Prevail and was taken aback by its size. The reader should not be intimidated nor overwhelmed as the book is so well written as to draw one quickly along. Mr Pearce's meticulously researched work tracks the conflict in Ethiopia by following the actions of the participants rescuing many from obscurity. These were fascinating people who should set the reader searching for even more about their lives. By the end of the book I recalled Hunter S Thompson's Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail 1972 in that I walked away with a greater understanding of the political process without having to struggle with it rendered as abstract theory. As the author follows events, the ineffective reaction to Mussolini's invasion seemed inevitable. But on the ground, despite being abandoned by the League of Nations, an array of fascinating personalities kept up the struggle for Ethiopian independence. This is a book that deserves not only a place on people's TBR list but consideration for book awards. Prevail filled a large hole in my knowledge about East Africa. The book has created a dilemma as I realized less than half way through that I would be rereading it but want to pass it to others in an effort to build an audience not just for the actual book but the people within it who deserve a long overdue moment in the sun. Given the current state of global politics this is a timely work that should spur important debate on the past in an effort to learn from mistakes while being inspired by the courage and resilience of the many who resisted invasion.

Mr. Pearce at long last provides an overdue narrative about Mussolini's expansionism in the Horn of Africa. The reader will thoroughly enjoy meeting Pearce's host of colorful characters. Few today truly appreciate the atrocity that was Mussolini's use of mustard gas, a wholly criminal act used to force battle. Pearce's story exposes the world powers' intentional blindness to what happened in Ethiopia, and illustrates how the tendency to look the other way permeated through the ages. Happily, this is also a great underdog story, and Pearce manages to portray how the Ethiopians prevailed against all odds. Mussolini apologists will surely come out of the woodwork to diminish this well-told story. Pearce's book belongs on the shelf of every WWII enthusiasts, as it provides the missing prologue to the war that would unravel the whole world.

This book is simply the best book ever written on this specific subject. The author has done his homework to come up with this masterpiece. You have done Ethiopians a justice while reminding the West and the powerful to do what is right or suffer the consequences of injustice. One can learn easily how Ethiopia's case could have saved the world from the atrocities of the World War II just by the simple task of honoring the principles of the ill fated League of Nations. HaileSillasié's speech at the League was indeed a prophetic one "Today its us, tomorrow its you". Thank God for creating Karma.

My grand father used to tell me stories about this war and I always wanted to find a well written and researched book on the 1935 Italian aggression on my country. This book presents the facts and the sad truth of what had happened.the audio book is even more intriguing and well narrated.

Very good book if you love Ethiopia. The noble Ethiopian resistance kept the Italians on the main roads. The Italian Army dared not go into the rural areas for fear of being ambushed. This is a very good book to make applications to other nations where tyrant militaries are threatening to invade their own nation. This book also shows the zeal of Emperor Heile Salassia and the way Europe and America threw Ethiopia under the bus.

Brilliantly written and meticulously researched, with characters that jump off the page. Prevail shines a light on a shameful display of western behavior that's almost been forgotten... Like the best history books, Prevail shows how past events keep echoing through time, with a clear impact on today's world.

Prevail is one of those rare books for people who appreciate history. Many books have been written about Italy's invasion of Ethiopia at the beginning of WWII, but Prevail goes farther in dealing with this important conflict. This book not only describes the war in breathtaking detail accompanied by rarely seen pictures, but it also succeeds where others have struggled - it provides solid historical context - and the reasons why the war mattered to so many. Jeff Pearce achieves something even more remarkable - he is able to re-tell this story in a manner that truly captivates the attention. Here, the reader will set out on an incredible adventure of wartime high drama, all the while learning about an important battle that's carefully researched and presented. Prevail no doubt will stand as a tribute to many - and to those brave souls who seem to have faded in the annals of history - until now. This book is a rare gem waiting to be discovered.

The service was good. I am a scholar of Ethiopian culture and history. The book was well written, meticulously researched, and gave a balanced historical account. Highly recommended for anyone interested in the genre.

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