

BOOK REVIEW



*Vik Kanwar**



dramatis personae

East West Street

What our Fathers Did: A Nazi

Legacy

West Street

East

Id. passim

Id.



BOOK REVIEW: PHILIPPE SANDS, EAST WEST STREET

PHILIPPE SANDS, EAST WEST STREET

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Id.

Origins of the Genocide Convention: From Nuremberg to Paris

supra
supra
supra

Id.

BOOK REVIEW: PHILIPPE SANDS, EAST WEST STREET

PHILIPPE SANDS' *EAST WEST STREET* IS A MASTERFUL AND UNUSUAL HISTORY OF THE CONCEPT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. SANDS, A FRENCH JOURNALIST AND AUTHOR, TRACES THE ORIGIN OF HUMAN RIGHTS FROM THE 17TH CENTURY TO THE PRESENT. HE ARGUES THAT THE CONCEPT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS BORN IN THE 17TH CENTURY AS A RESULT OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION AND THE RISE OF THE NATION-STATE. SANDS' ARGUMENT IS THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ARE NOT A UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLE, BUT A CONCEPT THAT HAS EVOLVED OVER TIME AND IS SHAPED BY CULTURE AND POLITICS. HE EXPLORES THE TENSION BETWEEN THE UNIVERSALITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE NATION-STATE, AND HOW THIS TENSION HAS SHAPED THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS LAW AND POLICY. SANDS' WRITING IS CLEAR, CONCISE, AND ENGAGING, AND HE PROVIDES A FASCINATING INSIGHT INTO THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

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Id.

See, e.g.

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