

new york times birthday book

New York Times Birthday Book: A Unique and Memorable Gift for Celebrating Special Days

Celebrating a birthday is a cherished tradition worldwide, and finding the perfect gift to mark someone's special day can be both exciting and challenging. The **New York Times Birthday Book** has emerged as a distinctive and meaningful present, combining history, personal milestones, and the power of journalism. This comprehensive guide explores everything you need to know about the New York Times Birthday Book, its origins, features, customization options, and why it makes an exceptional gift for any birthday celebrant.

What Is the New York Times Birthday Book?

The New York Times Birthday Book is a personalized publication that compiles significant news stories, headlines, and events from the day a person was born. It is crafted using articles from The New York Times archives, offering a snapshot of historical moments that coincided with an individual's birth date.

This book is more than just a collection of headlines; it encapsulates the cultural, political, and social context of a specific day in history. It serves as a unique keepsake that links someone's personal milestone to the broader world events that shaped that era.

Origins and History of the Birthday Book

The concept of creating personalized historical books has been around for decades, but the New York Times Birthday Book gained popularity due to its authoritative journalism, extensive archives, and focus on personalization. The idea is rooted in the desire to connect personal history with global history, making birthdays more meaningful.

Initially, the service was offered as a bespoke product by various publishers, but the New York Times, with its rich archive dating back over 150 years, made it possible to craft highly accurate and detailed birthday books. Over time, the product evolved from a simple compilation of headlines to a beautifully designed, hardcover keepsake with customization features.

Features of the New York Times Birthday Book

The New York Times Birthday Book offers several features that make it a standout gift:

1. Personalized Content

- The book is customized with the birthday person's name, birth date, and sometimes their birthplace.

- It includes headlines, articles, and images relevant to that particular day in history.

2. Historical Context

- Provides a snapshot of what was happening globally and locally on the day of birth.
- Highlights major political, cultural, scientific, and sporting events.

3. Customizable Cover and Layout

- Options for personalized cover designs.
- Select from different layouts and themes to suit recipient preferences.

4. Quality and Design

- Printed on high-quality paper with a hardcover binding.
- Professionally designed to resemble a vintage or modern newspaper archive.

5. Additional Personalization

- Optional inclusion of a message or dedication.
- May feature photographs or personal notes, depending on the vendor.

How to Order a New York Times Birthday Book

Ordering a New York Times Birthday Book typically involves the following steps:

1. **Choose a Vendor:** Several companies, including the official New York Times store and reputable third-party publishers, offer customization services.
2. **Select the Format and Design:** Decide on hardcover or softcover options, cover designs, and layout themes.
3. **Provide Birth Details:** Input the birth date, name, and any additional personal information for customization.
4. **Add Personal Messages:** Optional notes or dedications can be included to add a personal touch.
5. **Review and Confirm:** Check the preview of the book before finalizing the order.
6. **Place the Order:** Complete payment and wait for delivery.

Ordering times may vary, so it is advisable to place the order well in advance of the birthday date to ensure timely delivery.

Why Choose a New York Times Birthday Book as a Gift?

The New York Times Birthday Book is more than just a gift; it's an experience and a keepsake. Here's why it stands out:

1. Unique and Personal

- No two books are exactly alike, as they are tailored to the recipient's birth date and personal preferences.
- It creates a meaningful connection to history and personal identity.

2. Educational and Informative

- Offers insights into the world on the day of birth, making it both entertaining and educational.
- Sparks curiosity about history, current events, and cultural moments.

3. Long-lasting Keepsake

- Durable hardcover design ensures the book can be treasured for years.
- Becomes a family heirloom, passed down through generations.

4. Perfect for All Ages

- Suitable for children, teens, and adults.
- Can be customized to be more playful or sophisticated depending on the recipient.

5. Ideal for Special Occasions

- Makes a thoughtful birthday gift.
- Also suitable for anniversaries, milestones, or as a commemorative gift.

Customization Options and Variations

The level of personalization varies depending on the vendor, but common options include:

- **Cover Design:** Choose from vintage newspaper styles, modern layouts, or themed covers.
- **Personal Dedications:** Include a heartfelt message or quote.

- **Event Highlights:** Focus on specific themes like sports, entertainment, or politics.
- **Additional Content:** Some vendors allow inclusion of personal photographs or notes.

Some companies also offer themed editions, such as sports birthdays, entertainment milestones, or national history, allowing even more tailored options.

Pricing and Availability

The cost of a New York Times Birthday Book varies based on size, customization options, and vendor. Typically, prices range from approximately \$50 to \$150. Premium editions with extensive personalization can cost more.

Availability depends on the vendor's production timelines, but most companies advise ordering at least 4-6 weeks in advance of the birthday to ensure timely delivery.

Conclusion: A Thoughtful and Educational Gift

The **New York Times Birthday Book** stands out as a thoughtful, educational, and personalized gift that celebrates an individual's life through the lens of history. It beautifully bridges personal milestones with world events, creating a meaningful keepsake that the recipient will cherish for years to come. Whether for family, friends, or colleagues, this book adds a special touch to any birthday celebration, making it more memorable and insightful.

If you're searching for a unique gift that combines history, personalization, and elegance, the New York Times Birthday Book is an excellent choice. It not only honors the day someone was born but also connects them to the larger story of the world, making every birthday truly special.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the New York Times Birthday Book?

The New York Times Birthday Book is a publication that features notable birthdays, anniversaries, and historical events associated with specific dates, often highlighting the achievements of prominent individuals.

How can I access the New York Times Birthday Book?

You can access the New York Times Birthday Book through their official website, subscription services, or by purchasing special editions that include the birthday listings.

Is the New York Times Birthday Book available in digital format?

Yes, the New York Times Birthday Book is available in digital format, often as part of digital subscriptions or downloadable PDFs for easy access on devices.

Can I customize the New York Times Birthday Book for personal use or as a gift?

Some publishers and third-party services offer customized versions of the Birthday Book, allowing you to personalize content for special occasions or as unique gifts.

What kind of events or people are featured in the New York Times Birthday Book?

The book features a wide range of notable individuals such as celebrities, historical figures, political leaders, and cultural icons, along with significant events that occurred on specific dates.

How often is the New York Times Birthday Book updated?

The Birthday Book is typically updated annually to include new birthdays, anniversaries, and recent historical highlights relevant to each date.

Is the New York Times Birthday Book suitable for educators and students?

Yes, it can be a valuable resource for educators and students to learn about historical events and influential figures associated with different dates.

Are there any special editions of the New York Times Birthday Book for holidays or anniversaries?

Yes, special editions are often released for major holidays, anniversaries, or significant historical milestones, featuring themed content.

How can I contribute or suggest content for the New York Times Birthday Book?

Contributions are generally curated by the NYT editorial team, but you can suggest content or historical events through their official contact channels or social media platforms.

Additional Resources

New York Times Birthday Book: An In-Depth Review and Guide

In the realm of personalized memorabilia and meaningful keepsakes, few items hold the sentimental and cultural significance as the New York Times Birthday Book. Combining history, journalistic excellence, and personalized storytelling, this unique publication is more than just a birthday gift—it's a curated chronicle of world events, personal milestones, and the evolution of journalism itself. Whether you're considering it as a birthday gift, a commemorative keepsake, or a personal history project, understanding the nuances of the New York Times Birthday Book can help you decide if it's the right choice for you.

What Is the New York Times Birthday Book?

The New York Times Birthday Book is a meticulously crafted personalized publication that features a compilation of major headlines, articles, photographs, and significant events from the day of an individual's birth. Published by The New York Times, this product leverages the newspaper's extensive archives, offering a snapshot of the world at the precise moment someone was born. It serves as a historical record intertwined with personal history, making it a meaningful and tangible connection to the past.

Origins and Concept

The idea originated from the desire to create a personalized history book that celebrates individual milestones while also capturing the zeitgeist of a specific day in history. The New York Times, with its rich archive dating back over 150 years, provides a vast resource to generate these personalized editions. The concept appeals to those who appreciate history, journalism, or simply want a distinctive way to mark a birthday.

The Core Idea

At its core, the Birthday Book is a curated selection of news stories, photographs, and cultural events that occurred on the birthday in question. It also often includes a brief historical context, notable birthdays of famous personalities, and sometimes personalized messages or dedications. The result is a beautifully bound volume that reflects both the personal and collective histories intertwined with a specific date.

Features and Content of the New York Times Birthday Book

Understanding what the Birthday Book offers is essential in evaluating its value as a gift or keepsake. Here's an extensive breakdown of its features and core content.

1. Personalization Options

One of the defining features of the New York Times Birthday Book is its high level of personalization:

- Name and Birth Details: The recipient's name, birth date, and sometimes place of birth are prominently featured.
- Personal Dedications: Many options allow for personalized messages, dedications, or inscriptions, making it a heartfelt gift.
- Custom Cover Designs: Some editions offer different cover styles or themes to match personal preferences.

2. Historical and News Content

The heart of the Birthday Book is its curated content from that specific date, including:

- Major Headlines: Leading news stories from the day the individual was born, spanning politics, international affairs, and notable incidents.
- Photographs: Iconic images capturing important moments, cultural phenomena, or notable personalities active on that day.
- Cultural Highlights: Coverage of entertainment, sports, science, and technological breakthroughs occurring on that date.
- Editorial Pieces: Selected opinion pieces, editorials, or noteworthy articles that encapsulate the zeitgeist.

3. Contextual and Background Information

To enhance understanding, the book often provides:

- Historical Context: Descriptions explaining why certain events were significant.
- Famous Birthdays: Profiles of notable individuals born on the same day, with brief bios.
- Timeline of Events: Chronological listing of significant happenings on the date.

4. Physical Attributes

The quality and presentation are key to its appeal:

- High-Quality Printing: Glossy pages, sharp images, and durable binding.
- Size and Format: Usually a sizable hardcover, designed to be both a coffee table piece and a treasured heirloom.
- Design Elements: Elegant typography and layout, often with decorative elements reflecting the era or theme.

5. Additional Customization and Variations

Depending on the provider or package chosen, options may include:

- Multiple Editions: Standard, deluxe, or premium versions with added content.
- Special Inserts: Personal anecdotes, family history snippets, or other memorabilia.
- Anniversary Editions: For milestone birthdays, offering more extensive content or special features.

How Is the New York Times Birthday Book Made?

Understanding the process behind creating this personalized book sheds light on its craftsmanship and authenticity.

1. Data Collection and Selection

Once an order is placed, the process begins with gathering data:

- Birth Date Input: The customer provides the exact birth date, and sometimes birth location.
- Archive Search: The publisher's team searches the archives for the most relevant headlines, articles, and images from that date.
- Selection Criteria: Content is carefully selected for significance, clarity, and visual appeal.

2. Personalization and Editing

- Customization Details: Personal names, messages, and any special requests are incorporated.
- Content Curation: Editorial teams ensure that the selected articles and images align with the overall narrative and aesthetic.

3. Design and Production

- Layout Design: Professional designers layout the pages to create an engaging flow.
- Printing: The pages are printed on high-quality paper suitable for archival purposes.
- Binding: The printed pages are bound into a durable hardcover, often with options for custom covers.

4. Quality Control and Delivery

- Final Checks: Each edition undergoes quality checks to ensure accuracy and presentation.
- Shipping: The finished product is shipped directly to the customer, often with tracking and secure packaging.

Pros and Cons of the New York Times Birthday Book

Like any personalized product, the Birthday Book has its advantages and limitations.

Pros

- Unique Personalization: Tailored specifically to the individual's birth date, making it a one-of-a-kind gift.
- Historical Significance: Connects the recipient to global events, cultural milestones, and news from their birth day.
- High-Quality Production: Luxurious binding, glossy pages, and professional design enhance its appeal.
- Educational and Cultural Value: Offers insight into the historical context of the day, making it both

entertaining and informative.

- Memorable Keepsake: Serves as a lasting reminder of a special occasion and personal history.

Cons

- Cost: The price can be relatively high compared to mass-produced books, especially for deluxe editions.
- Limited Customization Beyond Basic Details: While personalized, the content itself is fixed to the date, limiting thematic modifications.
- Relevancy Over Time: Some may find the historical news less meaningful over the years, especially if they prefer more personalized stories.
- Availability and Lead Time: Custom orders may require several weeks for production and shipping, not ideal for last-minute gifts.

Who Should Consider Buying the New York Times Birthday Book?

This product appeals to a specific audience:

- History Enthusiasts: Those fascinated by world events and journalism.
- Family Members and Friends: Looking for a meaningful, personalized gift for birthdays, anniversaries, or special milestones.
- Collectors: Individuals who appreciate high-quality, personalized memorabilia.
- Personal Milestones: People who want a tangible reminder of their birth date and the world at that time.
- Cultural Aficionados: Those interested in the intersection of personal history and global events.

Final Thoughts and Recommendations

The New York Times Birthday Book stands out as a distinctive blend of personal memorabilia and historical documentation. Its meticulous attention to detail, high-quality production, and meaningful personalization make it a compelling choice for those seeking a memorable and educational keepsake. While the price point may be a consideration, the emotional and historical value it provides can justify the investment, especially for special occasions.

Tips for Choosing the Right Edition:

- Opt for a deluxe or premium version if you desire more extensive content and enhanced presentation.
- Consider pairing it with a personal message or inscription to add sentimental value.
- Be mindful of production and shipping times—order well in advance for timely delivery.
- Use it as a centerpiece for celebrations or as a gift that can be treasured for generations.

In conclusion, the New York Times Birthday Book is more than just a gift; it's a curated window into history, a reflection of personal milestones, and a beautifully crafted artifact that celebrates the passage of time through the lens of journalism and cultural evolution. Whether for oneself or as a thoughtful gift, it offers a profound way to commemorate a special day in a truly meaningful way.

[New York Times Birthday Book](#)

new york times birthday book: *The Architect and Designer Birthday Book* James Biber, 2024-06-25 A thoughtfully curated collection in a stunning package that recognizes and celebrates the birthdays of famous, infamous, and often-overlooked designers and architects. The gift book for design and architect professionals and students they didn't know they needed but will no longer be able to live without. Drawn from architect James Biber's epic Instagram project in which he posted a birthday bio of a famous (or less famous) designer or architect every day for a (mid-pandemic) year, *The Architect and Designer Birthday Book* is filled with personal, opinionated, and humorous observations on fascinating design and architect figures past and present. The minibiographies and birthday profiles in the book cover a range of international architects and designers, as well as artists, including: Architects from the Aaltos (Aino and Alvar) to Zumthor Rivals Bernini and Borromini Photographers Lee Miller, Louise Dahl-Wolfe, Vivian Maier, Dody Weston Thompson, Margaret Morton, and Judith Turner Midcentury modernists Marcel Breuer, Walter Gropius, and Florence Knoll Charlotte Perriand, Lilly Reich, Anne Tyng, and Denise Scott Brown More anecdotal histories than authorized biographies, these daily profiles are not only fun to read but provide spot-on commentary for anyone interested in how designers and architects relate to each other as well as their place in history. It is the intersection of Biber's life and the history of architecture and design.

new york times birthday book: *The Birthday Book: The Roads We Take* Cheryl Chung, Aaron Maniam, 2018-08-09 In this edition, 53 contributors reflect on "The Roads We Take" – the paths they have chosen to take in their lives. More than just personal stories, these essays highlight the importance of resilience and the evolution of the political and social landscape in Singapore. The book compels readers to think of the complexity of the future roads we must take, as individuals, as a nation – because in sunny Singapore, no one road stays forever.

new york times birthday book: *Joe and Marilyn* C. David Heymann, 2014-07-01 From the New York Times bestselling author of *Bobby* and *Jackie* comes the riveting, true story of the passionate, volatile relationship between baseball great Joe DiMaggio and Hollywood icon Marilyn Monroe. When Joe DiMaggio and Marilyn Monroe eloped in January of 1954, they became an international sensation. *Joe and Marilyn* reveals the true inside story of these two iconic figures whose marital troubles were Hollywood legend. Though their marriage only lasted nine months, they remained close until Monroe's mysterious death in 1962 at the age of thirty-six. He had a half-dozen red roses delivered three times a week to her crypt for twenty years. According to Heymann, DiMaggio remained devoted to her until his own death in 1999. An intimate, sensitive, shocking, and richly detailed look at two of America's biggest stars, Heymann delivers the expertise and passion for his subjects that his many fans so love. Based on extensive archival research and personal interviews with family and friends, *Joe and Marilyn* offers great insight into this famously tragic romance. Sixteen pages of striking photos accompany this unforgettable love.

new york times birthday book: *John Wilkes Booth and the Women Who Loved Him* E. Lawrence Abel, 2018-04-09 When John Wilkes Booth died—shot inside a burning barn and dragged out twelve days after he assassinated President Lincoln—all he had in his pocket were a compass, a candle, a diary, and five photographs of five different women. They were not ordinary women. Four of them were among the most beautiful actresses of the day; the fifth was Booth's wealthy fiancé

women who were consumed by love, jealousy, strife, and heartbreak; women whose lives took wild turns before and after Lincoln's assassination; women whom have been condemned to the footnotes of history... until now.

new york times birthday book: Anecdotes of the Civil War in the United States Edward Davis Townsend, 1884

new york times birthday book: Two Women: 1862 Constance Fenimore Woolson, 1877

new york times birthday book: Speeches, Arguments and Miscellaneous Papers Field, 1884

new york times birthday book: A Manual of Decorative Composition for Designers, Decorators, Architects, and Industrial Artists Henri Mayeux, 1888

new york times birthday book: THE PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY , 1882

new york times birthday book: Lionel Barrymore Kathleen Spaltro, 2024-08-13 Once called the most gifted character actor of our time by Broadway theater producer Arthur Hopkins, Lionel Barrymore (1878–1954) was part of the illustrious Barrymore acting dynasty. Although he garnered success on stage and screen and was a talented actor, writer, director, visual artist, and composer, he never quite escaped the shadow of his family members—including his brother, John, famous for his leading roles. Barrymore won the Academy Award for Best Actor in *A Free Soul* (1931) and was nominated for Best Director for *Madame X* (1930). However, he is best known for his role as Mr. Potter in *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946) and as the voice of Ebenezer Scrooge in radio broadcasts of *A Christmas Carol* from 1934 to 1953. He spent the last two decades of his career playing versions of his signature character—the curmudgeonly but lovable gentleman—in a variety of films from *You Can't Take It With You* (1938) to *Key Largo* (1948). Barrymore worked alongside some of Hollywood's most recognizable names, including Humphrey Bogart, James Stewart, Frank Capra, Lauren Bacall, Clark Gable, and Ava Gardner, and his legacy is enshrined at the Hollywood Walk of Fame, where he has two stars—one for radio and one for film. In *Lionel Barrymore: Character and Endurance in Hollywood's Golden Age*, Kathleen Spaltro examines Barrymore as an individual rather than just a supporting cast member of the famous dynasty. This comprehensive study divides Barrymore's life into three compelling acts. Act One follows Barrymore's early days—his failed endeavor as a visual artist, his performances in the family vaudeville acts, his first silent motion pictures, and his greatest successes and failures on the stage. Act Two details Barrymore's establishment as a fixture at MGM, his foray into directing, his success as the first actor to thrive in the talkies, and his estimable Oscar-winning performance. Finally, Act Three expounds on Barrymore's curation of his trademark character—the endearing grouch—his exploits in radio, and his fateful final years. Spaltro also unearths Barrymore's personal challenges, recounts his difficulties with—and sometimes estrangement from—members of his family, and delves into the devastating losses Barrymore suffered: his divorce, the deaths of his two daughters, and later, the death of his second wife and the accidents that eventually led to permanent disabilities requiring the use of a wheelchair. *Lionel Barrymore* is a detailed, multifaceted portrait of a brilliant character actor.

new york times birthday book: Catalog of Copyright Entries. Third Series Library of Congress. Copyright Office, 1967 Includes Part 1, Number 2: Books and Pamphlets, Including Serials and Contributions to Periodicals July - December)

new york times birthday book: New York Times Saturday Review of Books and Art , 1975

new york times birthday book: The American , 1882

new york times birthday book: Decolonising the University: The Emerging Quest for Non-Eurocentric Paradigms (Penerbit USM) Claude Alvares, Shad Saleem Faruqi, 2014-11-25 This book of essays is a sequel to the 'International Conference on Decolonising Our Universities' held in Penang, Malaysia from June 27 to 29, 2011. The Conference was jointly organised by the Universiti Sains Malaysia and Citizens International in cooperation with the Higher Education Leadership Academy of the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education. At the Conference, speaker after speaker pointed out that education in Asia and Africa is too Westcentric. It blindly apes European universities, European curricula and European paradigms. The papers in this volume

examine possible ways of overcoming this problem of intellectual enslavement in Asian and African citadels of learning. It must be pointed out at the very outset that this book is not meant to be a tirade against the West. Its aim is not to ask Asian and African universities to shut out Europe and North America or to be insular or to wear blinds. Its aim is positive – to make Asian and African tertiary education truly global and at the same time socially relevant. This cannot be done unless the intellectual monopoly of the West is broken and European knowledge is made to make way for the review, teaching and expansion of the vast knowledge of other societies and cultures. European knowledge may supplement, but never replace, other valid knowledge systems and traditions. The book is divided into eight parts. Part I creates the setting, provides an overview of the state of our universities, reflects on decolonisation of our intellectual heritage and explains how colonial education was used to assault our cultures. Part II contains a wish-list of the decolonised university. There are essays on the philosophical basis of an African university and about how the sacred and the secular can be integrated and how the community can be brought back into the university. Part III critically examines the promise and performance of UNESCO in decolonisation of Asian and African institutions of higher learning. Part IV discusses eurocentrism in social sciences, in mathematics and in science curricula. Part V highlights the state of social sciences and the law today and provides an alternative discourse in social theory, history, psychotherapy, psychology, law and language education. Part VI discusses regional decolonising initiatives in the Philippines, Taiwan, Turkey and Iran. Part VII provides insights into some experiments in transforming academic pedagogy. Finally, Part VIII contains some personal journeys in decolonisation of the self. This book of essays is meant to coincide with Malaysia's Independence Day on August 31, 1957. The hope is that the timing will underline the point that the stains of cultural and intellectual imperialism do not end with the attainment of political freedom. Freedom is a state of the mind and, regrettably, throughout Asia and Africa, the enslavement of the mind has continued long after the coloniser has gone back home. This humiliating state of affairs must end, not only to give meaning to political independence but also to improve the quality of our education by giving to our students a better panorama of world knowledge and thereby to increase their choices. Decolonisation of our universities is not an exercise in flag-waving nationalism. Its aim is ameliorative. Diversity and pluralism of knowledge systems are vital for meeting many of the moral, social and economic challenges of the times and for avoiding the frightening economic, educational and cultural consequences of Europe's near-total intellectual and educational monopoly over Asia, Africa and Latin America. For example, Western models of development have proved to be a nightmare and have not served Asia and Africa well. Economic theories from the West have brought the whole world to the brink of an environmental catastrophe. Asian universities should offer a critique of the ethnocentrism of Western scholarship by pointing out that a middle class Western lifestyle and what that entails in terms of the nuclear family, the consumer society, living in suburbia and extensive private space may neither be workable nor desirable on a fragile planet. The humiliating story of intellectual enslavement in each field and in each region is best told in the words of the authors. What must be noted is the ways in which this subservience manifests itself. Our university courses reflect the false belief that Western knowledge is the sum total of all human knowledge. The books prescribed and the icons and godfathers of knowledge are overwhelmingly from the North Atlantic countries. Titles written by scholars and thinkers from Asia and Africa are rarely included in the book list. This may indicate a pervasive inferiority complex or ignorance of the contribution of the East to world civilisation. Any evaluation of right and wrong, of justice and fairness, of poverty and development, and of what is wholesome and worthy of celebration tends to be based on Western perceptions. Eastern ideas and institutions are viewed through Western prisms and invariably regarded as primitive and in need of change. Despite decades of political independence, the framework assumptions of our law, politics, economics, education, history, science, art and culture remain dictated by our former colonial masters. Our concept of the good life and our views on human rights have very tenuous links to our indigenous traditions. Our cultural values, domestic relations, music, food and dressing – indeed our whole Weltanschauung is constructed on a Western

edifice of knowledge. Our concept of beauty has been socially constructed by Hollywood media. In our professions, most of the icons we look up to are Western. In our universities, the syllabi we draft, the books we prescribe, the theories we blindly ape, the new abodes of the sacred we worship have very little connection with our own intellectual and moral heritage. It is fashionable in Asian universities to import expatriate lecturers, external examiners and guest speakers exclusively from North Atlantic countries. Asian scholars are generally not regarded as fit for such recognition. The underlying assumption is that Asians and Africans matter little and in all aspects of existence we need civilisational guidance from the overlords of humankind in Europe and America. How did we fall into such depths of enslavement and reverse racism? An essay in the volume points out that the colonisers conquered our mind by dismissing and deriding our cultures, alienating us from our roots and putting us in awe of the culture of the masters. They used the colonial education system for the production of a competent but submissive class. They replaced local languages with the English language extinguishing along with local languages, the cultural and moral nuances and perspectives that surround a language. The colonisers falsified and obliterated historical records of intellectual achievements by Asian and African scholars and inventors. They borrowed extensively from the East but shamelessly failed to acknowledge that debt. In many cases they Latinised Eastern names to make them sound European. The world does not know that during the European Dark Ages, scintillating educational developments were taking place in Asia and Africa. While Europe slept, China, India, Persia and Egypt practised science, invented algebra, furthered mathematics, metallurgy, law and logic. They conducted complex medical operations, invented rockets, wrote treatises in philosophy, sociology and astronomy. A more recent form of Western hegemony is the yearly university ranking lists. Western education, Western science and Western achievements are subjected to evaluation on criteria that are rigged in their favour. A host of Western consultants and experts unabashedly glorify American and European achievements and certify and celebrate the unique quality of their education system. A recent claim was made that American society symbolised 'the end of history' implying thereby that no further human progress was necessary anywhere else. The book's ultimate aim is to discover what needs to be done to liberate our minds and our souls; to end this academic colonialism; to restore our dignity and independence. We must shed the slavish mentality of blindly aping Western paradigms. We must stop sucking up to the Western academic system. We need to send Columbus packing back home. Not only the Columbus outside but also the Columbus within. We need to rediscover the suppressed knowledge of our civilisations and to reconnect with our rich heritage. We must embark on a voyage of discovery of our ancestors' intellectual wanderings and rediscover the wonders and heritage of China, India, Persia, Mesopotamia, Egypt and other Eastern and African civilisations. We must combat the many fabrications and plagiarisms of Western 'innovators' and we must give credit where credit is due to those in Asia and Africa who pioneered the ideas. It must be clarified that it is not part of our agenda to ask European and American universities to include the treasures of the East in their syllabi. Whether their world-views should be enriched by the insights and reflections of the East, or whether they should remain insular and wear blinds, is their own problem. Further, it is not our aim to shut out the West but to end blind and exclusive reliance on it. We need to root our education in our own soil; to tap our own intellectual resources first and to make our education relevant to our societal conditions. No amount of imported academics or theories can do this, only us. We are aware that our endeavour will be mocked by many in the West. We will also be opposed by many elites in the East who believe that 'West is best' and whose capitulation to Europe perpetuates Western intellectual hegemony. Such opposition to the basic thesis of this book will only serve to confirm the phenomenon of 'legitimation and false consciousness' whereby the oppressed are so brainwashed that they cooperate with their oppressors. 'It is the final triumph of a system of domination when the dominated start singing its virtues.' In preparing this volume, we received invaluable help from many individuals and institutions. Universiti Sains Malaysia and Citizens International provided the funds for publication. Ayesha Bilimoria helped with the editing of the bulk of the pieces. Jenessey Dias performed brisk transcription of the presentations from the DVDs. Shafeeq, Sameera and Noor

Aini Masri gave secretarial assistance. Professor Dato' Dr. Md Salleh Yaapar and his team from the USM Press did everything else with great courtesy, speed and professionalism. Citizens International's S.M. Mohamed Idris and Uma Ramaswamy assisted with the printing. To all of them we owe a debt of gratitude. We hope that this book will highlight what is on any measure a shameful condition and that it will inspire at least some Asian educators to think afresh, to chart new directions, to search for the best in their indigenous traditions, yet to keep the windows of their mind open to the world.

new york times birthday book: Health Freaks Travis A. Weisse, 2024-09-03 Travis A. Weisse tells a new history of modern diets in America that goes beyond the familiar narrative of the nation's collective failure to lose weight. By exploring how the popularity of diets grew alongside patients' frustrations with the limitations and failures of the American healthcare system in the face of chronic disease, Weisse argues that millions of Americans sought fad diets—such as the notorious Atkins program which ushered in the low-carbohydrate craze—to wrest control of their health from pessimistic doctors and lifelong pharmaceutical regimens. Drawing on novel archival sources and a wide variety of popular media, Weisse shows the lengths to which twentieth-century American dieters went to heal themselves outside the borders of orthodox medicine and the subsequent political and scientific backlash they received. Through colorful profiles of the leaders of four major diet movements, Health Freaks demonstrates that these diet gurus weren't shady snake oil salesmen preying on the vulnerable; rather, they were vocal champions for millions of frustrated Americans seeking longer, healthier lives.

new york times birthday book: An Anecdotal History of the British Parliament George Henry Jennings, 1883

new york times birthday book: Scribner's Magazine ... , 1924

new york times birthday book: The American Bookseller , 1881

new york times birthday book: International Year Book Number , 1923

new york times birthday book: The Book Buyer , 1889

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