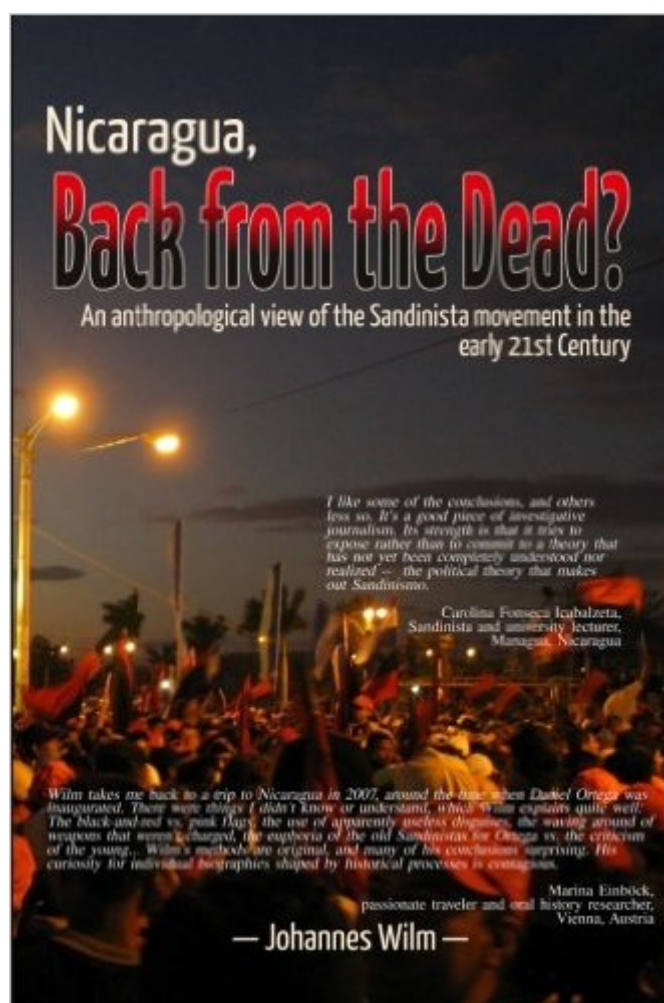


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Nicaragua, Back From The Dead? An Anthropological View Of The Sandinista Movement In The Early 21st Century



Synopsis

In 1979, the Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional (FSLN) overthrew the US-sponsored dictatorship that had ruled the Central American Republic Nicaragua. The revolutionaries were Marxists, and they worked together with Cuba and the Soviet Union. The USA funded a civil war against the new government and maintained an economic boycott of the country, which crippled it severely. In 1990, the FSLN then lost the presidential elections to a US-friendly alternative. In 2006, José Daniel Ortega Saavedra, the same Sandinista who ruled in the 1980s, was elected president of the country and ended thereby 16 years of neoliberal rule. Or did he? 40% of Nicaragua's population call themselves Sandinista, but since the 1980s the meaning of what a Sandinista is has changed. This book attempts to explain what Sandinismo meant in the past and what it is now.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

While the writing is difficult to read, the book gives good insight to the mindset of many Nicaraguans. I read the book while traveling to Nicaragua to observe some of the community development initiatives of CEPAD. I met largely self-energized people, who are willing to state plainly their points of view and take responsibility for their future. The book was very helpful in giving me context to what I was seeing and hearing.

There is some good history here but I feel you have to wade through too many interviews with the

authors personal friends and sources. I wonder how well rounded a picture is being presented. And often I find myself skipping past the numerous references and credits from other sources, so much so that I get the feeling the author is afraid of being accused of plagiarism. The organization of the book should have been more chronological as opposed to topical. These leads to repetitive jumping back and forth in time frames. This makes it harder to keep track of the overall picture in the country. The book is okay. I read it because there is so little else out there.

The author certainly put in significant time and has a very unique perspective. I really enjoyed his attempts at establishing an accurate history and explaining the problems in obtaining one. Quite an interesting and good book. I doubt this information is available in very many places.

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