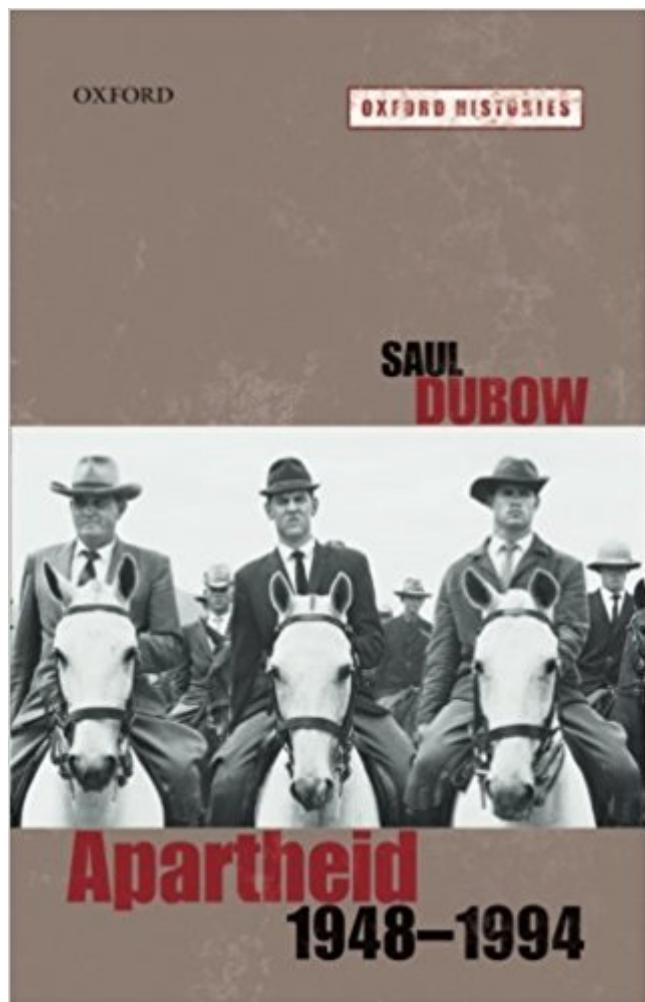


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Apartheid, 1948–1994 (Oxford Histories)



Synopsis

This new study offers a fresh interpretation of apartheid South Africa. Emerging out of the author's long-standing interests in the history of racial segregation, and drawing on a great deal of new scholarship, archival collections, and personal memoirs, he situates apartheid in global as well as local contexts. The overall conception of Apartheid, 1948-1994 is to integrate studies of resistance with the analysis of power, paying attention to the importance of ideas, institutions, and culture. Saul Dubow refamiliarizes and defamiliarizes apartheid so as to approach South Africa's white supremacist past from unlikely perspectives. He asks not only why apartheid was defeated, but how it survived so long. He neither presumes the rise of apartheid nor its demise. This synoptic reinterpretation is designed to introduce students to apartheid and to generate new questions for experts in the field.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Apartheid 1948-1994 is relevant for a broad audience. * Melanie Boehi, H-Soz-Kult * Dubow's history emphasizes ideas and contexts, from global realities like the Cold War to philosophical, theological, and theoretical debates. It is a superb, easily readable, book that offers a comprehensive historical overview and nuanced analysis. * Fran Buntman, American Historical Review * As a lecturer on modern South African history, I will find this book extremely valuable. It provides a strong, textured historical narrative and simultaneously engages critically in key conceptual debates. It is impressively up-to-date and draws on an immensely wide range of literature, much of which is

helpfully laid out in a bibliographical annexure ... the book stands in any context as an important work of synthesis with a coherent, and sometimes controversial, set of arguments. * Clive Glaser, *South African Historical Journal* * This work is a first-rate, clearly written account of a bizarre 20th century political experiment. * Alexander du Toit, *Times Higher Education* *

Saul Dubow is a Professor of African History at Queen Mary, University of London. Dubow previously taught at the University of Sussex. Born and brought up in Cape Town, he has degrees from the universities of Cape Town and Oxford. He has published widely on the development of racial segregation and apartheid in all its aspects: political, ideological, and intellectual. He has special interests in the history of race, ethnicity, and national identity, as well as imperialism, colonial science, and global circuits of knowledge. He is on the editorial board of the *Journal of Southern African Studies*.

This book is an excellent survey of white domination and black resistance in Apartheid South Africa (1948-94). The book does a great job of balancing nuanced detail with "big picture" analysis (including international politics). Thankfully, the author avoids the trap of "ANC Triumphalism" -- the assumption that the ANC had a near-monopoly on liberation politics and was destined to lead South Africa to freedom -- by including long sections on the PAC, Black Consciousness, labor unions, white activists, liberation theology, and the UDF. The writing is crystal-clear; the overall tone is balanced and non-polemical. Bottom line: "Apartheid" is part of a growing scholarly trend to treat Apartheid as history rather than morality play. The book is a pleasure to read and definitely one to keep. I took off one star only because the book assumes a fair amount of knowledge of South African history, culture and geography. Readers coming to the subject for the very first time might be lost.

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