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## **Balkan Babel: The Disintegration Of Yugoslavia From The Death Of Tito To The War For Kosovo**

*Sabrina Ramet*

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#File Name: 0813390346400 pages | File size: 77.Mb

**Sabrina Ramet : Balkan Babel: The Disintegration Of Yugoslavia From The Death Of Tito To The War For Kosovo** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Balkan Babel: The Disintegration Of Yugoslavia From The Death Of Tito To The War For Kosovo:

24 of 30 people found the following review helpful. Great contribution by one of the best experts By Split Decision  
25 Sabrina Petra Ramet is by far one of the most respected authorities on the subject of Balkan politics. Her skill as a political scientist and her sheer knowledge of the area and the topic come through completely in this volume. That this book got a glowing introduction by Dr. Ivo Banac - another great authority on the 20th century history of the Balkans - is a testament to its value to the literature. In reference to the previous reviewer - this is an account that is not at all biased. And Prof. Ramet can hardly be blamed of warmongering. If lamenting the indecisiveness of the world community to react to atrocities and war crimes not seen since WWII is warmongering, then I don't know what isn't. Prof. Ramet is spot on in her analysis. I warmly recommend this book to anybody who wants to really learn about what once was Yugoslavia and why it fell apart. 9 of 16 people found the following review helpful. Poor understanding of historical facts By Careful researcher By the way, Serbs did not really annex Kosovo in 19th century. If so how would the author explain the existence of so many historical buildings that date from before the invasion of Turks during Ottoman Empire and were being built over centuries? Has the author looked carefully into the history of

Southern Slavs from 7th century to the time before 1918? Further, there is a major difference between Chetniks and Ustasas in terms of their motives for the atrocities both did. The former were brutal political opponents, killing in the name of King no matter the nationality. The latter were brutal nationalists, killing those of other ethnic origin or religion. And so on, many details are distorted to fit the author's prejudice. It is important to look at all the facts before writing a fact book. 4 of 39 people found the following review helpful. great propaganda, very biased and one-sided  
By A Customer  
Rewriting history the way warmongers would like it.....

The third edition of this critically acclaimed work includes three new chapters and a new epilogue, as well as revisions throughout the book. Sabrina Ramet, a veteran observer of the Yugoslav scene, traces the steady deterioration of Yugoslavia's political and social fabric in the years since 1980, arguing that, whatever the complications entailed in the national question, the final crisis was triggered by economic deterioration, shaped by the federal system itself, and pushed forward toward war by Serbian politicians bent on power -- either within a centralized Yugoslavia or within an ethnically cleansed Greater Serbia. The book sheds light on the contributions made by Croatian naivete and Western diplomatic bungling to the tragedy in Bosnia, discusses the course of the Serbian Insurrectionary War in both Croatia and Bosnia, and devotes a chapter to examining the separate paths of Slovenia and Macedonia, before turning to an assessment of the record in post-Dayton Bosnia and Serb-Albanian frictions in Kosovo during 1989-98. Chapters on the primary religious associations and on the rock scene help to set the political developments in perspective. With her detailed knowledge of the organic connections between politics, culture, and religion, Ramet paints a strikingly original picture of Yugoslavia's demise and the emergence of the Yugoslav successor states.

"Balkan Babel has no peer in the literature about Yugoslavia's terminal crisis, dissolution and serial wars....Indispensable!" -- Mark Thompson, author of *A Paper House: The Ending of Yugoslavia* "Highly recommended." -- Choice "The best scholarship I have been able to find about Serbian Orthodoxy and Serbian nationalism." -- Martin Peretz - *The New Republic* "The product of meticulous research and fine writing... Worth reading. A fascinating look at Yugoslav society." -- Nationalities Papers  
About the Author  
Sabrina P. Ramet is professor of political science at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, Norway. She is the author of eleven other books, among them *The Three Yugoslavias: State-Building and Legitimation*. She has also edited or coedited twenty-six books, mostly about Eastern Europe and Russia.