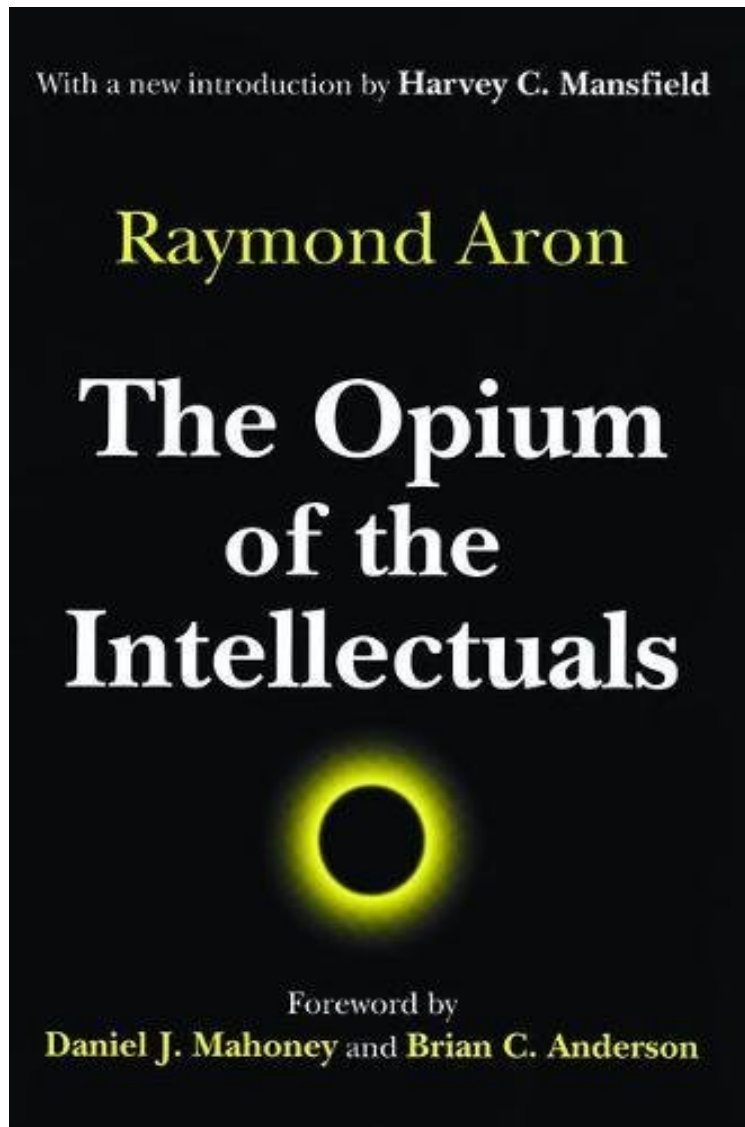


(Download free pdf) The Opium of the Intellectuals

The Opium of the Intellectuals

Raymond Aron

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#845069 in Books 2001-02-02Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.02 x .85 x 5.981, 1.28 #File Name: 0765807009382 pages | File size: 78.Mb

Raymond Aron : The Opium of the Intellectuals before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Opium of the Intellectuals:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I'm glad that's over.By Ned FergusonA ponderous, pedantic, verbose book that I found unenjoyable and dated. Some books are timeless, this one is time bound. I really had to slog through it and I'm glad to be done. My time would have been better spent on something else. The book is not without merit but it is not worth the effort of separating the wheat from the chaff.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Spelling errorsBy Jaime KlintowitzReading problem: so many spelling errors. Shame .4 of 5 people found the

following review helpful. I wish I had come across book this at UniversityBy LamppuI wish I had read this book in the 70s when I was at university and communism and the Soviet Block were considered trendy. It made me sick and I felt very isolated. I couldn't believe people could be so totally blind. Best to feel vindicated late than never.

Raymond Aron's 1955 masterpiece *The Opium of the Intellectuals*, is one of the great works of twentieth-century political reflection. Aron shows how noble ideas can slide into the tyranny of "secular religion" and emphasizes how political thought has the profound responsibility of telling the truth about social and political reality-in all its mundane imperfections and tragic complexities. Aron explodes the three "myths" of radical thought: the Left, the Revolution, and the Proletariat. Each of these ideas, Aron shows, are ideological, mystifying rather than illuminating. He also provides a fascinating sociology of intellectual life and a powerful critique of historical determinism in the classically restrained prose for which he is justly famous. For this new edition, prepared by Daniel J. Mahoney and Brian C. Anderson as part of Transaction's ongoing "Aron Project," political scientist Harvey Mansfield provides a luminous introduction that underscores the permanent relevance of Aron's work. The new edition also includes as an appendix "Fanaticism, Prudence, and Faith," a remarkable essay that Aron wrote to defend *Opium* from its critics and to explain further his view of the proper role of political thinking. The book will be of interest to all students of political theory, history, and sociology.

"Raymond Aron's analysis of French intellectual culture of the 1940s and 1950s retains its relevance in the 21st century, helping to illuminate the minds of intellectuals so that we can understand their penchant for irrational utopianism. Although the particular controversies have changed somewhat, our modern intellectuals partake of the same opium." Ideas on Liberty Language Notes Text: English, French (translation) About the Author Raymond Aron (1905-1983) was the foremost political and social theorist of post-World War II France known for his skeptical analyses of leftist ideologies. He was well known in both the United States and United Kingdom, serving as Andrew D. White Professor-At-Large at Cornell University. He also taught at Columbia and Oxford. He authored more than forty books, including *Main Currents in Sociological Thought*, *The Opium of the Intellectuals*, and *The Imperial Republic*, all published in new editions by Transaction. Brian C. Anderson is senior editor at *City Journal* and author of *Raymond Aron: The Recovery of the Political*. Daniel J. Mahoney is chair and professor of political science at Assumption College, Worcester, Massachusetts. He was the recipient of the Prix Raymond Aron Award, is currently associate editor of *Perspectives on Political Science*, and is book review editor of *Society*. His books include *The Liberal Political Science of Raymond Aron*; *Bertrand de Jouvenel: The Conservative Liberal and the Illusions of Modernity*; and *De Gaulle: Statesmanship, Grandeur, and Modern Democracy*. Harvey C. Mansfield is William J. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Government at Harvard University. He is the author of many books including, *Statesmanship and Party Government*, *The Spirit of Liberalism*, and *Taming the Prince* and is the translator of works by Machiavelli and Tocqueville.