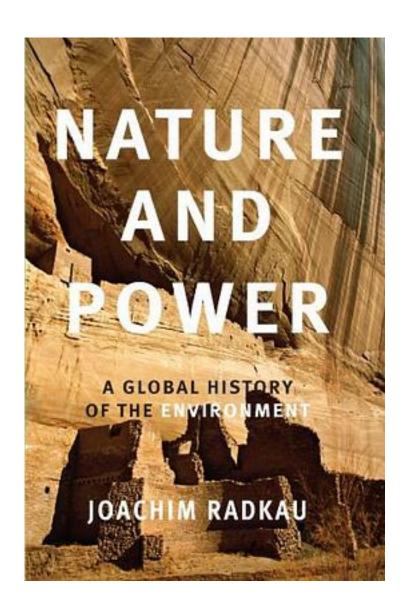
Nature and Power



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This book aims to demonstrate that the changing relationship between humanity and nature is key to understanding world history. Humans have been grappling with environmental problems since prehistoric times, and the environmental unsustainability of human practices has often been a decisive, if not immediately evident, shaping factor in history. The measures that societies and states have adopted to stabilize the relationship between humans and the natural world have repeatedly contributed to environmental crises over the course of history. Nature and Power traces the expanding scope of environmental action: from initiatives undertaken by individual villages and cities, environmental policy has become a global concern. Efforts to steer human use of nature and natural resources have become complicated, as Nature and Power shows, by particularities of culture and by the vagaries of human nature itself. Environmental history, the author argues, is ultimately the history of human hopes and fears.

作者介绍:

Joachim Radkau is Associate Professor of History at Universitat Bielefeld in Germany. His books include Deutsche Industrie und Politik von Bismarck bis zur Gegenwart (1974). Holz: Ein Naturstoff in der Technikgeschichte (in collaboration with Ingrid Schafer, 1987), Das Zeitalter der Nervositat: Deutschland zwischen Bismarck und Hitler (1998), and the biography of Max Weber, Die Leidenschaft des Denkens (2005).

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标签 环境史 history

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评论

读了绝大部分章节,很长见识,驱使作者写作的动力似乎很多时候是反驳经典理论或者打破一些成见,时时坚持着overdetermination和contextualization的原则。比如Wittfog el的hydraulic society/Asian Despotism被放在许多语境里详细检查被证明相当reductive;Geertz对于爪哇梯田农业系统的推崇被带入环境角度检查被证明难以在其他地方复制,等等等等。最后一章讲50年代以来的(单一)现代性全球扩散、环保运动兴起(科学、精神、经济三个角度)、全球化影响(环保问题国际化、第三世界国家的旅游和环保、环保主义和冷战/后冷战历史大势如社会主义/国族主义衰落的互动等等),读起来很有大历史的气魄。
In the introduction of this book Radkau tries to formulate a concept of environmental history within a political context. He also reviews popular myths of environmental history.
书评
是从德文翻译过来的还是英文译本?
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