Revolution and War in Spain, 1931–1939
Paul Preston 2010-03-13 This collection of essays constitutes a monumental achievement to reveal scholarship on the Republic and the Civil War. It is indispensable for a full understanding of the period.

Republic Besieged
The Spanish Civil War

At the beginning of the 20th century, Spain was one of the most modernized and industrialized countries in the world. The Spanish government had completed the unification of the country, and the monarchy was on the verge of ending. However, the country was also experiencing social and political unrest, with the rise of radical socialist and anarchist movements. In 1931, the Spanish Liberal Republic was established, but the country was divided, with political parties on the left and right vying for power.

The Spanish Civil War, which began in 1936 and lasted until 1939, was fought between the Spanish Republic and the Nationalists, led by General Francisco Franco. The war was a conflict between the left-wing Republican government and the right-wing Nationalist-led movement, which included the Falange Española and other nationalist groups. Both sides were supported by foreign powers, with the Republic supported by the Soviet Union and the Nationalists supported by Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, and other European countries.

The war was a turning point in European history, with millions of people from all over the world flocking to Spain to fight against fascism. Those that stayed at home set up groups and newspapers to send money, food, and medical supplies to the front lines. The war was ideologically consistent with the global struggle against fascism, and it united the world in the fight against totalitarianism.

There were many different motivations for fighting in the Spanish Civil War. Some fought for political reasons, some for ideological beliefs, and some for personal reasons. The war was also a catalyst for the development of new ideas and strategies, with the Republican army experimenting with new tactics and the Nationalists adopting new technologies.

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