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Taiwan's Statesman: Lee Teng Hui and Democracy in Asia (Hardback)

By Richard C. Kagan

Naval Institute Press, United States, 2007. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 155 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. A well-known observer of Taiwan and Asian history and culture provides an insightful biography of Lee Teng Hui, the pro-democracy statesman and former president of the Republic of China. As head of the Taiwanese government from 1988 to 2000, Lee managed, without violence or major civil unrest, to reform the authoritarian state into a constitutional democracy with a multi-party political system. This examination of Lee's success puts to rest the idea that Asian values support only authoritarian regimes and reject human rights and political democracy in favor of economic success and military power. Richard C. Kagan describes in rich detail Lee's struggle to reinvent Taiwan's culture and political system by advocating an independent sovereign nation with universal values of human rights, democracy, freedom, and economic justice. His book offers new insights into the role Lee played in the still volatile Taiwan Strait crisis and how Lee's diplomatic skills used the crisis to break free of the One China straitjacket of the Shanghai Communique of 1972 while avoiding open warfare with the People's Republic of China....



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Reviews

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