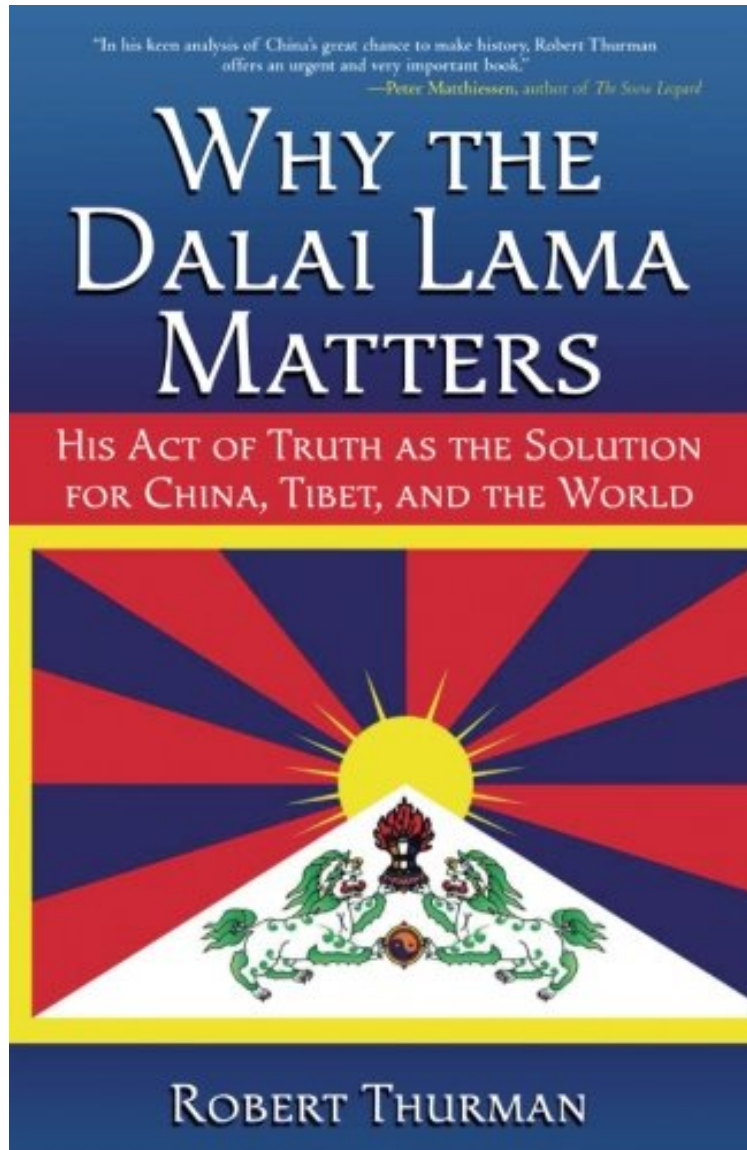


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# Why the Dalai Lama Matters: His Act of Truth as the Solution for China, Tibet, and the World

Robert Thurman

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**Robert Thurman : Why the Dalai Lama Matters: His Act of Truth as the Solution for China, Tibet, and the World** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Why the Dalai Lama Matters: His Act of Truth as the Solution for China, Tibet, and the World:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A modern view of nonviolent global revolutionBy Baron M.The

Dalai Lama is our contemporary Gandhi: his powerful message of nonviolence, peace, and their ability to lead to a sustainable global culture is needed very much. This book not only answered many of my questions about the Dalai Lama, and about the author Robert Thurman, but also inspired me to see how the Dalai Lama's work in the world is so significant and important. This book isn't for or about Buddhists, it's for anyone interested in political science, the relationship between colonialism and commonwealth, and how spiritual worldviews contribute to a cosmopolitan global society. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Rita J. Forscher This book is a valuable one! 18 of 23 people found the following review helpful. Important Book By Mind Although the Dalai Lama is almost a household name in the United States, few people have a clear picture of who he is. Robert Thurman has championed the potential of this simple monk to teach the planet how to survive in peace. The ways of war are no longer practical (if they ever were...), and our creative ability to evolve will require a peaceful world. China would be well served to open a dialogue with the Dalai Lama before he dies, if for no other reason than to show it truly is a Great China, not just another despotic communist state. This book should be read widely, especially by the Chinese audience in the United States. Although this book is sometimes critical of China, it is often hopeful that China will soon open its arms in friendship. "No matter what part of the world we come from, we are all basically the same human beings. We all seek happiness and try to avoid suffering. We have the same basic needs and concerns. All human beings want freedom and the right to determine our own destiny as individuals and peoples. That is human nature." from the Dalai Lama's Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, December 10, 1989.

The suppression of Tibets cultural heritage has the potential to set a precedent for all oppressed peoples of the world. Perched on the top of the world, changes in Tibets ecosystem affect the entire global climate. And, most importantly, Tibet is the spiritual and physical home of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, though he can never return. But why should Tibet matter to you? Tibet is more than its mountains, its monks, and its martyrs. Robert Thurman, renowned Tibetan scholar, teacher, and activist, presents his provocative, five-point plan that will enable China to win the respect of the entire world by allowing Tibet to regain its cultural, economic, and political autonomy. Thurman shows how the Dalai Lamas tireless work is the harbinger of peace for the world and essential for human survival. The book outlines several key factors that will educate and empower readers to take action: What is the history of Tibet, and how do the political, religious, ecological, and social factors affect each other? - Who is the Dalai Lama, and why does his work matter to the world? What does the China-Tibet relationship mean to the global community? What can individuals do to bring attention to this issue, and make a change where they are? How can the five-point plan be used as a model of peaceful change throughout the world?

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Tibetan scholar Thurman paints a splendid portrait of the Dalai Lama and masterfully elucidates the 50-year-old conflict between Tibet and China in this timely analysis. The author presents an eloquent introduction to Buddhism and the Tibetan concept of the Dalai Lama before focusing on the current living embodiment of the Buddha man born as Tenzin Gyatso the 14th Dalai Lama. Thurman sympathetically renders his lifelong friend as a simple Buddhist monk, a teacher, philosopher, scientist and the political representative of the Tibetan people, who has achieved renown for holding together a large refugee community and preserving its culture. Promulgating a common human religion of kindness, the Nobel Peace laureate lobbies for a peaceful resolution to the question of Tibetan autonomy within China, while espousing love, altruism and spirituality as the forces that will lead mankind into a kinder, happier twenty-first century. The book concludes with a five-step plan to broker peace between Tibet and China an agenda simultaneously pragmatic and idealistic, demonstrating truly the talent and power of faith. (June) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Thurmans commitment to Tibetan Buddhism, the Dalai Lama, and Tibet reaches back to 1964, and now inspires a bold blueprint for a solution to the China-Tibet conflict and a host of world problems, from environmental degradation to poverty, political tyranny, militarism, and the abuse of women. Whats needed, Thurman writes, is a cool revolution guided by the Dalai Lama, a universally revered religious figure and secular ethical leader. Thurman makes his case by providing a fascinating overview of Tibetan Buddhist culture and the roles previous Dalai Lamas played in times of social upheaval, and by documenting the current Dalai Lamas deep, encompassing knowledge and remarkable achievements. Thurman then presents an elegantly commonsensical and wildly improbable road map to a kinder, saner, and sustainable future that begins with China reinstating the Great Tibet Autonomous Region and designating this land of soul-stirring beauty and precious biodiversity the largest environmental preserve in the world. Thurmans ideas are cogent if utopian; perhaps just imagining such a dream state would do us some good. --Donna Seaman "Dr. Thurman clearly describes how the 14th Dalai Lama can forge a path to a far better world in our time. As Albert Einstein urged, we must engage a different level of thinking to help solve the significant problems we face, problems often caused by our ordinary assumptions. The Dalai Lama is a unique exemplar of a different, vital, inclusive, and powerfully effective way of thinking. This wonderfully written, compelling book invites us to freedom." Sharon Salzberg, author of *Lovingkindness* "No one has worked harder to bring Tibet, Tibetan Buddhism, and the special power of the Dalai Lama to American audiences than Robert Thurman. Long may he write and, as in this latest

work, bring learning and spirit, great vigor, and close knowledge together." Pico Iyer, author of *The Open Road* and *Sun After Dark*"I could not put this book down. I found it powerfully inspiring to imagine a positive alternative to the sixty-yearlong tragedy wrought by China in Tibet. As Robert Thurman shows us, by reversing its colonialist cultural genocide in Tibet (and so inspiring a reversal of the murderous policies of the regimes in Myanmar and Sudan), China could truly emerge as a responsible world power and take its place within the moral community of nations." Mia Farrow, actor, activist, and humanitarian"This book kindles hope for Tibet, for China, and for peace. It listens deeply to the Dalai Lama, making clear what he offers and can accomplish. It vividly envisions the freedom the Tibetan people urgently need and the respect China desires from the entire world." Uma Karuna Thurman, actor, and activist