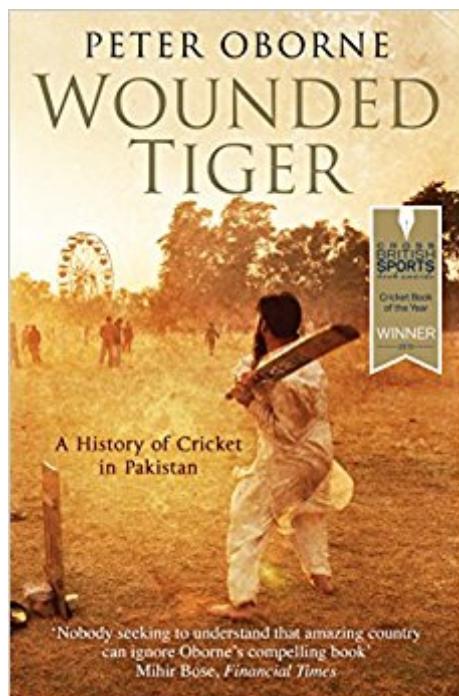


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Wounded Tiger : A History Of Cricket In Pakistan



Synopsis

The nation of Pakistan was born out of the trauma of Partition from India in 1947. Its cricket team evolved in the chaotic aftermath. Initially unrecognised, underfunded and weak, Pakistan's team grew to become a major force in world cricket. Since the early days of the Raj, cricket has been entwined with national identity and Pakistan's successes helped to define its status in the world. Defiant in defence, irresistible in attack, players such as A.H.Kardar, Fazal Mahmood, Wasim Akram and Imran Khan awed their contemporaries and inspired their successors. The story of Pakistan cricket is filled with triumph and tragedy. In recent years, it has been threatened by the same problems affecting Pakistan itself: fallout from the 'war on terror', sectarian violence, corruption, crises in health and education, and a shortage of effective leaders. For twenty years, Pakistan cricket has been stained by the scandalous behaviour of the players involved in match-fixing. Since 2009, the fear of violence has driven Pakistan's international cricket into exile. No one knows when it will return home. But Peter Oborne's narrative is also full of hope. For all its troubles, cricket gives all Pakistanis a chance to excel and express themselves, a sense of identity and a cause for pride in their country. Packed with first-hand recollections, and digging deep into political, social and cultural history, *Wounded Tiger* is a major study of sport and nationhood.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First a disclaimer. I am an Indian cricket fan and we generally hate the Pakistan cricket team. But to appreciate this book fully, if you are an Indian fan like me, you will have to forget about the Indian part for a while and just be a true cricket fan. For this book is about the history of cricket in Pakistan. Politically, they are our most bitter enemies. But their cricket is a thing of beauty, of raw talent and

pure passion. With the decline of the West Indies, they are, quite unequivocally, to cricket, what Brazil are to football. This book was destined to be a great one from the beginning. It brings together a brilliant cricket writer and a fascinating subject, which surprisingly for cricket, was lacking in enough quality literature. Kind of reminds me of James Cameron and his story of the Titanic. You always knew that the movie was going to be something special. Like Cameron, Peter Oborneâ™s credentials are impeccable. His last cricket book told the amazing story of Basil Dâ™Oliveira. It was well researched and a wonderful read, winning the prestigious William Hill Sports book of the year award in 2004. Oborneâ™s has, to the great delight of every true cricket fan, delivered a great book. It provides everything that can be expected of such a book. There is very little that one can complain about. It has a detailed chronological history, detailed portraits of the key characters, facts and anecdotes, a study of the gameâ™s political, cultural, social and economic impact, mentions of all key events, an understanding of some unique traits and practises which make Pakistan cricket so special and finally a message of hope. It even covers womenâ™s cricket and the popularity and spread of the game in the Taliban ruled war zones.

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