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Salem Press Announces the First Edition of *Great Lives from Science: Autocrats & Dictators*

Great Lives from History: Autocrats and Dictators features nearly 220 biographies covering a curated selection of autocrats and dictators from throughout history. Each essay has been written or revised specifically for this set, including nearly 50 new entries; biographies represent a cross-section of some of the most notorious- yet-influential individuals ever to have lived, and many biographies offer sidebars focusing on significant, related topics and attributes.

The biographical coverage in *Great Lives from History: Autocrats & Dictators* is vast. Rulers discussed in this title include:

Bashar al-Assad
Alexander the Great
Attila
Hugo Banzer Suarez
Paul Biya
Napoleon Bonaparte
Carol II
Fidel Castro
Chiang Kai-shek
Oliver Cromwell
Samuel K. Doe
Elizabeth I
Alberto Fujimori

Genghis Khan
Hissene Habre
Adolf Hitler
Paul Kagame
Kim Il-sung
Leopold II
Gerardo Machado
Benito Mussolini
Franz von Papen
Vladimir Putin
Anwar Sadat
Jorge Rafael Videla
Xi Jinping

Each essay is approximately 1,000-2,000 words in length and displays standard reference top matter offering easy access to the following biographical information: the **name** by which the subject is best known, a succinct description of each person's **political career**, a **synopsis** of the individual's historical importance in relation to their autocrats or dictatorial tendencies, indicating why the person is studied today, the most complete dates of **birth and death**, followed by the most precise locations of these events available.

Each essay concludes with a byline of the contributing writer-scholar. The body of each essay is divided into the following three parts:

- **Early Life** provides facts about the individual's upbringing and the environment in which the person was reared. Where little is known about the person's early life, historical context is provided.
- **Carrer in Government**, the heart of the essay, consists of a straightforward, generally chronological account of how the individual rose through the ranks or otherwise ascended to their eventual autocratic or dictatorial position, and their actions once that position had been attained.
- **Significance** provides an overview of the long-range importance of the individual's importance, be it positive or, as is the case with the majority of those profiled within, profoundly negative. This section sums up why it is important to study this individual.

Appendixes in *Great Lives from History: Autocrats & Dictators* include a chronological list of entries, a glossary, a general bibliography, a general mediagraphy, and electronic resources. Indexes finish off the work and are divided as such: Geographic Index, Political Title Index, and Subject Index.

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