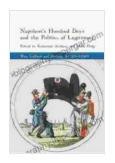
## Napoleon, the Hundred Days, and the Politics of Legitimacy, War Culture, and Society

The Hundred Days was a brief but tumultuous period in French history that began with Napoleon's return from exile on the island of Elba in March 1815 and ended with his defeat at the Battle of Waterloo in June 1815. During this time, Napoleon attempted to regain his power and re-establish the French Empire. However, he was ultimately defeated by the combined forces of the Seventh Coalition, which included Great Britain, Prussia, Austria, and Russia.



### Napoleon's Hundred Days and the Politics of Legitimacy (War, Culture and Society, 1750 –1850)

by Thomas Donaghy



Language : English File size : 1629 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Print length : 355 pages



The Hundred Days was a complex and multifaceted event that had a profound impact on French and European history. It was a time of political turmoil and social upheaval, and it also saw the emergence of new ideas about war and society. This book explores the political, social, and cultural factors that shaped the Hundred Days and its impact on French and European history.

#### **The Political Context**

The Hundred Days took place in the aftermath of Napoleon's defeat in the War of the Sixth Coalition in 1814. After his abdication, Napoleon was exiled to the island of Elba. However, he soon became dissatisfied with his life on Elba and began to plan his return to France. In March 1815, he escaped from Elba and landed in France with a small force of supporters. He was greeted with overwhelming enthusiasm by the French people, who were eager to see him regain his power.

Napoleon's return to power was a major threat to the European powers who had defeated him in the War of the Sixth Coalition. The Seventh Coalition was quickly formed to oppose him, and the two sides clashed at the Battle of Waterloo in June 1815. Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo, and he was once again exiled, this time to the remote island of Saint Helena.

#### The Social Context

The Hundred Days was a time of great social upheaval in France. The country was divided between those who supported Napoleon and those who opposed him. There were also widespread fears of a return to the violence and chaos of the French Revolution.

Napoleon's supporters were drawn from a variety of social groups. They included peasants, workers, and soldiers who were drawn to his promises of glory and social justice. They also included intellectuals and artists who were inspired by his vision of a modern, egalitarian society.

Napoleon's opponents were drawn from a variety of social groups as well. They included aristocrats and landowners who feared that Napoleon's return would threaten their privileges. They also included merchants and businessmen who were concerned about the economic consequences of a new war.

#### **The Cultural Context**

The Hundred Days was a time of great cultural change in France. The war had a profound impact on the arts and literature of the period. There was a new emphasis on heroism and glory, and a new fascination with the role of the individual in history.

The Hundred Days also saw the emergence of new ideas about war and society. The war had shown the limits of traditional military tactics, and it also led to a new appreciation for the importance of civilian support for the war effort.

The Hundred Days was a complex and multifaceted event that had a profound impact on French and European history. It was a time of political turmoil, social upheaval, and cultural change. This book explores the political, social, and cultural factors that shaped the Hundred Days and its impact on French and European history.

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The Hundred Days is a reminder of the fragility of peace and the importance of understanding the factors that can lead to conflict. It is also a reminder of the power of the individual to shape history.



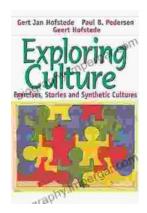
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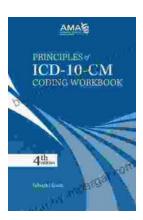
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