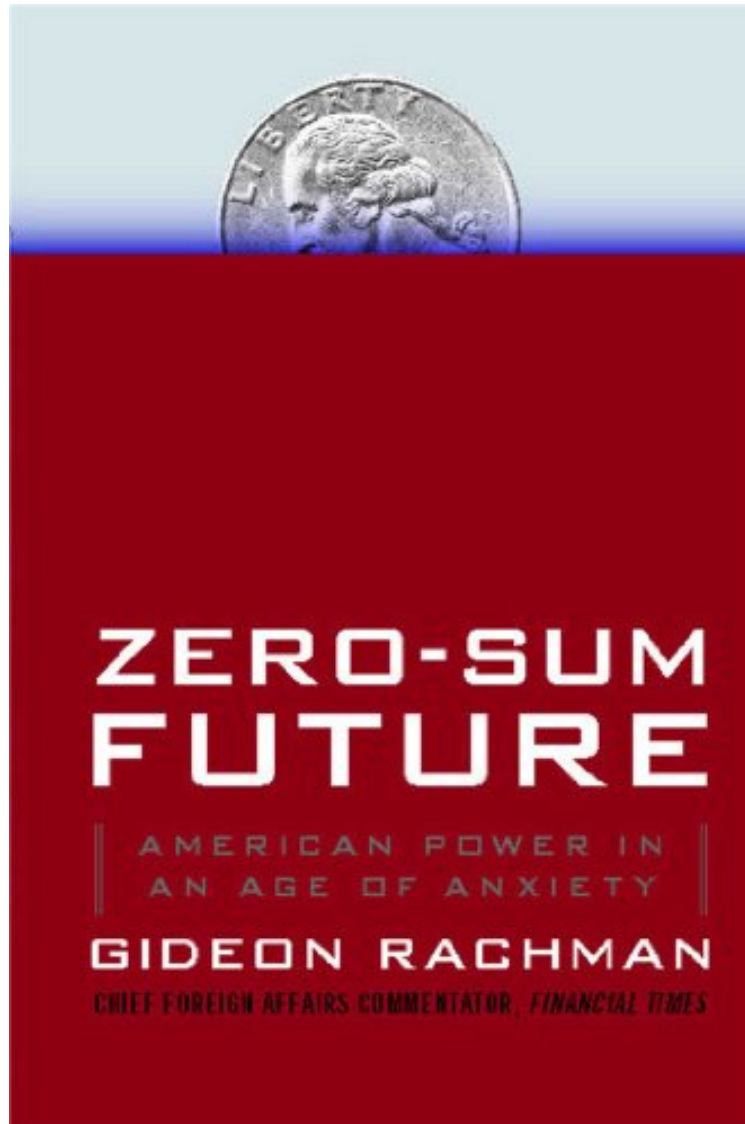


[Library ebook] Zero-Sum Future: American Power in an Age of Anxiety

Zero-Sum Future: American Power in an Age of Anxiety

Gideon Rachman

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Gideon Rachman : Zero-Sum Future: American Power in an Age of Anxiety before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Zero-Sum Future: American Power in an Age of Anxiety:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. CHINESE DAO IN 21ST CENTURY ACCORDING TO FUNG EXPLAINED THE RISE OF CHINA AS A POLITICAL MERITOCRACY AND CIVILIZATION STATEBY Francis FungCHINESE DAO IN 21ST CENTURY ACCORDING TO FUNG EXPLAINEDTHE RISE OF CHINA AS A POLITICAL MERITOCRACY AND CIVILIZATION STATEBY FRANCIS C W FUNG, PH. D.Fung's essay of Chinese Dao (Ways) in 21st century is a five part Dao story of the rise of China as a meritocracy and

civilization state. China is the only ancient civilization that has a continuous uninterrupted five thousand years history in the world. The Chinese Confucian philosophy extended to the world and heavily influenced the governance of South Eastern Asian nations to this day. The economic success of the Asian nations during the 20th century globalization is largely credited to the Confucian emphasis of education and hard work. But what has escaped the West's global dialogue is the most important tradition of meritocracy governance of China as a civilization state. This is because the West is blinded by our liberal democratic ideology as not to see the most important Chinese contribution of meritocracy governance system to the world. The success of Singapore and China in the 20th century globalization as outstanding examples of meritocracy governed nations now proved the utter failure of the arrogant and premature Francis Fukuyama's "theory of the end of civilization". Throughout China's five thousand years of rich civilization there were numerous outstanding philosophers such as Confucius, Mencius and Lao-tze etc. These and other famous philosophers created school of thoughts that are holistic and dedicated to serve all mankind for the good. These began with the Confucian governance system of Huang Dao (Grand Way) for the ultimate emperor. Confucian teachings of the grand way (Huang Dao) are; good governance must be based on the well-being of the people (Yi ren wei ben), to walk the grand way, the world works for the interest of all people (Da Dao zhi xing, Tien xia wei gong), select the outstanding and appoint the capable (Xuan xian yu neng) and unity of mankind (Sei jie da tong). Inspired by these grand holistic visions Chinese people are more inclined to think globally and holistically compared to the West that highly value individualism. These holistic inspirations will lead China to the 21st century to strive for win win cooperation and global community of common destiny as exemplified by the five Chinese Dao (ways) stories in Fung's essay. The five Dao stories of the rise of China as a meritocracy and civilization state are: (I) CHINA AS THE CIVILIZATION STATE WITH THE GRAND WAY (HUANG DAO) China as a civilization state of long tradition with a predominant Confucian philosophy has practiced meritocracy throughout history. During the emperor days, the power of the emperors was constrained by the advice of their mandarin court. The mandarins in the court were selected through imperial examinations that were open to the whole population. The standard of the examinations were set by Confucian teachings of the grand way (Huang Dao), such as good governance must be based on the well-being of the people (Yi ren wei ben), the world works for the interest of all people (Tien xia wei gong), select the outstanding and appoint the capable (Xuan xian yu neng) and unity of mankind (Sei jie da tong). With this Confucian high ideal of the grand way (Huang Dao) to guide China's meritocracy governance China remain the highest civilization state of the world for most world history. During the last two thousand years except for the last two hundred years China was the most advanced and prosperous empire in the world. China was behind in the European industrial revolution but guided by her civilization state meritocracy China rapidly caught up with the West during the last four decades. Today China is the second largest economy and the world's number one trading nation again. (II) VERTICAL POLITICAL MERITOCRACY DEMOCRACY AS DAO PRACTICED IN CHINA After many years of extensive research, Daniel Bell, chair professor of the Schwarzman Scholars Program at Tsinghua University, in "The China Model" reported that China has a long tradition of meritocracy practice. The Chinese Communist Party (CPC) has a very large Organization Department which tests and trains the cadres for promotion. The tests and programs are rigorous and also include nominations by peers and superiors. Periodic skill trainings are conducted with sophisticated party school courses. Chinese political meritocracy is firmly implemented at top level of government and election at lower village level, not unlike the Bahai system of governance. Chinese top leaders at the politburo level need at least three terms of duty at large city or provincial level with hundreds of millions of citizens. This is called a vertical system of meritocracy democracy by Professor Daniel Bell. That we in the U.S. totally missed China's development of the Dao of the political meritocracy democracy as legitimate governance system is because of our preoccupation to spread our liberal democracy ideology to maintain hegemony. The risks that we missed this China Dao of development cannot be overestimated. This is of paramount importance that the new Trump government now be informed of China's vertical political meritocracy democracy so we can remain engaged with important development and stay competitive. (III) CHINESE DAO OF "HARMONY" CULTURE IS SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS "HARMONY" CULTURE IS THE CHINESE HARMONY PHILOSOPHY OF Confucian and Daoism teaching. According to Professor Daniel Bell, the eminent Western Confucian scholar at Tsinghua University, Confucians emphasize that a good life is characterized, first and foremost, by rich and diverse social relations. Harmony, at a minimum, means peaceful order in the absence of violence. Conflict is unavoidable; harmony is the result of dynamic balance of contending forces. The Confucian idea of harmony also values diversity (Hai na bei chuan, you yon na da). Under the grand Dao of harmony, Xi Jinping, the president of China, is travelling the world to promote win win cooperation, mutual development, and community of common destiny. Hope is high that the newly elected U.S. president will accept the new major power relation proposed by Xi and not confront China. Please refer to my published essay "Why Xi Jinping, the president of China is good for China and world harmony". (Please google worldharmonyforum.blogspot.com/ under harmony renaissance). (IV) THE CHINESE DAO OF INTERNET CULTURE IS ABOUT GOOD FOR THE LARGEST DENOMINATION (YI REN WEI BEN) The Chinese belief is holistic, good for the largest denomination. American highly value individualism and freedom. Confucian philosophy teaches the grand way for the world (Huang Dao), such as good governance must be

based on the well-being of all the people (Yi ren wei ben), the world works for the interest of all people (Tien xia wei gong) not just one nation, select the outstanding and appoint the capable (Xuan xian yu neng) and unity of mankind (Sei jie da tong). Because individualism is highly valued, the U.S. government uses the internet to promote identity politics and political correctness, by so doing sets a limit to its internet growth to the largest denomination. On the contrary Chinese internet sets its sight on good for the largest demonization. As a result Chinese internet is more pervasive and far reaching. That is why even China is an internet late comer its internet is fast surpassing America. Of the ten largest internet enterprise five of them are in China and continue to grow. Today Nov 11 is the singles day Alibaba internet sale in China. In one day the sale of one trillion RMB sales surpassed the combined America total sales of Thanksgiving, Christmas and black Friday.(V) THE CHINESE DAO OF "ONE BELT ONE ROAD" INITIATIVE The ancient Silk Road that connects Europe with China through Central Asia is more than just a road of commerce. It is also a road of exchange for people, culture, technology and civilization. The four great inventions of China were transmitted to Europe through the Silk Road. Without those important inventions the European renaissance may not have happened or would be drastically reduced in scale or delayed. In 2003 President Xi Jinping of China announced the grand initiative of the Economic Development Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road (abbreviated as One Belt one Road). Since launching the initiative China has set up the Silk Road fund and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to finance infrastructures all over the world. China also built many highways, bridges, ports and railways through many difficult terrains connecting China with Europe through Central Asia. Many nations on the strategic route including Central, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Arab countries are now embracing the One Belt One Road Initiative. For more information on the fast growth of One belt One Road initiative, google the subject and specific essays such as "Europe Finally Wakes Up To The New Silk Road, And This Could Be Big"; March 31, 2015 is a historic moment. China successfully launched the Asian Infrastructure Bank to fund the New Silk Road Initiative to provide connectivity for the world. Japan the last U.S. major military alliance country announced today that it would join the China infrastructure bank! By now all U.S. allies have all broke from their military alliance with America and join the peaceful mutual development initiative. The only redeeming grace for America is to join as observer country at a later day. It is natural for China to launch the New Silk Road Initiative, because of all the historical, technological, financial capability and infrastructure building experience reasons. China in the last 39 years has built 20 trillion dollars of infrastructure in her own country. This super scale of construction in such a short time has no historical precedence! Francis C W Fung, Ph.D. Director General World Harmony Organization, San Francisco, CA 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. More prescient than he could have known By Don McGowan Zero-Sum Future describes a world where people make decisions in their own best interests without thinking about whether these interests serve broader altruistic goals. It also describes how we got there. First stop: The Age of Transformation. Deng liberalizes the Chinese economy. Gorbachev decides not to send in the troops when people rise up against communist dictatorships. And no less important: Thatcher turns the UK away from socialism and Reagan proclaims it to be morning in America. The world massively reorganizes itself to align toward liberal economic (if not political) goals. Next stop: The Age of Optimism. Everyone is pulling in the same direction: free trade, if not free people. Western and American capitalism is ascendant. Everyone is making money. Economics is teaching us that cheaper Chinese goods are going to help everyone, even the workers losing their jobs, because they are better off by having access to a better standard of living through these cheap consumer products. But if you look in the distance there are storm clouds on the horizon: Asian authoritarianism isn't going away, Russian plutocrats are stealing everything that's not bolted down, and America is spending its way into debt to get those cheap consumer products. Last stop: The Age of Uncertainty. The storm clouds described above have arrived and it's everyone for themselves. China hates being the US's banker but is afraid to make a move lest their investments crash. The US is spending its way into further debt. The EU has overexpanded and is dealing with a financial crisis of its own. Climate change is a real issue and no one wants to be first to address it. Without the spirit that everyone should hang together, it seems to be a real possibility that we shall hang separately. The best test to whether a book's analysis is profound is to see whether it predicts events that actually unfold soon after its publication. Not the actual events themselves (that would take a crystal ball or a lucky guess), but rather that the actors making the decisions act in the ways the book describes. I finished this book 4 days prior to the decision by the EU Interior Ministers to suspend passport-free movement inside the EU to control the "spread" of African and Arab migrants from Italy. Rachman's analysis describes a world view where this was not just possible but likely. This is a great analysis. It may not say much that's new to you, depending on how many similar books you've read. But Rachman is a great writer with the usual erudite English perspective (FT and Economist background will do that for you). If you're looking for an in-depth analysis of the world today without a lot of glib answers, or if you're looking for someone to synthesize a lot of positions you've read elsewhere and analyze them to find his own conclusions, buy this book. Comment on Kindle edition: there are no charts, graphs, or diagrams with formatting issues in this book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Too pessimistic By Todd Tyler I bought this book because I heard the author on NPR. I really liked what he had to say. I read half the book and got book ADD and moved on. Basically I found the author's point a little too pessimistic and exaggerated. I guess I don't really believe that all the world leaders are buying into the "if others win, we lose" world

mentality. I have faith that world leaders still believe that if we try to work together it will make everyone better off.

With a new foreword on the revolutions in the Arab world and the euro crisis, one of the world's most influential commentators on international affairs offers a stark warning about a gathering global political crisis. From one of the world's most influential commentators on international affairs, chief foreign affairs columnist for the Financial Times, comes a stark warning about a gathering global political crisis. Successive presidents have welcomed globalization and the rise of China. But with American unemployment stubbornly high and U.S. power facing new challenges, the stage is set for growing rivalry between America and China. The European Union is also ripping itself apart. The win-win logic of globalization is giving way to a zero-sum logic of political and economic struggle. The new world we now live in, an age of anxiety, is a less prosperous, less stable world, with old ideas overthrown and new ideologies and powers on the rise. Rachman shows how zero-sum logic is thwarting efforts to deal with global problems from Afghanistan to unemployment, climate change to nuclear proliferation. This timely and important book details why international politics is now more dangerous and volatile—and suggests what can be done to break away from the crippling logic of a zero-sum world.