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Reviews

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BLOOD OF THE EARTH: THE BATTLE FOR THE WORLD'S VANISHING OIL RESOURCES



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Penguin, New Delhi, India, 2008. Paperback. Book Condition: New. First Edition. When the Great Powers switched from coal to oil to run their navies just before World War I, it heralded a change in global politics comparable to the introduction of gunpowder in 1040. Oil became the chief strategic weapon of war. The victors conclusion that oilthe blood of the earthproved to be the blood of victory has since applied to all major conflicts. With petroleum becoming an indispensable part of modern lifefrom fertilizers and fuel to plastics and pharmaceuticalsit has emerged as the prized commodity for which wars are fought. As oil output peaks and competition for it grows fierce, the number of countries able to export will shrink to a handful by 2020. They will all be Muslim states in the Persian Gulf, except Venezuela, which is currently poised against the US. Blood of the Earth, by the acclaimed historian and journalist Dilip Hiro, is a gripping history of oil and how it has revolutionized civilian life as well as war and global politics over the last century. Written in Hiros customary lucid and colourful style, it sets the stage for the coming oil wars of the 21st century, as well as considering the alternatives to hydrocarbons. Printed Pages: 480. Size: 13 Cms x 20 Cms.

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