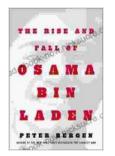
# The Rise and Fall of Osama Bin Laden: A Detailed Account of His Life and Legacy



#### The Rise and Fall of Osama bin Laden: The Biography

by Peter L. Bergen

**★** ★ ★ ★ 4.6 out of 5 Language : English File size : 35521 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled X-Rav : Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 405 pages



# **Early Life and Education**

Osama bin Laden was born in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on March 10, 1957. He was the 17th of 52 children born to Mohammed bin Laden, a wealthy construction magnate. Bin Laden's family was devoutly religious, and he received a strict Islamic education. He attended religious schools in Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, where he developed a deep hatred for the United States and its influence in the Middle East.

### Jihad in Afghanistan

In 1979, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. Bin Laden traveled to Afghanistan to join the mujahideen, a group of Afghan rebels fighting against the Soviet occupation. Bin Laden quickly became a prominent figure in the mujahideen, and he used his family's wealth to finance the war

effort. With the help of the United States, the mujahideen eventually succeeded in driving the Soviets out of Afghanistan.

# Founding of Al-Qaeda

After the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, bin Laden returned to Saudi Arabia. He was disillusioned with the Saudi government, which he believed was too close to the United States. In 1988, bin Laden founded al-Qaeda, a terrorist organization dedicated to fighting the United States and its allies. Al-Qaeda quickly became one of the most active terrorist organizations in the world, and it was responsible for a number of high-profile attacks, including the 1998 US embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania.

#### The 9/11 Attacks

On September 11, 2001, al-Qaeda carried out a series of terrorist attacks against the United States. The attacks, which killed nearly 3,000 people, were the deadliest terrorist attacks in history. The 9/11 attacks sparked the War on Terror, a global campaign against terrorism led by the United States. In the wake of the attacks, bin Laden became the world's most wanted man.

#### The Hunt for Bin Laden

For years, the United States hunted for bin Laden. In 2011, US forces launched a raid on a compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan, where bin Laden was hiding. The raid was successful, and bin Laden was killed by US Navy SEALs. His death was a major victory for the United States in the War on Terror.

# Legacy

Osama bin Laden was one of the most influential figures in modern history. His actions had a profound impact on the world, and his legacy will continue to be debated for years to come. Bin Laden's death was a major victory for the United States in the War on Terror, but it did not end the threat of terrorism. Al-Qaeda and other terrorist organizations continue to pose a threat to the United States and its allies.

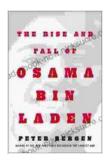
Bin Laden's legacy is a complex one. He was a ruthless terrorist who caused immense suffering, but he was also a charismatic leader who inspired thousands of people to join his cause. His death was a major blow to al-Qaeda, but it is too early to say whether it will have a lasting impact on the global fight against terrorism.

#### **Additional Resources**

FBI Most Wanted: Osama bin Laden

CIA Factbook: Afghanistan

BBC News: Osama bin Laden killed in US raid

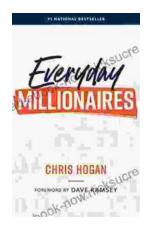


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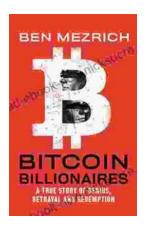
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