

Review

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Historical Book Review: "Armageddon" Introduction The manages to bring out gripping drama through this literary work of Armageddon, a book that is well researched and very fascinating. The story captures the events that happened in the final year of the World War II in Europe. He explicitly explores the roles played by the political leaders as well as the military team. Hasting gives a vivid picture of those dark times, brutality of the battle, exhaustion of the soldiers and how the citizens continued to suffer. The story leaves every reader with the desire to read the book more and more (Hasting, 2000 p. 10). He basically wrote this book with the aim to make the world understand his how the battle over political supremacy through use of military force can negatively affect innocent citizens. This is a military historical book addressing the issue of transformation of German forces in the last eight months of the war with Britain militants along the Holland and German border. Rejuvenation of the German allies prolonged the war until 1945 and yet it was expected to end in 1944. The horrible year is the subject of this book describing the way World War II afflicted many Germans indeed, it was a dark year for Germany. Being a military journalist, the author is this book has used primary source of information interviewing people who witnessed the war, the local authorities and whoever everyone he thought could be having any information concerning this war to make sure he gets the first hand information. He carried out his own research as a journalist but compiled the information to form a book. He further supports his writing by giving testimonies of the respondents as the evidence for his opinions or points of views (Hasting, 2000 p. 38). Hastings's arguments are based on both inductive and deductive reasoning whereby he first states the argument and then goes further to give reasons in the form of examples in order to

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support the view. His opinions therefore are evidenced based because he does not lay down an argument without giving supportive evidence (Hasting, 2000 p. 115).. The book which is a story of August, 1994 was written in 2005, after which it was published in Vintage in October, 18, 2005. Sir Hugh Macdonald Hastings popularly known as Max Hastings is the author of this book. He was a foreign correspondent for several years charged with the responsibility of reporting from more than 50 countries for London Evening Star as well as BBC TV. He has reported on so many issues such conflict of the Middle East and has presented historical documentaries such as Korean War. He has written several books concerning military history and current events. Some of his writings include; Bomber Commander, The Battle of the Falklands, Going to War among others. The book is a revisionist history looking at both positive and negative sides of the war. As he explains, the German and the Soviet allies realized their potential through this war but on the other side so many innocent people suffered. In the context of critique, the author has described the historical events in a thematic manner. The flow of history of the war in German is based on the effects of the war other than the time period it occurred (Hasting, 2000 p. 193). The historical events are described in relation to the stages of the war and the impact of those stages to the groups which were fighting. The techniques used by the forces during the war were described at each stage of this war. The history of the war was also based on both the internal and external influence of the war to the people of Britain and America. In relation to sources of the data and information to write this book, Hastings relied heavily on ordinary people to fetch the content of what actually happened during the war. He consulted the victims of the war to fetch the necessary information to formulate the

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history of the war between the British and Americans and what were actually the cause of the war as well as the immediate consequences of the war. He also tried to interrogate the victims who survived on the way they made it through. The sources he used were effective in that they gave an insightful analysis of the war (Hasting, 2000 p. 212).. The author provided the main theme of the book through a series of stages of the war and the effects of the war both to the forces and the local people. The arguments of the author about the effects of the war and how it came to the end are convincing because he gave a detailed description of the war which in turn gives a reflection of the actual scene of the war between the British and Americans. This book relates to the previous history in the manner the events are arranged and their occurrence. It relates to the previous written work of the World War II but this book gives an in depth insight of translating the brutality of the war and how the German soldiers were weakened by the external forces from America. The methods used by Hastings in writing this book are influential and they can affect the writing of other historical works in future. In this historical description of the end of the world war, Hastings intended to address the general public about the fate of war and the effect it has on humanity (Hasting, 2000 p. 248). This historical description acts as a warning both to the current and future generations on the consequences of war. In conclusion, this book gives an insightful analysis of the end of the World War II. In my opinion, this history was impressive and I would recommend it to both the historians and the readers to have an in-depth coverage and analysis of this book. Work Cited Hasting Max (2000). Armageddon. New York: Hasting House Publishers.