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6 The Introduction of the OprichninaThe tsar's departure from Moscow; The decree on the oprichnina; 'A strange institution': problems of interpretation; 7 Repression and Resettlement; The first victims; Attempts to reach a compromise; The rout of the zemshchina opposition; The land resettlements; 8 The Culmination of the Terror; The devastation of Novgorod; The executions in Moscow; The abolition of the oprichnina; 9 After the Oprichnina; The 'grand princely rule' of Simeon Bekbulatovich; The end of the Livonian War; The last years of Ivan's reign
The consequences of the oprichnina and post-oprichnina regimesConclusion; Chronology; Glossary; Select Bibliography; Index

Sommario/riassunto

This is the first major re-assessment of Ivan the Terrible to be published in the West in the post-Soviet period. It breaks away from older stereotypes of the tsar - whether as 'crazed tyrant' and 'evil genius', on the one hand, or as a 'great and wise statesman', on the other - to provide a more balanced picture. It examines the ways in which Ivan's policies contributed to the creation of Russia's distinctive system of unlimited monarchical rule.Ivan is best remembered for his reign of terror, the book pays due attention to the horrors of his executions, tortures and repressions, es
