



## The Idea of Communism (Hardback)

By Tariq Ali

Seagull Books London Ltd, United Kingdom, 2009. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. November 9, 2009, will mark twenty years since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the monumental event that signalled the beginning of the end of Communism in the former Soviet Union. Why was this collapse of Communism considered final, while the many failures of capitalism are considered temporary and episodic? In *The Idea of Communism*, Tariq Ali addresses this very question. The idea of Communism, argues Ali, was simple and noble. The Communist Manifesto, which advocated the creation of a society based on the principle of from each according to his ability, to each according to his need rather than a system based on greed and profit, appealed to millions all over the globe. However, Ali argues that the vision of society adumbrated by the founders of Communism was a far cry from what became known as actually existing socialism in the Soviet Union and China. The Communist system that developed ignored Engels belief that a workers movement and its victory were inconceivable without freedom of the press and assembly. This freedom, Engels insisted, is the air it needs to breathe ....



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