

Where The Indus Is Young: Exploring the Mysteries of Pakistan's Northern Frontier

Have you ever wondered where the mighty Indus River finds its source? Far away from the bustling cities and noise of civilization, nestled amidst the rugged mountains of Pakistan's northern frontier, lies a place where the Indus is young - a mesmerizing journey that unveils the secrets of nature's creation. Join us as we embark upon an adventure into the heart of the Himalayas, unravelling the mysteries of this ancient river and its breathtaking surroundings.

The Journey Begins:

Our expedition takes us to the picturesque region of Gilgit-Baltistan, known as the "Roof of the World" due to its high altitude and close proximity to some of the world's tallest peaks. This remote and untouched land is home to the Karakoram, Hindu Kush, and Himalayan mountain ranges, painting a landscape that's nothing short of a masterpiece.

As we follow the winding paths carved by nature, we find ourselves standing at the edge of the magnificent Shyok River. This majestic river, originating from the eastern Karakoram range, merges with the Indus at the enchanting village of Skardu. Here, the Indus begins its epic journey, playing hide-and-seek with the mountains and valleys that guard its source.

Where the Indus is Young: A Winter in Baltistan

by Dervla Murphy(Kindle Edition)

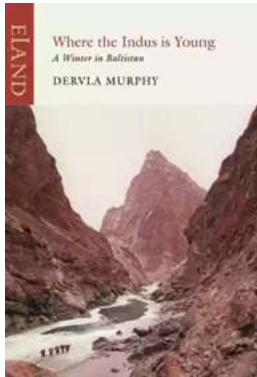
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Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 272 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



The Unforgettable Sights:

As we venture further into the wilderness, we encounter a spectacle that words alone cannot do justice - the Deosai Plateau. Spread over 3,000 square kilometers, this ethereal landscape captivates the senses and leaves us in awe of its beauty. With its rolling meadows, snow-capped mountains, and crystal clear lakes, Deosai is a haven for wildlife, including the endangered Himalayan Brown Bear.

We explore the remote village of Skardu, nestled amidst the Karakoram Range, where life moves at its own pace. Here, we find ourselves surrounded by ancient monasteries, rugged valleys, and the warm hospitality of the locals. The vibrant culture and traditions of Skardu enthrall us, as we get a glimpse of life in the Himalayan region.

Following the Indus:

Continuing our odyssey along the Indus, we encounter some of the most dramatic landscapes on Earth. The Nanga Parbat, known as the "Killer Mountain," looms majestically over the valley of Astore. Its sheer magnificence and treacherous reputation only add to the aura of this mystical place.

Our journey takes us through the ancient Silk Route, where we marvel at the remnants of civilizations long gone. The rock carvings at Shatial bridge transport us back in time, while the vibrant bazaars of Gilgit and Nagar Valley offer a glimpse into the trading routes that once traversed through these mountains.

Discovering Historical Treasures:

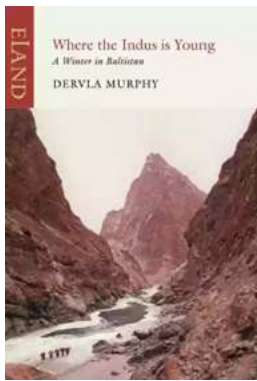
As we explore further, we stumble upon the hidden gem of Hunza Valley - a place that seems to be straight out of a fairytale. Surrounded by towering peaks, this valley is home to Altit and Baltit forts, witness to centuries of history and culture. The vibrant festivals and warm-hearted locals make our visit truly unforgettable.

Our journey reaches its climax as we finally reach the point where the Indus is born - the tiny village of Hundarap. Here, surrounded by snowy peaks, we witness the convergence of tributaries that give birth to the mighty river that has shaped civilizations throughout history.

The Takeaway:

Exploring the mystical northern frontier of Pakistan and tracing the young Indus River is a truly transformative experience. It's a journey that takes you back in time, connecting you with nature in its purest form. From breathtaking landscapes to ancient civilizations, this expedition offers a treasure trove of wonders waiting to be discovered.

, there is no place quite like the region of Gilgit-Baltistan and the northern frontier of Pakistan. The Indus River, reflecting the majesty of its surroundings, invites you to unravel its mysteries and embark upon a journey that will leave an indelible mark on your soul. So, set aside your worries and embark upon this adventure of a lifetime - a place where the Indus is young and nature's wonders await.



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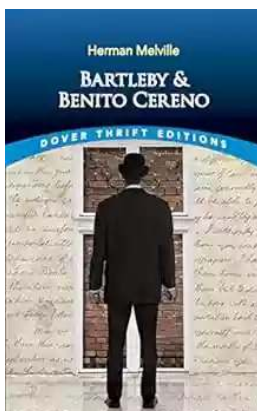
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In *Where the Indus is Young*, Dervla Murphy's indomitable will is matched by that of four-footed Hallam and her six-year-old daughter Rachel. Together they make a mockery of fear, trekking through the awe-inspiring Karakorum mountains not only in the heart of winter, but close to Pakistan's disputed border with Kashmir. They work their way up beside the perilous gorge carved through the mountains by the Indus, lodging with locals and eating, sleeping and bargaining with the Balts, who farm one of the remotest regions on earth. Despite the hardship, Dervla never forgets the point of travel, retaining enthusiasm for her magnificent surroundings and using her sense of humour to bring out the best in her hosts, who are often locked into the melancholic mood of mid-winter.



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