



The Last Samurai: The Life and Battles of Saigo Takamori (Paperback)

By Mark Ravina

John Wiley and Sons Ltd, United States, 2005. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 230 x 156 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. The dramatic arc of Saigo Takamoria s life, from his humble origins as a lowly samurai, to national leadership, to his death as a rebel leader, has captivated generations of Japanese readers and now Americans as well -- his life is the inspiration for a major Hollywood film, The Last Samurai, starring Tom Cruise and Ken Watanabe. In this vibrant new biography, Mark Ravina, professor of history and Director of East Asian Studies at Emory University, explores the facts behind Hollywood storytelling and Japanese legends, and explains the passion and poignancy of Saigoa s life. Known both for his scholarly research and his appearances on The History Channel, Ravina recreates the world in which Saigo lived and died, the last days of the samurai. The Last Samurai traces Saigoa s life from his early days as a tax clerk in far southwestern Japan, through his rise to national prominence as a fierce imperial loyalist. Saigo was twice exiled for his political activities ---- sent to Japana s remote southwestern islands where he fully expected to die. But exile...



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