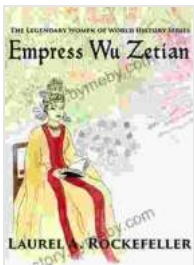


# Empress Wu Zetian: The Legendary Woman of World History

Empress Wu Zetian was the only woman to rule China as emperor. Her reign was marked by political intrigue, military conquest, and cultural innovation.



## Empress Wu Zetian (The Legendary Women of World History Book 5) by Laurel A. Rockefeller

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2011 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 70 pages  
Lending : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported



Wu Zetian was born in 624 AD to a noble family. She was intelligent and ambitious, and she quickly rose through the ranks of the imperial court. In 655 AD, she became a concubine to Emperor Taizong. After Taizong's death in 683 AD, she became empress dowager to his son, Emperor Gaozong.

Wu Zetian was a powerful and influential figure in the Tang court. She advised Gaozong on political matters, and she often acted as regent when

he was away from the capital. In 690 AD, she had Gaozong deposed and proclaimed herself emperor.

Wu Zetian's reign was a time of great change in China. She reformed the government, expanded the empire, and promoted Buddhism. She also patronized the arts and sciences, and she established a number of schools for women.

Wu Zetian's reign was not without its critics. Some Confucian scholars condemned her for usurping the throne and for her unconventional lifestyle. However, she remained a popular figure among the people, and she ruled for 15 years until her death in 705 AD.

Empress Wu Zetian was a remarkable woman who left a lasting legacy on China. She was a powerful and ambitious ruler who defied convention and expanded the Chinese empire. She was also a patron of the arts and sciences, and she established a number of schools for women.

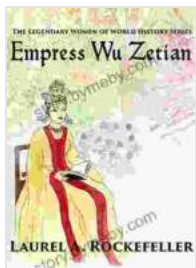
## **Legacy**

Empress Wu Zetian's legacy is complex and controversial. Some historians view her as a ruthless tyrant, while others see her as a visionary leader who expanded the Chinese empire and promoted Buddhism.

Regardless of one's interpretation, there is no doubt that Empress Wu Zetian was a remarkable woman who left a lasting mark on history. She was the only woman to rule China as emperor, and she defied convention to expand the empire and promote Buddhism.

Empress Wu Zetian is a fascinating and complex figure who has inspired countless books, articles, and films. She was a powerful and ambitious ruler who defied convention and expanded the Chinese empire. She was also a patron of the arts and sciences, and she established a number of schools for women.

Empress Wu Zetian's legacy is a reminder that women can achieve anything they set their minds to. She is an inspiration to women everywhere, and her story deserves to be told and retold for generations to come.



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