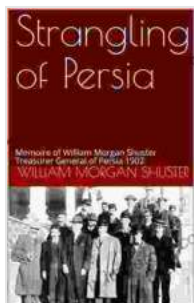


# Memoirs of William Morgan Shuster: A Window into the Persian Revolution and the American Occupation



## Strangling of Persia: Memoire of William Morgan Shuster Treasurer General of Persia (William Shuster)

by Gwynne Dyer

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3737 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 597 pages



In the annals of American history, the name William Morgan Shuster stands as a symbol of courage, integrity, and unwavering commitment to justice. As Treasurer General of Persia from 1911 to 1912, Shuster played a pivotal role in the country's efforts to modernize its financial system and achieve economic independence.

Shuster's memoirs, originally published in 1912, offer a firsthand account of this tumultuous period in Persian history. The book is a treasure trove of insights into the political, economic, and social forces that shaped the Persian Revolution and the American occupation that followed.

## A Man of Vision and Courage

William Morgan Shuster was born in Washington, D.C., in 1877. After graduating from Princeton University, he worked as a financial adviser to the Cuban government during the Spanish-American War. In 1911, he was invited by the Persian government to serve as Treasurer General.

Shuster arrived in Persia at a time of great upheaval. The country was in the midst of a revolution, and the government was on the verge of bankruptcy. Shuster's task was to reform the country's financial system and restore its fiscal stability.

Shuster was a man of great vision and courage. He quickly realized that the key to Persia's economic recovery lay in modernizing its tax system and establishing a central bank. He also recognized the importance of reducing the country's dependence on foreign loans.

Shuster's reforms were met with resistance from both within Persia and abroad. The Persian government was reluctant to give up its traditional sources of revenue, and foreign powers were concerned about losing their influence in the country.

Despite these challenges, Shuster persevered. He introduced a progressive income tax, established a central bank, and negotiated new loan agreements with foreign lenders. Within a year, he had brought Persia's finances under control and created the foundation for future economic growth.

## **The American Occupation**

Shuster's success in reforming Persia's finances did not sit well with the Russian government. Russia had long been interested in controlling

Persia's oil resources, and it saw Shuster's reforms as a threat to its ambitions.

In December 1911, Russia sent troops into Persia and demanded Shuster's dismissal. The Persian government, fearing a Russian invasion, was forced to comply. Shuster was escorted out of the country and the American occupation began.

The American occupation was a disaster. The American troops were unable to control the country, and the Persian government was unable to function effectively. The occupation lasted for two years, and it ended in complete failure.

### **A Legacy of Courage and Integrity**

Despite the failure of the American occupation, Shuster's legacy in Persia remains strong. His reforms laid the foundation for the country's future economic development, and his courage and integrity continue to inspire generations of Persians.

Shuster's memoirs are an invaluable resource for anyone interested in the history of Persia, the Middle East, or the American occupation. The book offers a firsthand account of one of the most tumultuous periods in Persian history, and it provides insights into the political, economic, and social forces that shaped the region.

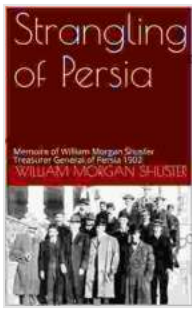


William Morgan Shuster, Treasurer General of Persia from 1911 to 1912.

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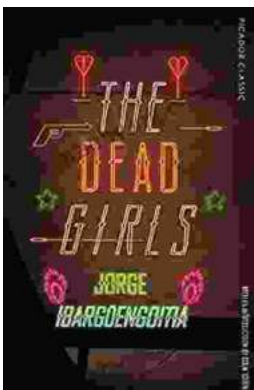
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