

99+ For creating a Better Society ~ an initiative by IIMC and YB*

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15 March 2024

Three Cups of Tea

"Three Cups of Tea" is a memoir by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin that tells the inspiring story of Mortenson's mission to build schools in remote regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan. The book follows Mortenson's journey from a failed attempt to climb K2, the world's second-highest mountain, to his encounter with impoverished villagers in the village of Korphe in Pakistan.

Moved by the villagers' kindness and lack of access to education, Mortenson promises to return and build a school for them. Over the years, Mortenson fulfills his promise and establishes the Central Asia Institute (CAI), which aims to promote education, especially for girls, in the region.

The book highlights Mortenson's struggles and triumphs as he navigates cultural differences, bureaucratic challenges, and personal setbacks to build schools in some of the most remote and dangerous areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan. It also explores the impact of education on communities and individuals, particularly girls, who are often marginalized in traditional societies.



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"Three Cups of Tea" is not only a story of one man's mission to promote education but also a testament to the power of compassion, perseverance, and cross-cultural understanding in bringing about positive change in the world. However, it's worth noting that the book has been subject to controversy regarding the accuracy of some of its accounts and the management of the Central Asia Institute, which led to a significant amount of scrutiny and criticism after its publication.