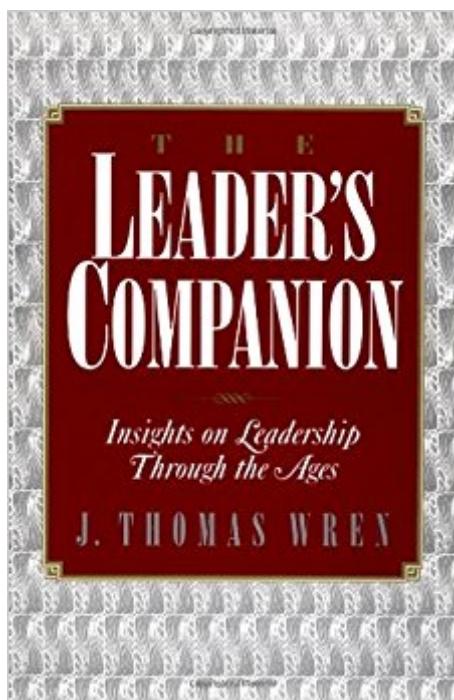


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# The Leader's Companion: Insights On Leadership Through The Ages



## **Synopsis**

This book serves as a guided introduction to the richly diverse perspectives on leadership throughout the ages and throughout the world. Each of the selections, introduced by the editor, presents enlightening thoughts on a different aspect of leadership. Writings by Plato, Aristotle, Lao-tzu and others demonstrate that the challenges of leadership are as old as civilization. Machiavelli, Tolstoy, Ghandi, and W.E.B. Du Bois provide a wide range of insights into the eternal practice and problems of leadership. Modern masters of leadership such as James MacGregor Burns, John Kotter, and Warren Bennis join such leading practitioners as Max De Pree and Roger B. Smith in discussing contemporary issues in leadership theory and practice.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Management theories come and go, but the traits and qualities that define good leadership are timeless. Books on leadership often look to the past for their models. Here Wren, a teacher at the University of Richmond Jepson School of Leadership Studies, has compiled a collection of 64 readings from over 2,000 years of writing on leaders and leadership. His "contributors" range from the classic (Plato, Aristotle, and Machiavelli) to the contemporary (John Kotter and Warren Bennis), from historical figures (Gandhi and W. E. B. DuBois) to observers of history (Thomas Carlyle and Leo Tolstoy), and from the academic to the practitioner and the popular. Wren's selections are grouped into 14 different categories (what defines leadership, historical views, modern views, the leadership environment, leading the individual, leading groups, etc.). Among the current spate of

books on leadership, Wren's is a uniquely comprehensive yet browsably readable guide. David Rouse --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

J. Thomas Wren teaches at the University of Richmondâ™s Jepson School of Leadership Studies. He lives in Richmond, Virginia.

This book is easy-reading, easy-referencing, and filled with very resourceful information. I have cited and referenced this text so much that my instructor has requested that I seek other sources. Although I am finding it difficult ween myself off of this text -- I am using it as a guide to research other material... including a personal guide to aid my understanding while practicing leadership skills.Kudos to the editor, J.T. Wren.

The book was needed for a masters course.

Great product!

This is an excellent reader on leadership. I use it in my course on the History and Theories of Leadership. Its great benefit is that it is all primary source materials, covering writers in leadership from Plato until 1995. My students have always offered glowing feedback on the book and a number have stated that it is one of the books that they will keep from their undergraduate degree. Plus, the price cannot be beaten!

Using the Leader's Companion in my class!

Give a panoramic overview of management theories but badly need a revision to include recent scholarship.

This is a great book for readers who are serious of learning about leadership theory and its evolution. Learners who are looking for the "biggest names" in leadership theory can use this book to point them toward important contributions the the literature in leadership.

Had to buy this and another similar book for a doctoral course in leadership. Of the two this was the cheaper, and the better. The sections are extracts from other works compiled for easy research.

The format is highly readable - you don't get lost in an over-abundance of parenthetical citations, and the works stand on their own merit. You don't have to read them in any specific order for the readings to make sense, and there is no sense of "This was written to make my colleague look good and drop a few names." I would recommend this book to anyone interested in leadership theory, and improving/refining their own styles.

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