

Kenneth Hopper has been active throughout his professional life as a writer on industrial affairs and a consultant in both the U.S.A and Europe. He was born in Scotland and is now a U.S. citizen living in New Jersey.

William Hopper (his brother) lives in London and has spent his career in investment banking in New York and London. Their combined knowledge of manufacturing and finance gives this book its unique depth and perspective.

'A challenging, well-informed and powerfully-written book . . . It will have a long shelf-life.'

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THE PURITAN GIFT
TRIUMPH, COLLAPSE AND REVIVAL OF AN AMERICAN DREAM

Kenneth Hopper
and
William Hopper



THE PURITAN GIFT

TRIUMPH, COLLAPSE AND REVIVAL OF AN AMERICAN DREAM



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I.B. TAURIS

Where does the Protestant work ethic come from? And how did America achieve such dominance in management for so long?

The Puritan Gift traces the origins and characteristics of an American managerial culture which, over the course of three centuries, turned a handful of small colonies into the greatest economic and political power on earth. It argues that the energy, social mobility, competitiveness and capacity for innovation, all of which lie at the heart of that culture, have their origins in the discipline and ethos of America's first wave of European immigrants: the Puritans. Drawing lessons from their own extensive experience, the authors warn that, as America distances itself from the core values which underlay its commercial and economic success during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, it puts its own future prosperity and security at risk.

The book also explores how American managerial culture has spread throughout the world. In particular it examines the impact of the US occupation of Japan on the social and manufacturing mores of that country and explains how America's inherited style of management interacted with Japanese traditions.

This is an original exploration of the dramatic and far-reaching consequences of the Puritans' 'gift' to America – the ethos which produced the early success of America and what came to be known as the American dream.