

The Soviet School of Chess

how Russia dominated world chess



A Kotov & M Yudovich

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For four decades - barring the brief intervention of Bobby Fischer - the Soviet Union dominated world chess and Russian grandmasters continue to lead the world even after the demise of the country they once represented. This is an account of the hegemony of the most powerful state-supported chess juggernaut ever created, written at the apex of Soviet success. The book outlines the triumphs achieved by the Stalin-inspired drive to establish the USSR as the planet's leading chess dynamo. This is a hymn to the socialist utopia in which the goal of sporting success in general and chess victory in particular replace religion as the opium of the masses.

The Soviet School of Chess is the Bible which recounts this movement, written by two experts who were positioned at the very heart of this grandiose initiative. Alexander Kotov represented the USSR in two World Championship Candidates Tournaments and went on to become a senior official of the Soviet Chess Federation. Mikhail Yudovich was a chess journalist and Correspondence Chess Grandmaster.



a Hardinge Simpole chess classic

ISBN 1-84382-007-2



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