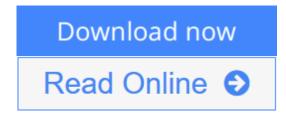


Alibaba: The House That Jack Ma Built

By Duncan Clark



Alibaba: The House That Jack Ma Built By Duncan Clark

In just a decade and half Jack Ma, a man who rose from humble beginnings and started his career as an English teacher, founded and built Alibaba into the second largest Internet company in the world. The company's \$25 billion IPO in 2014 was the world's largest, valuing the company more than Facebook or Coca Cola. Alibaba today runs the e-commerce services that hundreds of millions of Chinese consumers depend on every day, providing employment and income for tens of millions more. A Rockefeller of his age, Jack has become an icon for the country's booming private sector, and as the face of the new, consumerist China is courted by heads of state and CEOs from around the world.

Granted unprecedented access to a wealth of new material including exclusive interviews, Clark draws on his own first-hand experience of key figures integral to Alibaba's rise to create an authoritative, compelling narrative account of how Alibaba and its charismatic creator have transformed the way that Chinese exercise their new found economic freedom, inspiring entrepreneurs around the world and infuriating others, turning the tables on the Silicon Valley giants who have tried to stand in his way.

Duncan explores vital questions about the company's past, present, and future: How, from such unremarkable origins, did Jack Ma build Alibaba? What explains his relentless drive and his ability to outsmart his competitors? With over 80% of China's e-commerce market, how long can the company hope to maintain its dominance? As the company sets its sights on the country's financial and media markets, are there limits to Alibaba's ambitions, or will the Chinese government act to curtail them? And as it set up shop from LA and San Francisco to Seattle, how will Alibaba grow its presence and investments in the US and other international markets?

Clark tells Alibaba's tale within the wider story of China's economic explosion—the rise of the private sector and the expansion of Internet usage—that haver powered the country's rise to become the world's second largest economy and largest Internet population, twice the size of the United States. He also explores the political and social context for these momentous changes. An expert insider with unrivaled connections, Clark has a deep understanding of Chinese business mindset. He illuminates an unlikely corporate

titan as never before, and examines the key role his company has played in transforming China while increasing its power and presence worldwide.



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Editorial Review

Review

"Anybody who thinks the Chinese just copy or steal technology from the West should read this book and think again. Jack Ma is part Bill Gates, part Steve Jobs, part Larry Page, part Sergei Brin, and part Mark Zuckerberg all rolled into one." (Sir Martin Sorrell, CEO of WPP)

"Useful, business-minded reporting on an unconventional corporate magnate, containing both corporate and human-interest perspectives." (Kirkus)

"This absorbing and well-written portrayal of Ma's character, and his role in Alibaba's development will appeal to a wide range of readers." (Library Journal)

"A clean and compelling narrative...[Clark] tells the story with flair." (Wall Street Journal)

"A fascinating new book." (The Economist)

"A must-read for anyone hoping to navigate China's new economy". (Financial Times)

From the Back Cover

An engrossing, insider's account of how a teacher built one of the world's most valuable companies—rivaling Walmart and Amazon—and forever reshaped the global economy

In just a decade and a half, Jack Ma, a man from modest beginnings who started out as an English teacher, founded Alibaba and built it into one of the world's largest companies, an e-commerce empire on which hundreds of millions of Chinese consumers depend. In 2014, Alibaba's \$25 billion IPO was the largest global IPO in history. A Rockefeller of his time, who is courted by CEOs and presidents around the world, Jack is an icon for China's booming private sector and the gatekeeper to hundreds of millions of middle-class consumers.

Duncan Clark first met Jack in 1999 in the small apartment where Jack founded Alibaba. Granted unprecedented access to a wealth of new material, including exclusive interviews, Clark draws on his own experience as an early adviser to Alibaba as well as his two decades in China chronicling the Internet's impact on the country to create an authoritative, compelling narrative account of Alibaba's rise.

How did Jack overcome his humble origins and early failures to achieve massive success with Alibaba? How did he outsmart rival entrepreneurs from both China and Silicon Valley? Can Alibaba maintain its 80 percent market share? As it forges ahead into finance and entertainment, are there limits to Alibaba's ambitions? How does the Chinese government view its rise? Will Alibaba expand farther overseas, including into the United States?

Clark tells Alibaba's tale in the context of China's momentous economic and social changes, illuminating an unlikely corporate titan as never before.

Advance Praise For Alibaba

"Anybody who thinks the Chinese just copy or steal technology from the West should read this book and

think again. Jack Ma is part Bill Gates, part Steve Jobs, part Larry Page, part Sergey Brin, and part Mark Zuckerberg, all rolled into one."—Sir Martin Sorrell, CEO of WPP

"Duncan Clark gets into the heart and soul of Alibaba and its founder, Jack Ma, who deftly maneuvered through the discontinuities and barriers in China to create one of the greatest companies in the world. China has thrived under the leadership of Jack Ma. This book is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the present China and the heartbeat of a great entrepreneur."—Tim Draper, founder of Draper Associates, DFJ, and Draper University

"This book provides excellent insight into the world of Jack Ma, perhaps the most famous of the leaders of the new economy in China. Duncan Clark is a real China 'Old Hand,' unique in his knowledge of the Jack Ma generation. This book is definitely on the short list for those who wish to understand the Chinese economy today."—Ken Wilcox, Chairman Emeritus, Silicon Valley Bank

About the Author

Duncan Clark is chairman and founder of BDA China, a consultancy he founded in Beijing in 1994 after four years as an investment banker with Morgan Stanley in London and Hong Kong. Duncan divides his time between his home in Beijing and fresh air outposts in the San Francisco bay area and London. A British citizen who grew up in the UK, US, and France, Duncan was recently appointed OBE by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, for services to British commercial interests in China.

Jim Meskimen is a stage, film, and television actor who has appeared in many well-known movies and television shows. He acted in *Apollo 13* and *Frost/Nixon* for director Ron Howard, both of which were nominated for Best Picture Oscars. His television appearances include *The Fresh Prince of Bel Air*, *Friends*, *Lie to Me*, *Criminal Minds*, and *Parks and Recreation*. He is also a painter, award-winning audiobook narrator, and audiobook director for Galaxy Audio.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Andrew Parker:

The feeling that you get from Alibaba: The House That Jack Ma Built may be the more deep you digging the information that hide within the words the more you get interested in reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to understand but Alibaba: The House That Jack Ma Built giving you excitement feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood through anyone who read that because the author of this e-book is well-known enough. This particular book also makes your own vocabulary increase well. So it is easy to understand then can go along, both in printed or e-book style are available. We suggest you for having this kind of Alibaba: The House That Jack Ma Built instantly.

Joan Myers:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with friends is thing that

usually you may have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition info. Even you love Alibaba: The House That Jack Ma Built, you are able to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout men. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Linda Amato:

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