



# General Ashcroft: Attorney at War (Hardback)

By Nancy V. Baker

University Press of Kansas, United States, 2006. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand New Book. Reviled as a fascist and zealot by libertarians and liberals but praised as a great patriot and devout man of God by many conservatives, John Ashcroft may have been the most powerful and polarizing attorney general in our nation s history. Looking past such oversimplified stereo-types, Nancy Baker offers the first in-depth study of Ashcroft s controversial tenure as attorney general - and as domestic commander in our campaign against global terrorism. Addressing new concerns about challenges to civil liberties in the wake of 9/11, Baker provides a critical assessment of Ashcroft's impact on national life within the context of an enormous expansion of presidential power. Baker depicts a man who even before 9/11 was in search of a mission and then found it in the War on Terror. She explores how Ashcroft's counter-terrorism actions eroded checks on executive power, arguing that the attorney general used both the formal and informal powers of his office to expand executive and law enforcement authority - and did so at the additional expense of criminal procedural rights, privacy rights, and government transparency. Baker tells how...



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