

Glimpses of a Global Life

Shridath Ramphal

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Shridath Ramphal : Glimpses of a Global Life before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Glimpses of a Global Life:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy LuizExcellent book, written by an experience diplomat, but full of human touch!

Shridath Ramphal looks at his fifteen years at the centre of international conflicts as the Commonwealth Secretary-General. Shridath "Sonny" Ramphal has lived a long and global life. A lawyer and international diplomat, he rose from

humble origins to become a key Advisor to Queen Elizabeth II as Head of the Commonwealth. Leaders from every continent engaged with him as the longest serving Secretary-General of the Commonwealth (1975-1990) and as the only person who served on all the Independent International Commissions that grappled with the world's major issues. *Glimpses of a Global Life* involves a cast of the world's leading characters and the central role Ramphal played alongside them in issues such as ending apartheid in South Africa; laying the foundations for global concerns about the environment; the reform of global governance, and the resolution of conflicts. It is an analysis of major problems and challenges that dominated the twentieth century and which continue to shape the contours of the twenty-first.

His book offers an accessible, highly readable and honest account from one of the very few Caribbean individuals whose life, influence and role intersected not only at the key moments that have made today's Caribbean, but also with global events such as the ending of apartheid and colonial rule in Africa. (David Jessop, Director of the Caribbean Council) "Sonny Ramphal ... was, by far, the ablest and most effective of all the Secretaries-General of the Commonwealth. He understood the principles which were important to the strength and unity of the Commonwealth." (The Right Honourable Malcolm Fraser, Prime Minister of Australia (1975-1983)) "... a brilliant recollection ... of an intellectual Titan whose breadth of talents and depth of experience resulted in the summons to serve on six international Commissions." (The Most Honourable P.J. Patterson, Prime Minister of Jamaica (1992-2006)) "This is a book about tomorrow. Sonny Ramphal's "glimpses" of a recent past are powerful guides to our troubling future." (The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Prime Minister of Canada (1979-1980), Secretary of State for External Affairs (1984-1991)) "... a beautifully written and revelatory story stemming not just from his adroit use of 20th century papers released under the 30-year rule, but his description of his ancestral past and the links between slavery and indenture." (Lord David Steel of Aikwood, Leader of the Liberal Party, UK (1976-1988)) "Sonny Ramphal describes his vision and crafts a rich account of his service to the international community. The book provides a timely reminder of the importance of multilateral cooperation." (Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations (1997-2006)) "Sonny Ramphal has written an extremely valuable book. I know first-hand of the patience and strong leadership he displayed in bringing the Commonwealth nations together for the greatest achievements in its history ... [He] recaptures the drama and colour of some historic moments accurately and well." (The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister of Canada (1984-1993)) "This is a beautifully written memoir composed with sharp insight and clear vision by one of the foremost statesmen of the 20th century ..." (Ian McDonald, Author and Poet) Sonny Ramphal has written a masterpiece in which he deftly weaves intricate patterns of history embedded in colonialism, slavery and indenture to tell the story of his journey from New Amsterdam in Guyana to Marlborough House and beyond.