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Imperialists, Nationalists, Democrats: The Collected Essays

By Sarvepalli Gopal (Author) & Srinah Raghavan (Ed.)

Orient BlackSwan/Permanent Black, New Delhi, India, 2014.
Softcover. Book Condition: New. The present book gathers together thirty pieces from scattered and relatively inaccessible sources. It is remarkable equally for the quality of the writing within it, reminiscent of the virtues that made Gopals reputation. The English prose of most Indian academics is wooden, say Ramachandra Guha and Sunil Khilnani in their preface to this collection. Gopal, who had immersed himself in the literature of the language, was by contrast a stylist with a wry turn of phrase. Though his mother tongue was Telugu and he spoke Tamil fairly well as an Oxford-educated Brahmin could he wrote almost entirely in English, crafting his sentences fastidiously. This is everywhere apparent in the essays here. They range from analyses of imperialists such as Curzon and Churchill, to nationalists such as Nehru, Gandhi, Ambedkar, and Patel, to novelist-democrats such as E.M. Forster and Rabindranath Tagore. The Suez Crisis, cricketers and cricket-writing, secularism and Hindutva, women and Indian law, and the English language in South Asia are among the varied subjects that they are about. Printed Pages: 444.



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