

## **REVIEW "FORGOTTEN TIMES"**

THIS IS A GREAT BOOK! It has been thoroughly researched and reflects a unique insight into those times in South Africa leading to the 1990s. The author reflects a unique skill for combining facts with fiction and leading the reader into the history of those "Forgotten Times", while bringing them into the present day. It reflects not only an enormous amount of research, that is logically presented, but integrates a wealth of personal knowledge and first-hand experience. The book presents key events of a past era presented in a way to provide maximum entertainment as a work of fiction.

The author says the book is a work of fiction. However, I lived through that period myself and wonder whether it isn't a rather a dramatised treatment of historical facts and fictitious personalities resulting in a good story. I "lived" every moment of this book and even sometimes wondered if the author had me in mind when writing about Walvisbaai and my life as a young junior officer...

I wondered what target group the author had in mind for his book. Those who shared those times between 1960–1990, might read it as a living history with some of the names and places disguised. The book is really an example of literature becoming "part of the living memory of a nation". Those who did not experienced that era themselves will find it relevant to understanding some of the things happening around us today.

I found the tempo of the book made it difficult to put down and the style of writing succeeded in maintaining the tension and the intrigues to the end. The ending was totally unexpected and brought 'the cognitive behavioral' approach of the book into perspective. I think it has been brilliantly done.

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