

Coming To Terms South Africa's Search For Truth By Martin Meredith

Martin Meredith takes an unprecedented look into the key cases presented to the commission - both those involving well-known figures such as Stephen Biko and Winnie Mandela and those that deal with the routine violence and torture that shaped the lives of average South Africans. In vivid narrative and dramatic testimony he brings to life many stories of individuals - heroes villains and those who fell uneasily into the grey area in between - as well as the larger story of a country attempting to move beyond a legacy of violence. Coming To Terms South Africa's Search For Truth This was a very difficult book to read not because of the level of the prose which is journalistic but because of the subject matter which is horrific. I came away with even more profound respect for the humanity and courage of Desmond Tutu than I had before which was considerable but was left with a feeling of ambivalence about the whole affair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission which I hadn't expected. The authors' pragmatism does not sit well with the part of me that is much more comfortable with hard and fast moral judgments and what they point out again and again is how the kinds of atrocity perpetuated in South Africa dehumanize all parties involved and make emergence from such depths of depravity very difficult indeed. The temptation to simply change the players but continue the game is very great and the path to a better way is often difficult to find and necessarily different in different situations; i. I kept thinking throughout this book of the ongoing travesties in Congo Libya and elsewhere and the only glimmer of hope held out is the occasional moral giant like Mandela or Tutu and the hope that the international community will continue to be attracted to ideals like democratic participation in government the rule of law over force and the preference of the rights of the oppressed over the interests of the mighty. Coming To Terms South Africa's Search For Truth The book offered a good understanding of what went on during the TRC hearings and gave insight into what the actual trials were like. However it wasn't until the final chapter when it was actually stated what the outcome of each trial was and I would have preferred it to have been included right after the case was presented. He is the author of Diamonds Gold and War Mugabe: Power Plunder - which sold over 15 000 copies in South Africa and The Struggle for Zimbabwe's Future The State of Africa and Nelson Mandela: A Biography among many others. He is the author of Diamonds Gold and War Mugabe: Power Plunder - which sold over 15 000 copies in South Africa and The Struggle for Zimbabwe's Future The State of Africa and Nelson Mandela: A Biography among many others.

Coming to Terms is a groundbreaking consideration of a country's attempts to put a troubled history behind it and reach a new stage of development, Tina Rosenberg's concluding essay only deepened that feeling of ambivalence rather than dispelling it and perhaps that was the intent of the book. what worked for Kosovo or for South Africa might not work for El Salvador or for Rwanda Liberia etc: Coming To Terms South Africa's Search For Truth



Martin Meredith is a historian journalist and biographer and author of many acclaimed books on Africa: Meredith first worked as a foreign correspondent in Africa for the Observer and Sunday Times then as a research fellow at St Antony's College Oxford. Residing near Oxford he is now an independent commentator and author, Meredith's writing has been described as authoritative and well documented despite the pessimism inherent in his subject matter, His most recent book is Born in Africa published by Jonathan Ball P Martin Meredith is a historian journalist and biographer and author of many acclaimed books on Africa. Meredith first worked as a foreign correspondent in

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