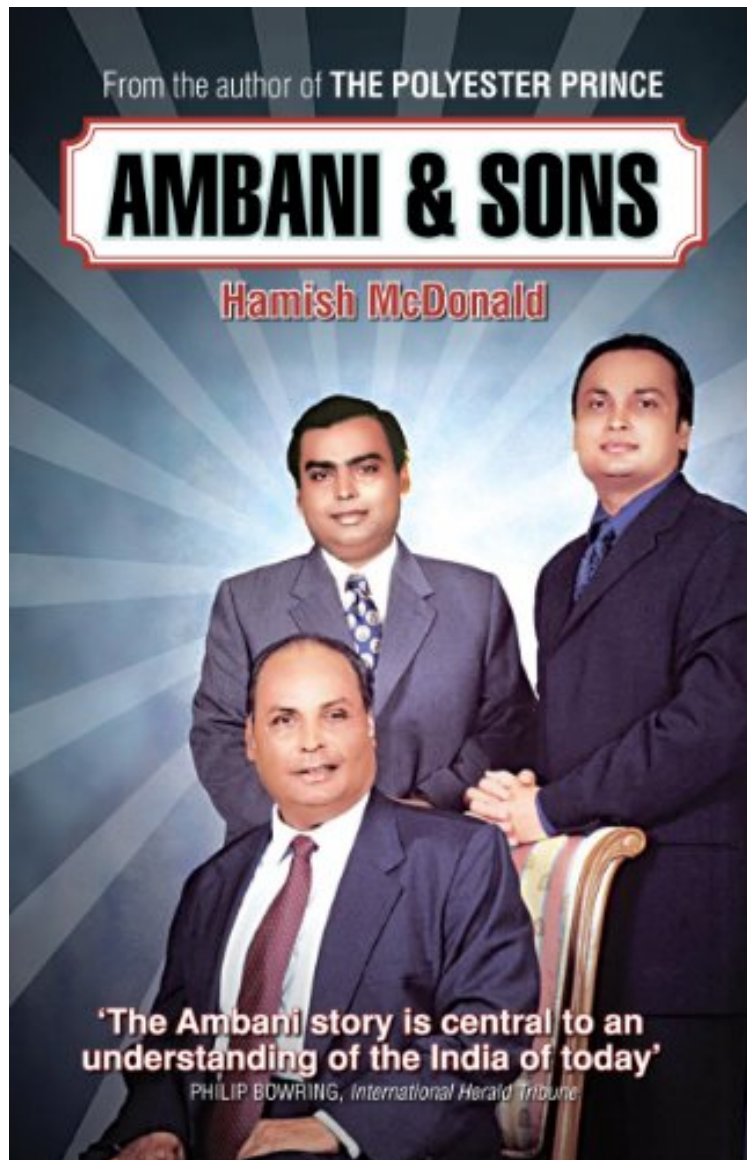


Ambani Sons

Hamish McDonald

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Hamish McDonald : Ambani Sons before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ambani Sons:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Carefully researched and vividly written By Sumit Guha This book incorporates much of McDonald's an earlier biography of Dhirubhai Ambani that the family managed to have suppressed in India in 1998. But it extends the Reliance story through another decade. McDonald lived in India for several years while the Ramnath Goenka-Dhirubhai Ambani-Nusli Wadia story unfolded and knows a great deal about

the events of the time. Even though I lived in India then and closely followed the press stories about this and other scandals, I have learned much from this book. I would strongly recommend it to anyone who wants to get a grasp of the decaying late Nehruvian business-political milieu where Ambani clawed his way to the top. One learns a great deal about that period, the internal intrigues in the Congress Party and Government of India, financial institutions etc. McDonald manages to explain the intricacies of rules, definitions and financial markets before clearly. Unfortunately, the Ambanis cut McDonald out of their side of the story and so I get a slight feeling that it is a little tilted towards Bombay Dyeing and Nusli Wadia who appear to have been more forthcoming. The Bombay Dyeing synthetic textile fiber plant that sought to compete with Patalganga was recently sold for scrap however. The book is illustrated with some absolutely marvelous photos including a memorable mug-shot. It includes a careful review of the Bollywood movie "Guru" based on the life of Dhirubhai. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Awful, rambling and fawning account of the Ambanis. By rafa stil Disappointed. To say the least. I have been waiting to read this book as I was intrigued by the rise of the Ambanis-as such, I was delighted when I discovered that the text was now in Kindle format. Upon reading this tripe however, instead of a tight narrative or a concise discourse about India's most prominent industrialist family, I was treated to an incoherent, almost tabloid like mess of jumbled paragraphs. Hamish goes on an inane, random literary assault, chasing tangent after tangent until he runs out of the putrid firepower he calls his writing-well, until the next chapter begins. Just awful. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "You should never do anything illegal. First of all, the law should be changed." By Saurav Mohapatra I really enjoyed reading this one. As a child of the 80's-90's it was almost as if I was revisiting the political/social landscape of my youth... only this time I was aware of the invisible colossus who shaped it by his unique interpretation of "Saam Daam Dand Bhed" (Chanakya's dictum about getting things done via the power of persuasive, financial, punitive and/or subversive action as applicable). The detailed accounts of financial manipulations of Reliance and the Stock Market are sometimes too figure-heavy and technical (the reason I took out one star), but once you pick this up very hard to put it down.

Ambani Sons is the riveting story of one of the wealthiest families in the world. Dhirubhai Ambani was a rags-to-riches tycoon, whose company, Reliance, is now one of India's major corporations. His sons, Anil and Mukesh, took over after his death in 2002 and their respective arms of the company are bigger than the parent ever was. However, a family feud of colossal proportions, that has had political reverberations, ensued. The Ambani tale contains a bigger story about modern India, not only as an economic powerhouse, but about the complicated links between government and big business.

About the Author Hamish McDonald is Asia-Pacific Editor of the Sydney Morning Herald. He has been a foreign correspondent in Jakarta, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Beijing and New Delhi, where he was bureau chief of the Far Eastern Economic . He has twice won Walkley awards, and has a report on Burma read into the record of the US Congress. He is the author of books on Indonesia and India, and was made an inaugural Fellow of the Australian Institute of International Affairs in 2008