



BOOK OF THE MONTH

The Case for Humanity: An Extraordinary Session

Yasmine Sherif

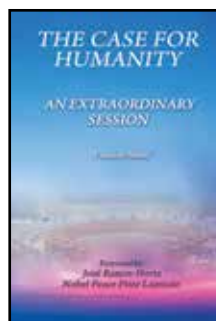
Diyar, 2015, 158 pages, \$22.00

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"The greatness of humanity is not in being human, but in being humane," Mahatma Gandhi once said. Looking at the state of the world as it is today, we witness unspeakable human suffering and injustice of such sophisticated design and proportions that it is easy to lose hope in the human family. Our systems, structures, and processes hold us back, our attitudes and mindsets limit us, and 'realpolitik' has failed to resolve it all.

We are at a point in time when we have choices to make. Do we choose the will to power or the will to humanity, or perhaps a new configuration of both? But, how do we make the connection?

This groundbreaking book *The Case for Humanity: An Extraordinary Session* by Yasmine Sherif takes us on an enlightening journey to make the connection. In a fictitious United Nations Security Council session, some of the greatest leaders, artists, politicians, and scientists that the world has seen come together at the United Nations headquarters in New York to participate in an extraordinary session on humanity. They have traveled through space and time in order to help us resolve the seemingly immeasurable challenges we face today, set the standards for twenty-first century leadership, and chart the way forward in our quest for a more humane world. Their words being authentic - as at one time or other spoken, written, or translated in real UN Security Council Sessions - this is truly an extraordinary session of inspiration and purpose grounded in reality.



The Case for Humanity: An Extraordinary Session is infused with clarity, logic, passion, and inspiration. "It does not judge nor condemn," writes Nobel Peace Laureate José Ramos-Horta in his foreword, "it simply opens the doorway to a deeper understanding, which is often obscured or bypassed in daily life."

In an innovative way, each chapter successively empowers the reader to descend deeper to attain a greater awareness of how dots are connected - between us, our systems, our attitudes, and our values. Daringly and compassionately, it sheds light on how we - ourselves - become the change we wish to see in the world, to paraphrase Gandhi. Never before has a book of this kind been so timely.

This is an inspiring book, beautifully written and eloquently structured. Published by Diyar Publisher in Bethlehem in Palestine and by CreateSpace internationally, it was first launched at the United Nations Bookstore in New York City and presented at several US universities in October; more recently, it was launched at the American Colony Hotel in Jerusalem this November.

Yasmine Sherif is a trained lawyer and has worked for over twenty-five years with the United Nations both at its headquarters and in some of the most conflict-affected countries, including Palestine. She is currently working as special adviser on strategic partnerships and resource mobilization at UNDP's Regional Bureau for the Arab States (RBAS). *The Case for Humanity: An Extraordinary Session* is her first book and it is available at the Educational Bookstore and at the Bookshop in the American Colony Hotel in Jerusalem.