

Reviews | *The Yamamoto Dynasty*

"An incisive biography ...contains all the elements of a political thriller: family squabbles, power struggles, duplicity and murder. And best of all, it's all true."

--*South China Morning Post*

"An excellent survey of a dynasty that has often been neglected in the West."

--*BOOKLIST*

"A deeply disturbing chronicle of pervasive corruption and greed, of unspeakable violence visited upon people, values, and the truth."

-- *KIRKUS*

"The Yamato Dynasty provides a great deal of human interest in portraying the emperors, the empresses and the imperial princes -- their personalities, idiosyncrasies, influence in national affairs, and so forth. [Seagrave] is especially good at bringing the imperial women, including above all the imposing Sadako (Hirohito's mother), to life in these pages. He also tells us much about the many men at court and in the government who manipulated the imperial family to their own political ends. Another valuable contribution is his reconstruction of the little-known 'Quaker network' at court, which dates from the Meiji era; in particular, he shows how this network assisted the efforts of Bonner Fellers, Herbert Hoover and others, to maintain Hirohito on the throne after the War. In all these respects, Seagrave adds to our understanding of the imperial family and its historical significance. Similarly, this book is worth reading for what it says about operation 'Golden Lily': the imperial army's systematic looting of wartime Asia and efforts to hide the loot in Swiss bank accounts, caves and in ships which were deliberately sunk to avoid later detection by the Allies as Japan faced defeat in 1945."

--Dr. Stephen Large, Cambridge University

"The Yamato Dynasty cannot fail to have a lasting impact upon Japanese national politics, the way the Japanese view themselves, and the way the rest of the world views them."

--Martin Booth, *The London Sunday Times*

"The Yamato Dynasty unveils some of the most enduring secrets of the war in the Pacific... with a reality that is both shocking and absorbing."

--*Business Age*, London

"The Yamato Dynasty reveals a bewildering game of deception and long hidden war secrets... Finally the terrible truth is coming to the surface." -- *De Telegraaf*, Holland

"A provocative, thrilling and exciting book."

– *Der Tagesspiegel*, Berlin

"I urge you to read this enthralling, gripping book."

--*Nouvel Observateur*, Paris