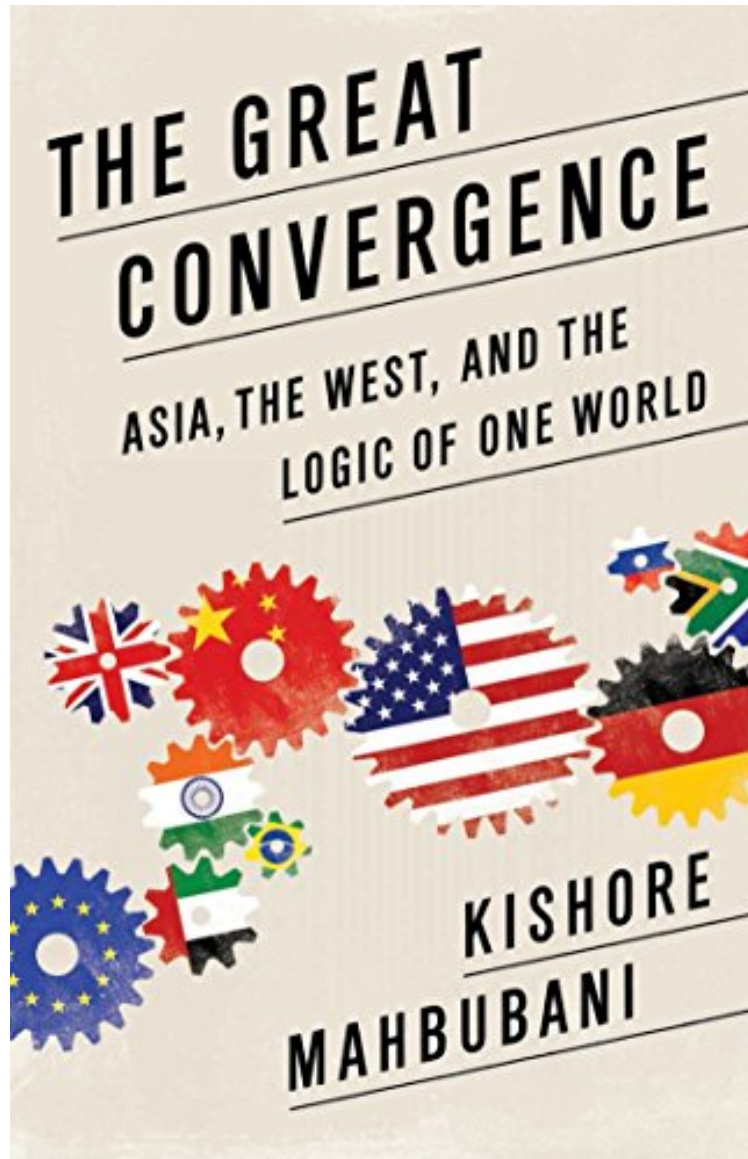


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The Great Convergence: Asia, the West, and the Logic of One World

Kishore Mahbubani

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Kishore Mahbubani : The Great Convergence: Asia, the West, and the Logic of One World before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Great Convergence: Asia, the West, and the Logic of One World:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Making our world a better place By Malik Siraj Akbar Kishore Mahbubani has served as a senior diplomat and a public policy scholar. His recommendations about reforming the

United Nations and promoting multilateralism while dealing with critical global issues are worthwhile. He rightly points out that the inhabitants of this planet have nowhere to go but to live here which is why we all have to work collectively for making it a more prosperous and stable place. He provides several policy recommendations. The chapter about international aid is fascinating and revealing. It highlights the shortcomings in the current model of distribution of foreign aid in the developing world and how it is used to influence national policies inside the UN. Mr. Mahbubani, however, sounds biased by putting all the blame for the global disorder on the United States without mentioning the failures of developing countries to improve governance; end corruption and improve the state of human rights within their boundaries. It's a great book for people who are interested in the changing global political and economic landscape and wondering how our world will look like in the next few years in the age of pressing global challenges such as poverty, terrorism and rise of new global powers such as China, India and Brazil. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Call for Change By Ravi Morey Kishore Mahbubani, an outstanding former diplomat from Singapore, correctly criticizes what he views as western arrogance and the assumption of most Westerners that their practices and institutions can be easily transferred to other parts of the world. He also proposes a plan to reform the United Nations to reflect the changed distribution of power since the end of the Second World War. Finally, he expresses his strong desire for an end to the system of nation states and the creation of a truly just global order. My only criticism is that he fails to see the possibility of such an order arising during the next two or three decades due to logic of the current system. This possibility is investigated in the fictional narrative written by Ravi Morey entitled "Looking Backward: 2050-2013" and presented by Professor Johan Galtung at the World Futures Studies Conference in Bucharest on June 26, 2013. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Best book from the Greatest Diplomat By Kumaran The sense of optimism in the world going on in spite of the financial crisis is portrayed very well. This book's questions the plenipotentiary countries to think about being egalitarian. Some of the thought provoking topics are 1. How ASEAN helped Burma transform into a democracy when western countries secluded Burma? 2. Why should Bill Gates give money to WHO instead of directly helping countries? 3. How America can stop pointing fingers at China and start taking leadership responsibilities? 4. How India and China should work together to make this world a better place. 5. What are the pillars of convergence?

The twenty-first century has seen a rise in the global middle class that brings an unprecedented convergence of interests and perceptions, cultures and values. Kishore Mahbubani is optimistic. We are creating a new global civilization. Eighty-eight percent of the world's population outside the West is rising to Western living standards, and sharing Western aspirations. Yet Mahbubani, one of the most perceptive global commentators, also warns that a new global order needs new policies and attitudes. Policymakers all over the world must change their preconceptions and accept that we live in one world. National interests must be balanced with global interests. Power must be shared. The U.S. and Europe must cede some power. China and India, Africa and the Islamic world must be integrated. Mahbubani urges that only through these actions can we create a world that converges benignly. This timely book explains how to move forward and confront many pressing global challenges.

Fareed Zakaria, author of *The Post-American World*" Kishore Mahbubani has done it again. He has written a book that is provocative, engaging, and always intelligent. He brings a crucial perspective to bear on global affairs, rooted in the rise of Asia but with an understanding of Europe and America as well. Rudyard Kipling said, East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet. But they do in this book." Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary-General In exploring the tensions that arise as our global community draws ever closer together, Kishore Mahbubani provides a compelling reminder that humanity is strongest when we work together for the benefit of all. Nouriel Roubini, Professor of Economics at New York University's Stern School of Business and Co-founder and Chairman of Roubini Global Economics While I remain pessimistic for the global economy in the near-term, I share Kishore Mahbubani's long-term optimism for our world, including the emerging powers like China and India. The world order must now reinvent itself to accommodate these powers. Mahbubani's timely and brilliant book explains well both the challenges to our global order and the wise solutions that are at hand. We can create a better world. Mahbubani's book explains how. I strongly commend it. Lawrence H. Summers, Charles W. Eliot University Professor of Harvard University, Harvard Kennedy School Most of the great errors in foreign policy and diplomacy come from a failure to understand the perspective of other nations. And this is a besetting problem for superpowers like the United States. That is why whether they like it or not, whether they agree or disagree, it is so important that Western and especially American policymakers read this important book presenting a perspective on the global trends that is very different from their own. Joseph S. Nye, Distinguished Service Professor, Harvard University, and author of *The Future of Power* Kishore Mahbubani is a thoughtful critic of the West and this book is full of provocations; some right, some wrong, but never boring. Above all, he seeks ways to reconcile the 12 per cent of the world's population who live in the West with the vast majority who do not. The result is a good and important read. Raghuram Rajan, Professor, University of Chicago Booth School Few today know Asia as well as Kishore Mahbubani, and even fewer combine it with a deep understanding of the West's strengths and

frailties. In *The Great Convergence*, Mahbubani offers a balanced but profoundly disturbing analysis of the political challenges that face our modern, increasingly interdependent, world. His proposals on how to fix the outdated system of global governance are both refreshingly novel and eminently practical. A truly stimulating read! Pascal Lamy, Director-General, World Trade Organization "Thought provoking, sharp and full of wisdom as usual, this new book by Kishore Mahbubani not only offers in-depth analysis of world challenges today, but also offered fresh ideas on how to improve global order for the 21st century. A must read for those who are interested in power politics and the future of global governance." *Christian Science Monitor* "A world adrift desperately needs global thinkers, most of all from Asia. Kishore Mahbubani fits the bill with this signal work at this critical time." *Foreign Affairs* [An] eloquent and searching portrait of today's transforming global order." *Financial Times* [Mahbubani's] thesis is a welcome counterweight to the more familiar gloom of political scientists. The book is rich in insight into the hurdles and pitfalls that stand in the way of international co-operation. It takes a hard-headed look at the dynamics of China's rise: the threat of conflict with a US reinvented as a Pacific power, the dangerous tensions between China and India, and the west's troubled relationship with Islam among them. But the central argument is compelling. What is clear, though, is that west and east have still to grasp the paradox deftly illuminated by Mahbubani's call for global governance. To retain real sovereignty over their national affairs, leaders will have to share it internationally." *Wall Street Journal* "We all know how dismal the state of the world can often seem. We can be grateful, then, for Kishore Mahbubani's *The Great Convergence*, a sweeping survey that proves to be, in large measure, a counterweight to global gloom and doom. Mr. Mahbubani is a big-picture writer and thinker, a Thomas Friedman with a strong Asian perspective. [He] has good questions for Americans."