

ENDORSEMENTS FOR THE GREAT CULTURAL AWAKENING

This book is amazing. Paul Schafer diligently chronicles the evolution of the cultural realm and describes the interwoven dimensions of nature, human beings, other species, cultures, time, and space. Reading this book is like seeing ourselves as *part* of nature rather than *apart* from nature, as well as imagining a world where harmony, sustainability, and well-being for all people, countries, and species are the ultimate goal. **Mira Sartika, Founder and Director, Chakra Cultural Foundation, Indonesia**

Paul Schafer guides us with erudition, authority, and conviction toward a clear and positive vision of a cultural age. His inexhaustible range of references, depth of insight and analysis, and trust in what he terms “the great cultural awakening” make this book essential reading for everyone interested in a serious, far-ranging, and scrupulously-argued discussion of the vital need for the citizens of the world to come together to build a just, harmonious, and productive future: a new cultural age. **Max Wyman, author of *The Compassionate Imagination: How the Arts Are Central to a Functioning Democracy*, Canada**

Culture is much more than a dimension of sustainable development; it is the overarching key to a sustainable world. Culture and cultures are complex wholes and ways of life that have evolved from the ground-up ever since the existence of life on earth, are cultivated to the highest level, and are a common good virtually free of charge. **Engelbert Ruoss, USI Università della Svizzera Italiana, and Co-Owner at Innoreg SAGL, Switzerland**

A much needed, comprehensive, and insightful map to find our way out of the global crisis and make the transition to a cultural age. Paul Schafer, an acknowledged expert in the field, offers an enlightening perspective on how to develop culture and cultures from the bottom up, drawing on a wealth of inspiring references and compelling examples. **Thomas Legrand, author of *Politics of Being: Wisdom and Science for a New Development Paradigm*, France**

Making culture central in your life and appreciating all cultures in the world are excellent ways to improve your mental and physical health and well-being. Paul Schafer’s new book guides readers to many paths for developing a culture-focused life. He shows that cultures embrace all aspects of life and are manifested in homes, families, cities, regions, countries, nature, and the lives of other species. **Brian Holihan, Author of *Thinking in a New Light: How To Boost Your Creativity and Live More Fully by Exploring World Cultures*, United States**

Another Masterpiece! I read the whole book in only two sittings and enjoyed every page of it. Paul Schafer’s book provides light and hope as more and more people seek balance, harmony, equality, and synchronicity in their lives, the world, and nature. I fully agree and endorse this book. **Diane Dodd, Co-founder and President of International Institute for Gastronomy, Culture, Arts, and Tourism, Spain**

The Great Cultural Awakening is essential reading for all those who seek to understand the "big picture." It presents many convincing arguments for a shift in mindset if we wish to produce "more joy and happiness in the world" and make it a better, safer, and more secure place for all people, countries, and species. **John Hobday, former director, Canada Council for the Arts, Canada**

Perceiving, conceiving, and projecting the idea of culture for over five decades, Paul Schafer has successfully confirmed seeing this century as a great cultural awakening. Our own project, Reconnecting With Your Culture (RWYC) - to which he has been the mentor and inspirer - accepts culture as a global mission of awakening youth through a deeply-rooted cultural and eco-based education. This book succeeds in projecting the changing nature of culture and its systemic and complex nature as a whole or way of life that will help all of us open the doors to a cultural age. **Professor Olimpia Niglio, President, RWYC International, University of Pavia, Italy**

This book serves as an ethereal breath (*prāṇa*) to cultural awakening and survival of human beings that facilitates the bridge linking conscience and consciousness, spirituality and peace, locality and universality, family and global order, human beings and other species, and so on. Thus, ultimately, this book will serve as a beacon of light in the emergence of the age of culture as both a resource and a pathway. **Professor Rana P.B. Singh, Banaras Hindu University, India**

In *The Great Cultural Awakening*, Paul Schafer highlights the transformative power of culture in reshaping our world, emphasizing its pivotal role in addressing global challenges, and ensuring the future well-being of humanity and the environment. As he aptly states: "culture's holistic ability to focus attention on the whole and not just on a specific part or parts of the whole should not be discounted, ignored, or taken for granted." **Susan Magsamen, Executive Director, International Arts+Mind Lab and Center for Applied Neuroaesthetics, Johns Hopkins University and Co-Author of the best-selling book *Your Brain on Art: How the Arts Transform Us, United States***

While some may believe that "politics is everything" and "it's the economy, stupid," this book makes us realize why culture matters far more than this and how politics and the economy are determined by culture. This lucid and insightful book on cultural awakening explains cultural development and policy from the ground up and addresses the crucial requirements for entering a cultural age and enabling it to flourish. **Ashfaq Ishaq, Ph.D., Founder and Chair, International Child Art Foundation, United States**

After immersing myself in "The Great Cultural Awakening" by Paul Schafer, I found myself deeply moved and enriched by his latest work of art. Schafer's profound insights and wealth of references gathered from his impactful lifetime resonated with me so many levels! This book has been an enlightening journey, one from which I've gleaned invaluable knowledge that I know I'll return to time and again. "The Great Cultural Awakening" offers not just an inspiring read, but a wonderful learning and experience, and I wholeheartedly recommend it. **Jana Laberbera, Regenerative Culture, United States and India**