



The Seal of Surya

Amritanshu Pandey

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The Seal of Aurvan Surya is lost. The Solar tribes are without a ruler, and the return to Aryavarta has resulted in a confederation where hitherto there was a united clan-hood. Rakshasas, Gandharvas and Yakshas threaten the nascent cities of Aryavarta, and if their rise is not checked the Solar tribes may lose all they have gained.

And thus rises Ikshvaku, the son of Manu and descendant of Surya. He forms Aryavarta's first Kingdom and unites the Solar strength against the Anaryas- Rakshasas, Gandharvas and Yakshas.

But the Seal of Surya is still missing, and Ikshvaku will need to find it to put his claim and authority beyond all doubt. This is the tale of Aryavarta's first dynasty, the Suryavansha, and its first King- Ikshvaku Manava.

The Seal of Surya Details

Date : Published November 1st 2014 by Pirates

ISBN : 9788192681054

Author : Amritanshu Pandey

Format : Paperback 272 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Mythology, Fiction, Historical, Historical Fiction

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From Reader Review The Seal of Surya for online ebook

Sandeeprvss says

It was a quick read. Silimar settings as Meluha but, thats it, the similarity ends there. In Meluha the protagonis takes three books from start to finsih but, here everything is wrapped up in about 200 pages. So, it seems a bit rushed and you will end up wanting more. The title Seal of Surya doesn't do much justice either, sure most of the book is about the events surrounding it but, it didn't quite have the awe and wonder of the 'ring' from lord of the rings. May be its unfair to compare it with a magical ring. That being said, I thoroughly enjoyed the book, it was defintely a page turner.

The first book of Meluha was a hard thing to digest, i had to put it down several times. The second one was amazing, the third was just bad. Seal of surya falls between the first and second books of Meluha trilogy.

Please bear in mind the Seal of Surya is grounded in reality ie, the fictional characters tread along the known path of human history. There are no atomic bombs and such, no mythical elements, everything is as close to real world and times as possible. Thats the most amazing part of this and is nothing like Meluha.

Finally, i wish there was more about Nivritti, Sarmi, Urvasi, Ila and my favorite Nimi. Hope author covers more about them in his blog. I really look forward to the next book which is authors first take from female persperctive! (I am tired of reading history from predominantly male perspective.) Also, please make the next book much bigger!! 200 is too little.

PS. Looking forward to see how this compares to Scion of Ikshvaku. (Different stories set in similar worlds).

Pushpalata says

Good Book, It gives good picture of what was there before Ram.

Anwesh Ganguli says

Nothing Special. At many places i found the story line similar with Meluha.

ALOP - A Lot of Pages says

Link to the Book Review at ALOP

In the words of Nimue, "If only the whole of history was not just his-story but rather passed to us as our story , our own legacy that defines who we are and has been the guiding light of so many other tales. I eagerly await the author now to tell us about the next generation of kings and warriors and so on till we identify the lines and tales of them all. "

RATING: 5 Stars

Ujval Shah says

I must say, this book is spellbinding. Credit goes to author as well as publication house for such an amazing novel. Do not miss this novel. Go, Get it and Read it. Also, Do not miss to visit www.ScrollsOfAryavarta.com to know more about the incredible universe.

Most interesting parts in this book are,

Ikshvaku's first fight to prove him as King within Suryavanshi lineage
Discussion between Ikshvaku and Haryashva
Discussion between Ikshvaku and Narantaka.
Meeting of Nimi with Narantaka

More On

Budding Writer says

A Barrel-Chested Attempt

This book felt so much like a toddler - it started to grow...slowly but got its pace for sure then followed a cycle of losing it and finding it. The beginning was weird, very slow and boring but over time it slowly found its voice. The novel was not really great but it does have its good points. At some points, the story was very predictable - one spy in Ikshvaku's army - really ? You don't think it will be the bad guy who has been forcibly made to serve in the army ? And the whole primogeniture arc did not pack the punch as the author intended. It could have been made better.

Also, the author seems to be in love with two words - "Barrel-Chested" and "Hirsute" to the point that it has become a standard for measure where the people are being referred as being most barrel-chested.

Deep M. says

A good read for the Indian Mythology Geek.

The story revolves around primeval era of the India, where the first king named Ikshvaku makes his fate himself and becomes HERO among his people. He sets up a perfect civilized environment for nomadic population of his rule. This is the same clan where after thousands of years, Lord Rama takes birth. This story also reveals kinship between Suryavansha and Som(Chandra)vansha. The story has a wonderful pace, no unnecessary description is there.

You can compare this one with Amish's Immortals of Meluha. But, it's definitely worth reading.

Hiranmayii Pudi says

This Aryavartha series is set with Surayavanshis and Somavanshis similar to Meluha Series. But Meluha series covered all the aspects like lifestyle of people, technologies used and everything.

Seal of Surya of Aryavartha series is a story only about a Warrior king who happens to be Iskshvaku(a well known Suryavansi name) is the only thing that holds the reader to go on.

This book din't captivate and appeal the readers to complete the series unlike Meluha series.

Hemantkumar Jain says

An astounding series has begun and I enjoyed reading it thoroughly.

Amritanshu has given life to a world in which countless tales can be narrated and he has definitely begun well. He has been able to give justice to the characters and their psyche ... writing an unbiased and balanced tale of victor and victims ... of kings and rivals ... of philosophy and drive-for-power.

It is an Lord of the Rings sort of world/series in the making and I wish the author good-luck in creating it and exploring it to the fullest. I look forward eagerly to his future works and will keep an eye on the website (ScrollsOfAryavarta) as well as the Publishers - Pirates (who are doing a great job of picking up interesting and unique works to publish)

Not to forget the stunning cover design ... kudos to Asish - the cover designer. Well done !! That cover page illustration was embedded in my mind all through the reading of the book.

Well done all of you ... you have collectively produced a master-piece

Sindhu says

The story is all about a young Suryavansi prince named - Ikshvaku. The book describes how ambitious he is about uniting all of Aryavarta and bringing it under one King's rule - His rule, how he establishes himself as the first Solar King in generations, his endeavours to make everyone to submit to his suzerainty and how he gets back the Seal of Surya - that was lost since centuries, to legitimize his lineage & claim to kingship.

We are talking about a King who lived over thousand years ago the birth of Lord Ram.!!! Honestly, the first time i came across the name - Ikshvaku is when I read the 'Scion of Ikshvaku' book (by Amish Tripathi). The author has begun well with his first book in this series by giving life to an era which is quite unknown to many of us through a simple and neat story. The book does deal with the kinship between Suryavansha & Chandravansha and the endeavours of a Chandravansi prince (Pururava, who is Ikshvaku's nephew) as well in good detail. All in all, a very compelling read.!!

Parwati Singari says

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Publisher Pirates.

ISBN 978818192681054

I have flipkart vouchers to exhaust and buying anything else from flipkart does not make sense as they either do not deliver to my address or they send the wrong product, so it has to be books. I picked up the book hoping it would deal with Ikshvaku kings of Andhra who rules the Krishna-Godavari Basin. What made is more attractive was the blurb written by my favourite author Krishna Udayasankara

But the book turns out to be the “Raghuvamsha” like the one written by Kalidasa, the book is narrated by Bhagiratha, the son of Sagara to a chandramshi scion who comes to train with him. It is believed to be the saga of Ikshuvaku the son of Vaivasvata Manu. Who is believed to be giver of Manusmriti

The story telling traditions of India are of two types either they are Puranas that is the legends of the Heroes or they are the Prakarana the documentation of events, the book follows the prakarana pathway not much emphasis is given to the emotional drama. This where to me the author falls short, despite of walking the path that Krishna Udayasankara did he is not able to deliver because she had the prakarana’s woven about Puranas.

The stock characters used were not really convincing, like the Maharishi Vashishta the depth of the character did not emerge, nor did the charisma of Bhagiratha, the focus seemed to be displaying elaborate nomenclature they could be authentic, but I could not find the connect to the story that I know.

The interesting thing about any mythology is that it is neither an adult story nor a children’s story it just is ... Coming to the social structure of patriarchy, well patriarchy was definitely there, but women had the choice of choosing their partners, it was considered a sin if a man refused sex when a woman asked the concepts of women having single sexual partners came from Svetaketu who was jealous of his mothers affair with I think Indra and the hurt his father felt1. Children born out of marriage, before marriage or to widows were all acceptable and there were specific names for them2.

The rule of vidya was very clear no child could either write or wield weapons or heavy implements before the age of 8yrs because the intellect and the bones were not mature enough3.

If one is not challenged by these information, then it is a fairly good travel companion.

Krishna udayasankara can you redeem with the promised book on Shikandi?

Shatrujeet Nath how about the next instalment of the Guardians of the Halahala?

About the author www.scrollsofaryavarta.com

Ajitabh Pandey says

A vey fast paced mytho-thriller based on the times of Suryavanshi’s -ancestors of Lord Ram. This is one of the fictions based on ancient Indian subcontinental history much before Ramayan and Mahabharata. While most of the authors have based their work around those two great epics, the effort of author of this work to write a thriller on times before the Ramayana is commendable.

The book in general have a fluid story and no unnecessary paragraphs have been written.

Must read for all Indian mythology fans.

Ashish Vaity says

"The Seal of Surya" is absolutely amazing. Waiting for next one "The Ring of Soma" ..Great going Mr. Amritanshu Pandey.

Chandra says

I would have given it 3.5 stars but there is no option for it.

First the positives.

There were manythe likable protagonist, good supporting characters, rich world with living breathing people , animals, philosophical undertones, bow string tight story, racy narration, commentary on gender bias, commentary on cultural chauvinism, family feud etc.

Now the negatives.

My main problem with the story is its exceedingly hero centric narration . I would have liked more character specific story threads along the main story.

Protagonist doesn't even have a love story. Which isn't by any means necessary condition for writing a story but given that he had two wives it would have been nice to have some more interaction among the Protagonist and his wives.

Srivallik says

Had tough time reading this book.Hopefully some imaginary maps of the locations the author was describing would have helped us to comprehend the story well .The story could have been plotted in an organised manner .It gets boring lot many times .The author failed to keep the reader curious through out the story
