

From Preface to Volumes 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Fiji Developing:

The four volumes comprising *Fiji Developing* are collections of my community education writings and presentations over the last thirty years, representing my personal perspective on Fiji's development problems- not just economics, but also social and political, which inseparably represent "development". They are not "textbooks" as such, but may be seen as "applied economics" and "applied social science" for students, usefully complementing textbooks which generally focus on theory.

From Preface to Volume 1: The challenges of growing the Fiji Economy.

This collection of articles and presentations attempts to generate some debate from a broad holistic "development" perspective about how to grow the Fiji economy (Volume 2 will be about *Sharing the Benefits of the Fiji Economy*). This volume, accompanied by a glossary of common economics terms and an index linked to key words for each reading, can be a useful teaching and learning resource for economics teachers and students, as "applied economics" issues in Fiji's history. Also useful for journalists, politicians, donors, NGOs and all responsible citizens.

There are some questions that are asked: Where should Fiji be heading as an "economy"? What should be Fiji's broad "development strategy" at the national level and at the "micro" level? What should governments be doing and what should they *not* be doing? Can civil servants initiate development projects? Who should be assisted by taxpayer funds and how? Is protectionism a good sustainable way to help industries? Who are the creative and hard-working people who really grow the economy? What has been the impact of military coups? Are the lives of ordinary people improving and can we trust government statistics and accountants' company accounts?

From Endorsements

"Wadan expresses his fondness and affection for this country by inviting us to consider options that would ease globalization while retaining some measure of ourselves... While some of it speaks to the great and powerful, it is largely directed at people of Fiji of all communities. Those law-abiding, hardworking folk of all communities who quietly struggle and make sacrifices in the hope of a better Fiji for their children.

- (the late) Ratu Joni Madraiwiwi (Vice President, Fiji)

"Professor Wadan Narsey has a special way of addressing issues a lot of people can relate to. He makes complicated economics understandable to the average Fijian reader. He has a flair for writing articles that have depth, and carry a power-packed punch when it matters. He writes what he sees, and means what he says".

- Fred Wesley, Editor-in-Chief, *The Fiji Times*

"Professor Wadan Narsey's writings on Fiji's economic, social and political challenges over the last several decades have been a source of inspiration for many in Fiji... generating debate and discussion amongst politicians, policy makers and the general public, offering many insights and policy directions for Fiji. These collections from one of the Pacific's finest economists will be read and admired by many in Fiji and beyond".

- Professor Biman Prasad (former Dean of FBE and Professor of Economics, USP)

"A collection of compelling economic, political and social articles which should truly make essential reading material for academics and students researching on Fiji. Professor Narsey has been an inspiration to a new generation of economists attempting to bring economic, political and social issues closer to the general public. This book contains highly readable commentary on the most pressing issues in Fiji over the last twenty years."

- Dr. Neelesh Gounder (Senior Lecturer, USP)

"Economics affects all of us, often in ways we don't understand. An economist who can explain how, in a simple and understandable way, is a rare bird... even rarer if he does it in an honest and uncompromising way, without regard to the sensitivities of people in power. Most importantly, Wadan joins up the "dismal science" of economics to the important human things – health, education, our fundamental freedoms – and how democracy and the rule of law are so critical to protecting them. These books are an instant education on modern Fiji, its problems, and many of its possible solutions."

- Richard Naidu (Munro Leys, Lawyers & Notaries Public, Suva, Fiji).