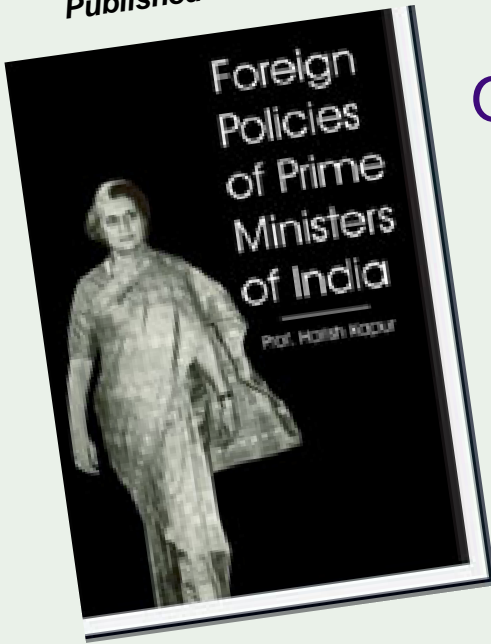


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Prof. Harish Kapur

FOREIGN POLICIES OF PRIME MINISTERS OF INDIA

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The book is on the Prime Ministers of India since Jawaharlal Nehru. A chapter is devoted to each of them with a focus on their foreign policies. The broad organisational framework, designed and deployed in this publication, begins with a brief analysis of their formative years, their perceptions of the international system, and the architecture of their foreign policies, before delving into their decisional process, and before concluding with an evaluation of their role.

All the Prime Ministers were obviously not interested in international affairs. But, irrespective of their interest, the dimensional size of the country had unavoidably pushed all of them to deal with foreign affairs, though their role was variegated and their performance was unequal.

While the Nehru-Gandhi family, plus P.V. Narasimha Rao and Atal Behari Vajpayee were the icons of Indian diplomacy, there were others like Morarji Desai, V.P. Singh, H.D. Deve Gowda, Chandra Shekhar, I.K. Gujral, etc., who were really marginal either because their mandate was limited by time or by interest.

It must be noted that while a chapter is devoted to each Prime Minister, the author has avoided making any comparison between the Prime Ministers in the main text of the book. It is only in the concluding chapter that he compares their role with a focalisation on their performance in foreign affairs.

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