

Advance Praise for “A Legacy of Liberation”

“A monumental biography”

- Barry Bearak, *The New York Times*.

“This is the indispensable and definitive account of post-apartheid South Africa. It is a book of great ambition and scholarship and written with tremendous verve. I cannot recommend it highly enough.”

- Fergal Keane, BBC Special Correspondent.

“A judicious and an eye-opening account of a life intersecting history at the most profound level.”

- *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“Gevisser skillfully examines Mbeki’s legacy within the context of a complicated, still uncertain South African history. Densely packed research in a well-organized package.”

- *Kirkus Reviews*

“One of the great epic books to come out of South Africa since the end of apartheid. Rigorously reported, beautifully written, *A Legacy of Liberation* is at once a rich social history of the black experience under apartheid - as seen through its leaders, movements and people - and a brilliant expedition through the country’s political and personal landscape, past, present and future.”

- Katrina Vanden Heuvel, publisher of *The Nation* and editor of *A Just Response and a Dictionary of Republicanism*

“If Thabo Mbeki has been an enigma to the West, no one better explains him, how he got that way, and how it affected his place in the history of South Africa - old and new - than Mark Gevisser. Exhaustive research, incredible and impeccable contacts and the skill of a gifted writer and analyst combine to make this one of the best chronicles of a man and a movement in our time.”

- Charlayne Hunter-Gault, Special Africa correspondent, NPR and author *New News out of Africa: Uncovering the African Renaissance*

“A landmark biography that provides invaluable insights into the personality, politics, and eventually the legacy of one of Africa’s most brilliant yet controversial leaders. There are

lessons here that go well beyond South Africa.”

- Princeton Lyman, Council for Foreign Relations and Former U.S. ambassador to South Africa.

“This is the finest book I have read out of post-apartheid South Africa. Mark Gevisser makes sense not only of Thabo Mbeki but of the struggle itself, and he does so in lucid, brilliant prose.”

- Lynn Freed, author of *The Servants' Quarters*

“This extraordinary biography draws the reader into the multilayered world in which Mbeki rose to leadership and shaped the destiny of millions. A splendid contribution to our understanding of contemporary South Africa.”

- Gail M. Gerhart, author of *Black Power in South Africa*

“Mark Gevisser has given us a wonderfully readable study of a powerful man’s character: he shows how Thabo Mbeki shaped, and was shaped by, South Africa’s troubled history. After a decade interviewing key players in the liberation struggle and their sometimes forgotten families, Gevisser writes with both compassion and a keenly critical eye. A fine wordsmith with an eye for evocative detail, he exposes the demons besetting the South African dream. *A Legacy of Liberation* is crucial for understanding what lies ahead for South Africa in the twenty-first century.”

- Diana Wylie, author of *Art and Revolution*