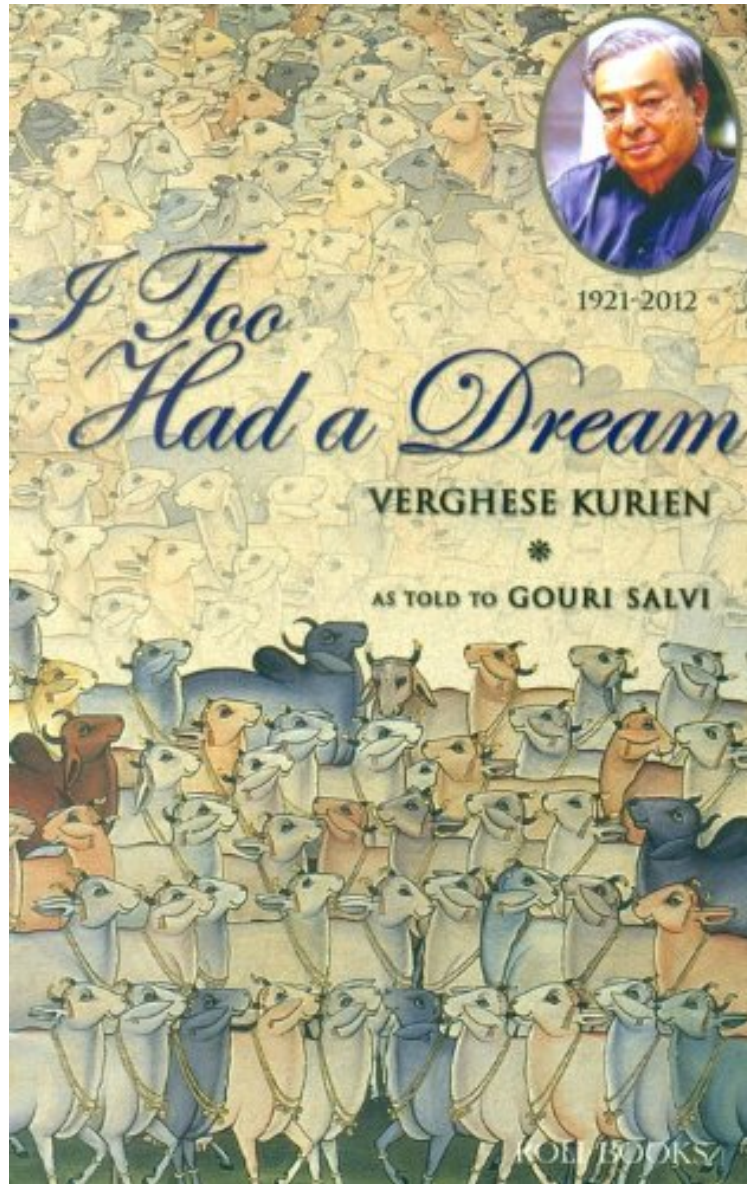


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I too had a Dream

Vergheese Kurien, Gouri Salvi
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Vergheese Kurien, Gouri Salvi : I too had a Dream before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised I too had a Dream:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating readBy Pradeep RaghunathanFor me there were a few key takeaways from this book.1. I had always been pro capitalistic in my views and looked at any form of market distortion as creating inefficiencies in the system. However a lot of market intervention was needed in the initial years to create an Amul and this had benefited so many farmers and also consumers. Post reading this I feel that one should

create the right resources and give time for domestic industries to have a fair chance to compete against MNCs. One should definitely not have barriers to entry but the opening must be slow and the local industry must be supported to ensure it is able to stay on its legs and then compete. I never expected to form such a view. But reading about Singapore's development and the policies they had initially (From Third world to First) and about Amul I think one has to draw a fine line. IT Industry in India also benefitted a lot by such policies and now stands on its own.² It was depressing to see the role of bureaucrats and vested interests in play and how strong one has to be to do any good. What kind of a monster have we created where there are so many hurdles to do a good job? A strong parallel to Dr Kurien is Mr Sridharan of Delhi Metro who must have fought similar battles but at a much smaller scale.³ A leader has to be extremely strong, decisive and set the right example at the top. A strong contrarian is Dr MMS who is extremely intelligent and honest as a person but not an able administrator. We need folks like Dr Kurien to lead the nation and they should be supported by people like Dr MMS in policies etc. India is at a moment where we need some strong change in the way the country is governed and that needs someone who is willing to take tough decisions. Unfortunately Dr MMS is not suited for the same. It was indeed a fascinating read. My respect for Dr Kurien, Amul and all other milk cooperatives have gone up a few notches after reading this.¹ of 1 people found the following review helpful. A dream realised. By Srinivas V. Kudva Great biography containing no malice towards any problem maker. Admits his harsh attitude towards non-co-operative people who were blocking progress needlessly. He gives credit in full to people and organisations whose help had been instrumental in dairy development and uplift of life of Indians, farmers in particular. Help of Newzealand and Australia and in particular the assistance from European countries to make operation flood a success has been mentioned with the appreciation they deserved. He mentions road blocks to progress by bureaucracy but analyses it for as due to the ignorance and other reasons and does not condemn them outright. He does mention without ill will rare cases where he did not get help that could have been useful. The book certainly serves as a guide to young people interested in management and development work as also those ambitions to work in social uplift.⁰ of 0 people found the following review helpful. A man with knack for achieving what is best... By Somyajeet "I CAME TO ANAND A LONG TIME AGO, NOT BECAUSE I WANTED TO COME HERE but because I was compelled to." Friday, 13 May 1949 was the day when Verghese Kurien took first entered the sleepy place called Ananda, Gujarat. This was the fresh breeze of changes blew through. Many have superstitions about the date but that date worked wonders for the dairy farmers and for our country. Who can say what fate has in reserve for us. But was it all fate? A young "cocky, foreign-educated young Indian whose favourite clothes were a green shirt, yellow pants and a green felt hat"; man steps out to achieve his heart's desire but gets pushed and pulled in direction unthinkable, at least to him. Initially, some may say he cheated his beloved country when studied for metallurgy and nuclear physics instead of dairy engineering. The fault may also lie on the shoulders of the selection process for the government scholarship. But I would like to point out to them that this knowledge was that the key bolt that worked to getting both Kurien and dairy farmers together under the cooperative umbrella named Kaira. Throughout his life, Kurien left lasting impression on the people he worked and interacted with. To those whose toes he had stepped upon, he was nothing but a cocky, bull-headed man. For the people who loved and respected him, he was a hard-headed man with knack for achieving what is best for the good of the farmers, for the true betterment of his beloved country.

Architect of 'Operation Flood', the largest dairy development programme in the world, Dr Verghese Kurien has enabled India to become the largest milk producer in the world. A man with a rare vision, Dr Kurien has devoted a lifetime to realizing his dream - empowering the farmers of India. He has engineered the milk cooperative movement in India. It was a sheer quirk of fate that landed him in Anand where a small group of farmers were forming a cooperative, Kaira District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Limited (better known as Amul), to sell their milk. Intrigued by the integrity and commitment of their leader, Tribhuvandas Patel, Dr Kurien joined them. Since then there has been no looking back. The 'Anand pattern of cooperatives' were so successful that, at the request of the Government of India, he set up the National Dairy Development Board to replicate it across India. He also established the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation to market its products. In these memoirs, Dr Verghese Kurien, popularly known as the 'father of the white revolution', recounts, with customary candour, the story of his life and how he shaped the dairy industry. Profoundly inspiring, these memoirs help us comprehend the magnitude of his contributions and his multifaceted personality.

About the Author Born in Calicut, Kerala, Dr Verghese Kurien graduated in science and engineering from Madras University and Michigan State University, USA, respectively. He began his career in dairying at the government's creamery in Anand, Gujarat, later joining the Kaira District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Limited (now Amul). As Chairman of the National Dairy Development Board, he implemented 'Operation Flood'. He has received countless awards, including the Ramon Magsaysay Award (1963), Wateler Peace Prize (1986), World Food Prize (1989), Padma Shri (1965), Padma Bhushan (1966) and Padma Vibhushan (1999). Dr Kurien is currently Chairman of the Institute of Rural Management, Anand, Chairman of the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation and Chairman of the

National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India. Gouri Salvi is a Mumbai-based freelance journalist. She has worked with Onlooker and Sunday magazines and with the Women's Feature Service. She has written on development and gender issues, has co-edited Beijing! a book on the UN's Fourth World Conference on Women, and edited Development Retold: Voices From the Field, a book on the Indian Cooperative Union.