



Space-Earth Matters

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“It is important that we all know about the exploitation of space for public good and are aware that we are all part of space and space is part of us.” (Surendra Parashar)

In order to bring us all closer to the subject Surendra Parashar performs a wide sweep over the entire range of relevant subjects starting with the building blocks of the universe, the big bang theory and the significance of Earth, Sun and the other Planets. All this is presented in a talented, brief manner using incisive descriptions without the help of images, tables and graphics – and without any mathematical formulas.

Having laid the foundation for our understanding the author zeros in on his main message: let’s focus on our precious Earth and use all available means of space science to conserve our Earth for the next generations, because Earth matters to all of us. But, as the author puts it: “just like Earth, space belongs to each of us and it is a common, shared asset for humanity”

Parashar addresses the multi-disciplinary scope of space know-how from its evolutionary, scientific history to the basics of space missions. In the chapters “Space applications and uses, Space economy and benefits and Global governance” the author outlines socio-economic benefits resulting from the development, launch and operations of space assets and the complex framework for their global governance.

Coming from the operations side as a reviewer I appreciated the chapter “Ground Operations” wherein the author stresses the importance of the ground operations teams, which take care of the wellbeing of the spacecraft, optimum distribution of resources and maximization of experiment success:

“It is often the knowledge, skill and tenacity of an operations team on ground that determines not only the longevity of a space mission but also how well its objectives are achieved. Ground operations teams can overcome catastrophic anomalies and malfunctions to produce results far beyond the nominal mission requirements or life expectancy.”

In summary, the book by Surendra Parashar is highly recommended to all space operations/ applications readers as well as to space enthusiasts, because it provides a concise overview of the human quest for space up to the year 2020 – with so much material available, he never loses sight of his goal to advocate the benefits of the space endeavors for humankind – as

“We are all part of space and space is part of us”.

Reference: <https://www.spaceearthmatters.com/>