‘This study contributes significantly to our understanding not only of Somaliland, but of the predicament of the Somali people as a whole … a major scholarly success.’ – Professor Ali Mazrui, Albert Schweitzer Professor in the Humanities, Binghamton University

‘The first substantial study covering both the domestic and international dimensions of Somaliland’s quest for nationhood and recognition … a timely and brilliant analysis.’ – Professor Hussein M Adam, founding president of the Somali Studies International Association (SSIA)

Dr Iqbal D Jhazbhay is an Associate Professor of Religious Studies at the University of South Africa (UNISA),
Somaliland has been described as an ‘inspiring story of resilience and reconstruction, and a truly African Renaissance, that has many lessons to teach the rest of Africa and the international community’.

This study seeks to identify some of those lessons, particularly those pertaining to Somaliland’s sustained efforts to create internal unity and gain regional and international recognition.

Based on extensive research in Somaliland, as well as a wealth of experience in the wider region, this book provides a vivid insight into this intriguing tale of reconciliation, reconstruction, religion, and recognition.

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