The vision of paradise on earth has been expressed by prophet and poet alike throughout human history. Unfortunately, this wonderland, where people live in harmony and each citizen has a role to play in the development of a heavenly community, has never been actualized (or even intimated) by any nation on earth. In his work entitled *Vision for Utopia*, the author presents a colorful picture of a world free of want, violence, and greed; and, in the process, articulates an ambitious plan to make this dream a reality.

The story takes place in the year AD 2021. At this time “*the world has become one under the international guidance of Ophiram,*” a Charity Foundation that has achieved sovereign influence through the implementation of founder John J. Elias’ political and economic theories. “*It is a World where every person, every Company and every Country is now thriving in a climate of co-operation.*” In an attempt to understand how the Ophiram philosophy has managed to reshape the new economic and political reality of civilization, reporters Simon Tyne and Sarah Carey make a trip to the World Unity Tower — Ophiram’s colossal headquarters — to interview Mr. Elias.
Within the course of the novel these two inquisitive journalists are taken on an extensive tour of the entire Ophiram Foundation: a multi-faceted enterprise spanning the globe and comprised of countless interrelated agencies. As they travel the world and get an inside look — and a detailed description — of the Foundation’s infrastructure, they begin to grasp, and stand in awe, of the inner workings of Ophiram. With projects ranging from commercial spaceflight, to curing diseases, to improving the human diet, to the construction of aesthetically perfect architectural structures; and departments dealing with every imaginable global issue, there appears to be no limit to the size and scope of the Ophiram operation.

The word Ophiram is taken from the Biblical Book Of Isaiah where The Prophet states: “I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.” True to Isaiah’s Prophecy, the author creates a world where mortals are indeed considered more valuable than mere commodities or money.

Through the Ophiram Initiative, world citizens are no longer forced to live a humiliating, sub-standard existence, dominated by the masters of industry, who value their own personal wealth above human life — and claim the ‘lion’s share’ of this earth’s resources for themselves — while the vast majority of people made in God’s image perish in impoverishment. The author’s noble intention, and the artistic way he presents his intricate (and yet philosophically profound) worldview, are well worth consideration.
In addition to crafting a linear storyline, wherein the *New Economic Theory* is couched, the author uses the novel to showcase his exquisite artwork.

The elaborate designs and Scripture Verses embellishing ‘*the new world*’ currency are beyond beautiful. Even if one doubts the viability of actualizing the author’s thoughtful *spiritual-political-economic theories*, due to human greed, which negates the possibility of achieving unified goals – *Vision for Utopia* is a true work of art.

Christopher Ackerman

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VISION FOR UTOPIA INDEPENDENT REVIEW

Vision For Utopia is for all who seek a better world. It is controversial and challenging yet has a conceptual simplicity that leads one to wonder why no-one has articulated this vision before. This, the Author’s first book, which was conceived in the 1980’s, originally written in 1990 and updated in 2012, demonstrates his gift for description and his wide knowledge ranging from economics to science and technology. You may not agree with everything he says but I guarantee that once you pick the book up, you will find it difficult to put down. Prepare for an unexpected finale!

James Pounder, Director of Teaching and Learning, Lingnan University, Hong Kong [B.Sc (Econ), MBA, PhD, Ed.D]
This is a very surprising book, and one that is hard to categorise. Philosophy? a personal view? science fiction? personal thoughts? It holds many contradictions. It is big, but not sprawling; broadly framed, but also minute; it represents the fruit of much consideration and study and, like the clothes at a wedding, some of its finery is borrowed.

It covers comprehensively a vast panorama of human thought, aspiration and experience, and brings a fresh, original unbiased view to some of the great questions of our time and all others.

It is also an allegory, and these deep thoughts are interwoven with an exciting, well written narrative, that makes particularly effective use of dialogue to advance the action.

I certainly liked it. I believe it could attract some critical attention, and hopefully something of a "cult" readership, without some of the perceived negative implications of that phrase.

I recommend the acceptance of SANANDAN LEGEND by MELCHIZEDEK for publication under the Minerva Press imprint.