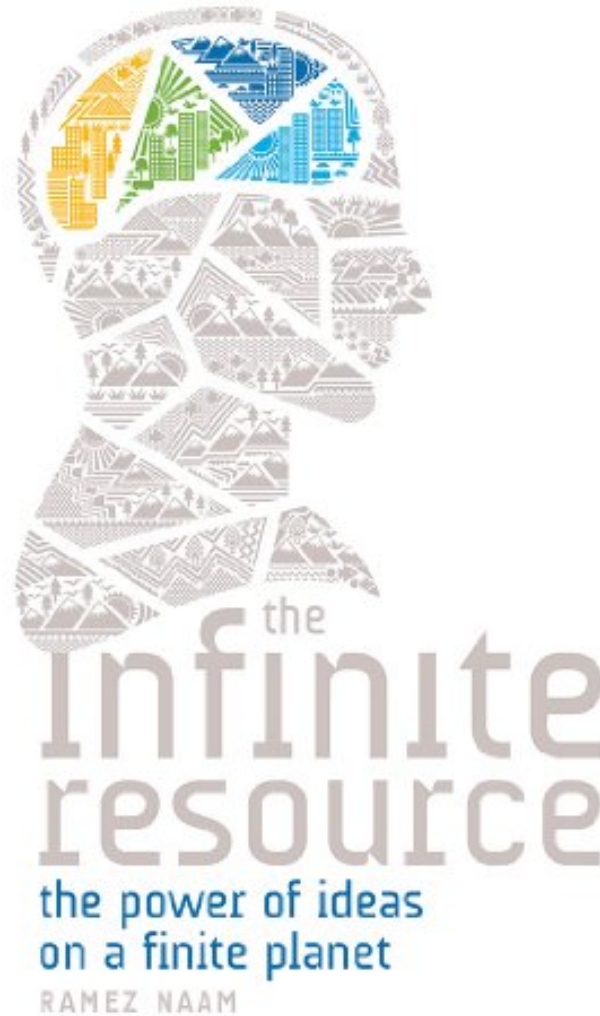


[E-BOOK] The Infinite Resource: The Power of Ideas on a Finite Planet

# The Infinite Resource: The Power of Ideas on a Finite Planet

*Ramez Naam*

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**Ramez Naam : The Infinite Resource: The Power of Ideas on a Finite Planet** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Infinite Resource: The Power of Ideas on a Finite Planet:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Finally, a positive outlook on the future of mankindBy Monty HobbesJust finished his other nonfiction book, More Than Human, and have to say that I'd recommend this one over that. Mr. Naam has a very positive outlook on the future of mankind and for that I want to thank him, it's a breath of fresh air. It's not all doom and gloom for our future.Granted, he does come out with brutal honesty in the second

section of the book that packs a wallop. He makes it clear that the current situation on earth cannot sustain itself. If he'd ended the book there, it would read like any other panic-inducing, end of world book. However, he goes on to say that we as humans have the capabilities to not only survive on the planet we've made for ourselves, but also improve our situation. Mr. Naam uses a lot of scientific research to back up his argument that humans are ingenious and will find out a way to survive. But we need to do so now, and soon. We have it in ourselves to make a difference. While that last sentence may seem like a bunch of hippie nonsense, I want to make it clear that Mr. Naam's book is far from that. It reads very scientifically and he not only presents a very solid argument, but also readily backs it up with scientific examples. Everyone should read this book, whether they're an environmentalist or not. The future of our planet concerns us all.<sup>2</sup> of 2 people found the following review helpful. An idea came out of reading a wonderful book by Ramez Naam. By Don Klemencic A modified form of this began as a letter sent to Jeff Bezos, CEO, at . The bureaucrats of the mail room sent it back unopened. Since one of the two ideas in the letter referenced my evaluation of *The infinite resource* by Ramez Naam I am posting it here: An idea came out of reading a wonderful book by Ramez Naam, titled *The infinite resource: the power of ideas on a finite planet*. After reading it I had an impulse to send gift copies to all the U.S. Senators and Representatives, which unfortunately is beyond my means. That generated this idea. Have you ever considered setting up an annual Prize for a recent book that best presents constructive ideas for the betterment of society? The selection process should be open to wide public involvement and media coverage, so that the process itself would be conducive to spreading constructive ideas from the candidate books. Perhaps you could make use of C-Span's BookTV for this. By the time the Prize was announced many of those books could be on the desks of the people who could implement the ideas presented in them. In addition to a monetary award to the winning author, would send gift copies of the winning book to key public officials. The other idea: One feature of a great library missing from the experience of on-line book shopping is browsing. I think that a very close simulacrum could be provided. This involves making use of the Dewey Decimal, the Library of Congress, or some other book classification system to order a query. Some filters should be available, such as language, print status (in print or not), and publication date range. While a vertical display of author and title might be more efficient in terms of space considerations, a horizontal presentation with author, title, and perhaps a small icon of the book cover would be closer to the browsing experience. The horizontal list could wrap several times to make better use of screen space. There should be clickable arrow icons at each end of the list to move forward and back; perhaps two icons at either end: one for single stepping and one for page stepping. The items in the list should be clickable to take the user to the page for the chosen book. If the user initiates the query from a particular book, that book would appear in the center of the initial presentation. For example, if the screen presentation was made in five rows, the book from which the browse request was initiated would appear in the center of the third row. If the user did not have an appropriate book to start his subject search he should be able to click to initially generate the top level classifications of the Dewey, Library of Congress, or whatever subject classification system is used. By successively clicking on sub-classifications and generating new screens he could drill down to the exact subject he was interested in. He should also be able to step back in the classification lists to accommodate a flexible subject search. From the final point of his search he could initiate the query. To the reader of this review who finds merit in these ideas and knows how to forward them to Mr. Bezos for his consideration: your assistance would be warmly appreciated.<sup>3</sup> of 3 people found the following review helpful. "I'm an optimist" says Ramez Naam. By John Blackman I, on the other hand, edge towards a more cynical pessimism. I'm one of those Ramez writes of, who notice the similarities between human and virus. That said, I take some real encouragement from his sound, well reasoned arguments and have given second thoughts to some long-held positions. I continue to worry that our exponential technological advancement is too rapidly outpacing our more gradual moral climb from our inner ape roots. Maybe I'm wrong. For those who seek evidence that it can be accomplished, Ramez Naam makes a strong case in this excellent book. It would probably help if many more people of all political positions would read this book. If you read it and agree with me then pass this book on to others. I certainly will.

"Brilliant" - Ray Kurzweil

From Booklist As the world teeters on the brink of dramatic, perhaps catastrophic, transformation due to climate change, it is hard to find good news anywhere. Luckily, business and technology ethicist Naam knows where to look. The increasingly noteworthy author of *More Than Human* (2005) and a debut sf novel, *Nexus* (2013), Naam says there is much to decry as he cites all the usual suspects, from rising sea levels to devastating droughts. But there is also much to celebrate, from humankind's proven ability to conquer adversity through innovation to the limitless availability of renewable resources such as solar and wind power. By providing a detailed, statistically rich historical background on many of the detrimental practices and attitudes that have brought humanity to the nail-biting precipice that may await a century from now, Naam strengthens his soberly confident, if not cautiously optimistic, predictions for how humans can walk it back from the edge of disaster. Though some of his arguments may evoke controversy, Naam nonetheless presents a balanced and ecumenical approach through cogent, well-researched positions. --Carol

Haggas "This book contains a plan - probably the only plan - to save the world. Ramez Naam is unwilling to minimize the challenges that face us, but equally unwilling to sermonize or catastrophize. The Infinite Resource is an intelligent and responsible analysis, presented in lively prose; it should be required reading for all global thinkers and leaders. "