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With support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Columbia University Press, University of Chicago Press, and University of California Press have combined their resources to launch ‘South Asia Across the Disciplines’, a major new series devoted to first books in this vibrant area of scholarship. This series aims to raise important and innovative questions in the field, such as the relationship between South Asian studies and the disciplines; the conversation between past and present in South Asia; the history and nature of modernity, especially in relation to cultural change, political transformation, secularism and religion, and globalization. Above all, the series showcases monographs that strive to open up new archives, especially those in South Asian languages, and suggest new methods and approaches, while demonstrating that South Asian scholarship can be at once deep in expertise and broad in appeal.

As a collaboration between leading university presses, ‘South Asia Across the Disciplines’ marks a new approach. Each book in the series is being published under the imprint of one of the three presses, but all are promoted as part of the series, sharing in design, advertising, and publicity. Primus Books is the South Asia co-publishing partner for ‘South Asia Across the Disciplines’.
**Writing Self, Writing Empire**  
_Chandar Bhan Brahman and the Cultural World of the Indo-Persian State Secretary_

Rajeev Kinra  
Associate Professor of South Asian Studies in the Department of History, Northwestern University, USA

This book examines the life, career, and writings of Chandar Bhan Brahman, a Mughal state secretary who was also one of the great Indo-Persian poets and prose stylists of early modern South Asia. Chandar Bhan was a high-caste Hindu whose life spanned the reigns of four emperors—Akbar, Jahangir, Shah Jahan, and Aurangzeb ‘Alamgir—whose courts dominated the culture and politics of the subcontinent at the height of Mughal imperial power, territorial reach, and global influence. His experience bears vivid testimony to the pluralistic atmosphere of the Mughal court, particularly during the reign of Shah Jahan. His works also touch a range of topics central to contemporary understandings of the court’s literary, mystical, administrative, and ethical cultures, while his letters and autobiographical writings provide valuable examples of early modern Indo-Persian modes of self-fashioning.

**Writing Resistance**  
_The Rhetorical Imagination of Hindi Dalit Literature_

Laura R. Brueck  
Associate Professor of Hindi Literature and South Asian Studies  
Northwestern University, Illinois, USA

This book is the first close study of the growing body of contemporary Hindi-language Dalit literature in India. It goes beyond recognizing and celebrating the subaltern speaking, emphasizing instead the sociopolitical perspectives and literary strategies of a range of contemporary Dalit writers working in Hindi. It asks questions such as: what makes Dalit literature Dalit? What makes it good? Why is this genre important, and where does it oppose or intersect with other bodies of Indian literature? It also follows the debate among Dalit writers as they establish a specifically Dalit literary critical approach, underscoring the significance of the Dalit literary sphere as a ‘counterpublic’ generating contemporary Dalit social and political identities.

_‘Writing Resistance is an original and timely contribution to scholarship on Hindi literature, modern Indian literature and Dalit studies. The work is well researched and provides, for the first time in English, an overview of the central concerns of Hindi Dalit literature as both a political and aesthetic movement.’_

—ALLISON BUSCH  
Columbia University
Negotiating Languages: Urdu, Hindi, and the Definition of Modern South Asia*

Walter N. Hakala
Assistant Professor of South Asian Languages and Literature
University at Buffalo, State University of New York, USA

This book casts lexicographers as key figures in the political realignment of South Asia under British rule and in the years after independence. Prior to the nineteenth century, South Asian dictionaries, glossaries, and vocabularies reflected a hierarchical vision of nature and human society. By the turn of the twentieth century, the modern dictionary had democratized and politicized language. Compiled ‘scientifically’ through ‘historical principles’, the modern dictionary became a concrete symbol of a nation’s arrival on the world stage. Their dictionaries document how a single, mutually intelligible language evolved into two competing registers—Urdu and Hindi—and became associated with contrasting religious and nationalist goals. Each chapter in this book focuses on a key lexicographical work and its fateful political consequences. Effectively, this book recovers overlooked texts and denigrated authors to provide insights into the forces that turned intimate speech into potent nationalist politics, intensifying the passions that partitioned the Indian subcontinent.

‘A monumental work. Its eloquence is sublime, the stories are tantalizing, and the illustrations are gripping.’
— SYED AKBAR HYDER
College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin

The Millennial Sovereign
Sacred Kingship and Sainthood in Islam*

A. Azfar Moin
Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Islamic Studies and History
University of Texas, Austin, USA

This book traces how royal dynastic cults and shrine-centred Sufism came together in the imperial cultures of Timurid Central Asia, Safavid Iran, and Mughal India. By juxtaposing imperial chronicles, paintings, and architecture with theories of sainthood, apocalyptic treatises, and manuals on astrology and magic, this book uncovers a pattern of Islamic politics shaped by Sufi and millennial motifs. It shows how alchemical symbols and astrological rituals enveloped the body of the monarch, casting him as both spiritual guide and material lord. Uncovering a startling yet widespread phenomenon, it shows how the charismatic pull of sainthood (wilayat)—rather than the draw of religious law (sharia) or holy war (jihad)—inspired a new style of sovereignty in Islam.

‘The Millennial Sovereign is a prize-winning book that merits wide readership, and this new South Asian edition is especially welcome.’
—BARBARA D. METCALF
Professor of History, Emerita
University of California, Davis
Landscapes of Accumulation
Real Estate and the Neoliberal Imagination in Contemporary India*

Llerena Guiu Searle
Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Rochester, New York, USA

Over the past few decades, India has experienced a sudden and spectacular urban transformation. Gleaming business complexes encroach on fields and villages. Giant condominium communities offer gated security, indoor gyms, and pristine pools. Spacious, air-conditioned malls have sprung up alongside open-air markets. In *Landscapes of Accumulation*, Llerena Guiu Searle examines India’s booming developments and offers a nuanced ethnographic treatment of late capitalism. India’s land, she shows, is rapidly transforming from a site of agricultural and industrial production to an international financial resource. Drawing on intensive fieldwork with investors, developers, real estate agents, and others, Searle documents the new private sector partnerships and practices that are transforming India’s built environment.

*Landscapes of Accumulation is excellent—original, highly engaging, and on an important topic that currently lacks much quality scholarship.'

— MICHAEL GOLDMAN
University of Minnesota

We Were Adivasis
Aspiration in an Indian Scheduled Tribe*

Megan Moodie
Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of California, USA

In *We Were Adivasis*, anthropologist Megan Moodie examines the Indian state’s relationship to ‘Scheduled Tribes’, or adivasis—historically oppressed groups that are now entitled to affirmative action quotas in educational and political institutions. Through a deep ethnography of the Dhanka in Jaipur, Moodie brings readers inside the imaginative work of these long-marginalized tribal communities. She shows how they must simultaneously affirm and refute their tribal status at a range of levels, from domestic interactions to historical representation, by relegating their status to the past: we were adivasis.

*We Were Adivasis is a shining ethnography that reveals new vistas for feminist studies, while casting fresh light on patterns of inequality and social mobility in India.'

—K. SIVARAMA KRISHNAN
Yale University
Modern Hinduism and the Genealogies of Self-Rule*

J. Barton Scott
Assistant Professor of Historical Studies and the Study of Religion at the University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Historians of religion have examined at length the Protestant Reformation and the liberal idea of the self-governing individual that arose from it. In *Modern Hinduism and the Genealogies of Self-Rule*, J. Barton Scott reveals an unexamined piece of this story: how Protestant technologies of asceticism became entangled with Hindu spiritual practices to create an ideal of the ‘self-ruling subject’ crucial to both nineteenth-century reform culture and early twentieth-century anti-colonialism in India. Scott uses the quaint term ‘priestcraft’ to track anticlerical polemics that vilified religious hierarchy, celebrated the individual, and endeavoured to reform human subjects by freeing them from external religious influence. By drawing on English, Hindi, and Gujarati reformist writings, Scott provides a panoramic view of precisely how the spectre of the crafty priest transformed religion and politics in India.

‘This book is a valuable and quite unusual intellectual history centered on the idea of “priestcraft”; an important subject, though sorely neglected in recent academic scholarship. Scott offers a substantial contribution to the new trend in intellectual history that tries to breach the boundaries of national space and pursue movements of thought across spatial and cultural boundaries.’

—SUDIPTA KAVIRAJ, Columbia University

Hindu Pluralism
Religion and the Public Sphere in Early Modern South India*

Elaine M. Fisher
Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, California, USA

In this book, Elaine M. Fisher complicates the traditional scholarly narrative of the unification of Hinduism. By calling into question the colonial categories implicit in the term ‘sectarianism’, Fisher’s work excavates the pluralistic textures of precolonial Hinduism in the centuries prior to British intervention. Drawing on previously unpublished sources in Sanskrit, Tamil, and Telugu, Fisher argues that the performance of plural religious identities in public space in Indian early modernity paved the way for the emergence of a distinctively non-Western form of religious pluralism. This work provides a critical resource for understanding how Hinduism developed in the early modern period, a crucial era that set the tenor for religion’s role in public life in India through the present day.

‘Fisher has excellent historical and philological skills that have enabled her to contribute a very important piece of scholarship that bears directly on the formation of the complex set of social, political, and religious beliefs and practices that constitute modern Hinduism.’

—ROBERT P. GOLDMAN
Catherine and William L. Magistretti Distinguished Professor of Sanskrit and India Studies, University of California, Berkeley
Wombs in Labor
Transnational Commercial Surrogacy in India*

Amrita Pande
Professor of Sociology, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Surrogacy is India’s new form of outsourcing, as couples from all over the world hire Indian women to bear their children for a fraction of the cost of surrogacy elsewhere with little to no government oversight or regulation. In the first detailed ethnography of India’s surrogacy industry, Amrita Pande visits clinics and hostels and speaks with surrogates and their families, clients, doctors, brokers, and hostel matrons in order to shed light on this burgeoning business and the experiences of the laborers within it. From recruitment to training to delivery, Pande’s research focuses on how reproduction meets production in surrogacy and how this reflects characteristics of India’s larger labor system.

‘A theoretically sophisticated and nuanced ethnography of interest to scholars in South Asian studies, women’s studies, reproductive health, and labor studies.’

—Choice

Building Histories
The Archival and Affective Lives of Five Monuments in Modern Delhi*

Mrinalini Rajagopalan
Assistant Professor, Department of the History of Art and Architecture
University of Pittsburgh, USA

This book offers innovative accounts of five medieval monuments in Delhi—the Red Fort, Rasul Numa Dargah, Jama Masjid, Purana Qila, and the Qutb complex—tracing their modern lives from the nineteenth century into the twentieth. Mrinalini Rajagopalan argues that the modern construction of the history of these monuments entailed the careful selection, manipulation, and regulation of the past by both the colonial and later postcolonial states. Although framed as objective ‘archival’ truths, these histories were meant to erase or marginalize the powerful and persistent affective appropriations of the monuments by groups who often existed outside the centre of power.

‘Building Histories is methodologically innovative, interdisciplinary in spirit, conceptually ambitious and highly synthetic in its approach.’

—Saloni Mathur, University of California, Los Angeles

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266 pp. • 2018 • HB • ₹1095
* For sale only in South Asia

270 pp. • 2018 • HB • ₹1995
* For sale only in South Asia
Prakrit and the Language Order of Premodern India

Andrew Ollett
Professor of Sociology, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Prakrit and the Language Order of Premodern India traces the history of the Prakrit language as a literary phenomenon, starting from its cultivation in courts of the Deccan in the first centuries of the common era. Although little studied today, Prakrit was an important vector of the kavya movement and once joined Sanskrit at the apex of classical Indian literary culture. The opposition between Prakrit and Sanskrit was at the center of an enduring ‘language order’ in India, a set of ways of thinking about, naming, classifying, representing, and ultimately using languages. As a language of classical literature that nevertheless retained its associations with more demotic language practices, Prakrit both embodies major cultural tensions—between high and low, transregional and regional, cosmopolitan and vernacular—and provides a unique perspective onto the history of literature and culture in South Asia.

‘Andrew Ollett’s book is one of those scholarly breakthroughs that happen, with luck, once or twice in a generation. It reveals the richness of Prakrit language and literary modes with a precision and depth of insight never seen before; and it radically reformulates the relations between these multiple Prakrit domains and the cultural roles of classical Sanskrit, now seen to be profoundly, indeed inextricably, bound up with Prakrit and with all that Prakrit means for the way language is understood in ancient and medieval South Asia.’

—DAVID SHULMAN
Professor Emeritus, Hebrew University

‘Ollett offers a brilliant, original, and thoroughly engaging investigation of the complex language order of premodern India. Bringing to the fore the less studied role of the literary Prakrits, his work makes a major contribution to our understanding of the history of language and literature in early India and beyond.’

—ROBERT P. GOLDMAN
Catherine and William L. Magistretti Distinguished Professor in Sanskrit and India Studies, University of California, Berkeley
Approach to Battle
Training the Indian Army during the Second World War*

Alan Jeffreys
Senior Curator, Second World War section, Imperial War Museum, London

The Indian Army was the largest volunteer army during the Second World War. Indian Army divisions fought in the Middle East, North and East Africa, Italy—and went to make up the overwhelming majority of the troops in South East Asia. Over two million personnel served in the Indian Army—and India provided the base for supplies for the Middle Eastern and South East Asian theatres. This monograph is a modern historical interpretation of the Indian Army as a holistic organisation during the Second World War. It will look at training in India—charting how the Indian Army developed a more comprehensive training structure than any other Commonwealth country. This was achieved through both the dissemination of doctrine and the professionalism of a small coterie of Indian Army officers who brought about a military culture within the Indian Army—starting in the 1930s—that came to fruition during the Second World War, which informed the formal learning process.

The Indian Army in the First World War
edited by Alan Jeffreys
Senior Curator, Second World War section, Imperial War Museum, London

This book addresses the important global role of the Indian Army during the First World War. It is an academic reassessment of the army by both established and early career scholars. It looks at the historiography of the army—taking into account recent work (particularly on the Western Front in 1914–1915). This edited volume covers the traditional areas of the Indian Army in France and Belgium, Palestine, Mesopotamia and the defence of the Suez Canal. There are also chapters on combined operations; Indian prisoners of war in Germany; the expansion of the officer corps; the role of Islam in the army; the Sikh experience and the demobilisation of the army, 1918–1923. Three additional chapters are related to the theme, on the mobilisation of the equine army, the Territorial Army in India and Winston Churchill’s portrayal of the Indian Army during the Gallipoli campaign in his account World Crisis.
‘Swords Trembling in their Scabbards’
The Changing Status of Indian Officers in the Indian Army, 1757–1947*

Michael Creese
Retired Headteacher and Educational Consultant

The Indian Army founded by the East India Company in the eighteenth century was unique among the armies of the world in that it had two groups of officers—British and Indian. The intention was that the Indian officers, coming from similar backgrounds as their men and naturally understanding their social and religious mores and customs, would form the crucial link between the British officers and the sepoys. It is surprising, therefore, that there has been very little written, by either British or Indian historians, regarding the role and experience of those officers. They were promoted from the ranks and served for many years in their units, embodying both the spirit and the traditions of their regiments. So, who were these Indian Officers who look out at us from photographs taken from the eighteen eighties onwards? How did they, and their British officers, interpret their role? The present volume is a long overdue attempt to answer these questions and to pay due tribute to the men who served the Raj and their country so well in peace and war.

‘Discipline, System and Style’
The Sixteenth Lancers and British Soldiering in India 1822–1846*

John H. Rumsby
Centre for Military History, University of Leeds, UK

The Sixteenth Lancers already had a long and distinguished history when they sailed for India in 1822. Over the next twenty-four years they fought in four wars, most famously in the Sutlej campaign against the Sikhs. This book examines what regimental soldiering was like in India in those years. It draws on an unprecedented range of mainly unpublished sources: official archives but also journals and letters of officers and men. An important feature of the book is a detailed roll of every officer and man who served in the Sixteenth in the Sutlej: where they came from, their trades, why they enlisted and what happened to them in the army and afterwards. This approach illuminates such topics as literacy, suicide, and the number of men who opted to remain in India.

‘John Rumsby has made a very significant contribution to our understanding of British cavalry for this period and service in India.’

— Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
‘Die In Battle, Do Not Despair’
The Indians on Gallipoli, 1915*

Peter Stanley
University of New South Wales, Canberra, Australia

About 1,600 of the Indians who served on Gallipoli died, in action at Gurkha Bluff and Hill 60. They took part in terrible, failed attacks, at Gully Ravine and Gully Spur and in the climactic attempt in August to seize the summit of Sari Bair—one of the Gurkhas’ most cherished battle honours. Though commemorated on the great memorial to the missing at Cape Helles (because most Indians’ bodies were cremated or, actually, lost) they are practically invisible on Gallipoli today. The Indian story of Gallipoli has barely been told before. Not only is this the first book about their part in the campaign to be published in the century since 1915, but it also tells their story in new and unexpected ways. Though inescapably drawing on records created by the force’s British officers, it strives to recapture the experience of the formerly anonymous sepoys, gunners and drivers, introducing Indians of note—Mit Singh, Gambirsing Pun, Kulbahadur Gurung, and Jan Mohamed—alongside the more familiar British figures.

‘A powerful narrative with expert interjections from an author who doesn’t shy away from expressing forthright opinion.’

— Western Front Association website

*For sale only in South Asia
Anthropology

Narratives from the Margins
Aspects of Adivasi History in India
(Revised and Enlarged Edition)

edited by Sanjukta Das Gupta
Associate Professor, Department of Oriental Studies, Sapienza University, Rome

Raj Shekhar Basu
Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

Adivasis have principally been studied in the context of rebellion, environmental history and the politics of identity. However, preoccupations with definitions and notions of identity, while important in themselves, tend to shift attention away from the inner lives of these communities. This book deals with different aspects of the histories of adivasi communities—from Rajasthan in the west to Bengal and Orissa in the east. The essays in this book discuss a range of issues affecting the socio-economic and cultural life of adivasis and explore the long term continuities and discontinuities between different political regimes. They also reflect some of the new concerns that have come up relating to methodology and sources, historiography and colonial concerns, the impact of missionaries, gender issues, the agrarian situation, famines and migration.

Kolkata in Space, Time, and Imagination Vol. I

edited by Anuradha Roy
Professor, Department of History, Jadavpur University.

Melitta Waligora
Assistant Professor at the Seminar for South Asian Studies, Institute for Asian and African Studies, Humboldt University, Berlin

This two-volume collection of eclectic essays on Kolkata seeks to explore areas not covered in the earlier works on the city, in terms of both topics and time. The first section of Volume 1 indicates how the city has negotiated space from its formative years right up to the crucial juncture it seems to have reached recently as a result of the drastic shift towards mega-urbanity. The second section provides glimpse into the city in time, through the two global wars in the twentieth century, the Naxalite movement, the rule of the Left Front and beyond.

While recognizing that the colonial rulers did play a vital role in the making of the city, the book is primarily about the active native participation in the process of Kolkata’s urban transformation.
Subjects of Modernity: Time-space, disciplines, margins*

Saurabh Dube
Research Professor in History, Centre for Asian and African Studies, El Colegio de Mexico, Mexico

In *Subjects of Modernity*, Saurabh Dube thinks through modernity and its representations by exploring critical considerations of time and space. Drawing on anthropology, history and social theory, he investigates the oppositions and enchantments, the contradictions and contentions, and the identities and ambivalences spawned under modernity. Crucially, Dube understands the antinomies of modernity not as analytical errors, but as constitutive elements of modern worlds. Dube questions routine portrayals of homogeneous time and antinomian blueprints of cultural space, while acknowledging the production of time and space by social subjects. Instead of assuming a straightforward, singular trajectory for the phenomena, it views modernity as involving checkered, contingent and contended processes of meaning and power, which have found heterogeneous historical elaborations over the past five centuries. Bringing together past and present, theory and narrative, it sows the historical, ethnographic and methodological deep into his critical procedures, offering an innovative understanding of cultural identities and imaginatively exploring the relationship between history and anthropology.

‘Saurabh Dube’s provocations offer a challenging break with frameworks that for too long have carried colonialism’s intellectual heritage forward even after its political demise.’

—MICHAEL HERZFELD, Harvard University

Children of the Goddess
Devotion and Female Priesthood in Bengal

Marine Carrin
Director of Research Emeritus (CNRS) at the Centre d’Anthropologie Sociale, Toulouse, France

The women featured in this book live on the frontier between the tribal and the low-caste society in Bengal, and turn to religion in order to forge a new identity. The book provides a window to a little-known world where social marginality, subaltern assertion, the politics of gender, and the contestation between tribal religion and Hinduism merge to produce a unique perspective on popular Hinduism.
Visual Histories of South Asia

edited by
Annmaria Motrescu-Mayes
Visiting Lecturer in Digital and New Media Anthropology at the Division of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge, UK

Marcus Banks
Professor of Visual Anthropology at the University of Oxford, UK

Is one of the first comprehensive contributions to the rapidly developing cross disciplinary scholarship that connects visual studies with South Asian historiography. The key purpose of the book is to introduce scholars and students of South Asian and Indian history to the first in-depth evaluation of visual research methods as a valid research framework for new historical studies. The volume identifies and evaluates current developments in visual sociology and digital anthropology relevant to the study of contemporary South Asian constructions of personal and national identities. Owing to its wide-ranging theoretical methodology, from concepts of visual perception to media semiotics, Visual Histories of South Asia covers a rich thematic agenda with contributions ranging from ethnographic research to gender studies, fine arts analyses, theoretical and methodological questions, economic structures, international politics and contemporary cultural patterns. Owing to its wide-ranging theoretical methodology, from concepts of visual perception to media semiotics, Visual Histories of South Asia charts the theoretical and historical advances in visual and historical studies dedicated to South Asia, and by addressing issues of private and national memory within regional, national, and contemporary South Asian iconography, from the mid-seventeenth century to the early twenty-first century, and the thirteen contributions selected for this volume are of immediate relevance to visual theorists and historians, sociologists and cultural anthropologists, as well as to students and scholars of South Asian history and culture.

‘This is a remarkable, genuinely interdisciplinary collection, and both a marvellously rich addition to the study of the life of visual images in South Asia, and a highly sophisticated contribution to debates of the interdisciplinary study of visual culture.’

—PROFESSOR JAMES LAIDLAW
William Wyse Professor of Social Anthropology
Head of Division, Social Anthropology
Fellow, King's College, University of Cambridge

ISBN: 978-93-86552-44-0 • 312 pp. • 2018 • HB • ₹ 1495 • $ 71.95 • £ 55

Marcus Banks • Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes • Josefine Baark • Aaron Bryant • Xavier Guégon • Souvik Naha • Siddharth Pandey • Ronie Parciack • Imma Ramos • Adrian Peter Ruprecht • Teresa Segura-Garcia • Thomas Simpson • Denis Vidal

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Highland Odisha
Life and Society Beyond the Coastal World
edited by Uwe Skoda
Associate Professor, Department of Indology, School of Culture and Society
Aarhus University, Denmark
Biswamoy Pati
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi
This volume inverts the othering characteristic of most studies of Odisha by drawing attention to the highlands in the west and south. Based on fieldwork, participant observation, oral traditions, archival materials and long-term historical and anthropological research by a range of scholars negotiating this region and its people, this volume examines the less visible and often misrecognized highlands of Odisha, thus questioning dominant coast-centric views and acknowledging a multitude of perspectives on Odisha beyond simplified dichotomies. The nine essays herein cover themes such as social structures and patterns of kinship and relatedness; concepts of food, music or death and their significance to wider cosmologies; interdependencies among highland communities and the position of migrant farmers between caste and Adivasi society; and processes of resistance and ideas around Nehruvian industrialization projects set up in the supposed 'wilderness'.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-97-0 • 282 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 850 • $ 49.95 • £ 40.95

In the Name of the Goddess
The Durga Pujas of Contemporary Kolkata
Tapati Guha-Thakurta
Former Director, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata
This book unravels the anatomy of the newly-conjured ‘art’ event of Kolkata’s Durga Pujas by tracking the new production processes, the mounting trends of publicity and sponsorship as well as the practices of mass spectatorship that make for the transformed visual culture of the festival. The book’s central concern lies in conceptualizing a contemporary and artistic history of this urban festival. It examines the diversity of images and practices—from the consumerist spectacle and the bonanza of awards to the efflorescence of public installations and art and craft productions—that unfurl in this season ‘in the name of the goddess’. While profiling Durga Pujas as Kolkata’s biggest public art event, the book also addresses the ambivalence of the designations of ‘art’ and ‘artist’ in this field of production and viewership. The new artistic nomenclature of the festival, it is shown, is not easily secured, and has to struggle to assert itself within the body of the religious event and the ephemeral mass spectacle.

‘Beautiful the book certainly is—shaped, sized, priced, and in looks as it is like a coffee table book—with glossy pages, a wonderfully designed dust jacket, and almost five hundred full-colour photographs, and yet it is not your usual coffee table book: it is a massively researched academic work . . .’

—SUGATA BHADURI, The Book Review
Manifestations of History
Time, Space, and Community in the Andaman Islands
edited by
Frank Heidemann
Professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich, Germany
Philipp Zehmisch
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Center for Advanced Studies and the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich, Germany

This volume highlights the significant yet underestimated place of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in socio-cultural and historical studies of the Indian Ocean region. It brings together interdisciplinary theorizing rooted in historical theory and scholarship stemming from ethnographic observation, macro-level studies of South Asian nation-states, and micro-level studies of local communities in vivid and meaningful dialogue with each other. The essays herein challenge the analytical usefulness of Euro-centric perceptions of time-structured historical models as the only means of explaining the present, and explore alternative analytical avenues opened by a space-bound concept of history.

ISBN: 978-93-84092-04-7 • 198 pp. • 2016 • HB • ₹ 1295 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95

Gender Inequality, Popular Culture and Resistance in Bankura District
Sujit Kumar Chattopadhyay
Former Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Bankura Zilla Saradamani Mahila Mahavidyapith, West Bengal

This book examines the connections and interrelationships at play between gender inequality, popular culture and resistance on the basis of case studies conducted in the district of Bankura, an area well known for its tradition and variety of popular culture. In contemporary India, gender-based prejudice is perhaps the most pervasive form of inequality, arguably more so in the rural society of Bengal, where the deep rooted and complex forms of gender inequality are largely reproduced and legitimized in popular culture. Accordingly, this book argues that if the exercise of power inherently involves resistance, then gendered power is countered by some aspects of popular culture in favour of a more equitable relationship between men and women. The text also examines resistance to the ideological forms of gender bias and inequality depicted in popular culture such as folk songs, riddles, rhymes, and proverbs operative in the rural society of Bankura, and explores the intimate connection between popular culture and the everyday life of the general population.

‘... this book is a scholarly contribution to our ever increasing corpus on fast disappearing folk cultures and gender inequality.’

—JESSY K. PHILIP, The Book Review

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Redefining Tribal Identity  
The Changing Identity of the Santhals in South-West Bengal  
Pradip Chattopadhyay  
Professor of History, University of Burdwan, Bardhaman, West Bengal  

This book seeks to explore the evolution of Santhal ethnic identity, taking into account changes that the Santhals have undergone in their mental and material world as a result of the impact of modernization—both during the colonial as well as the post-colonial periods. Major events of Santhal history, like the Santhal Hool (1855), the Jharkhand movement, and Santhal participation in the Indian National Movement have been commented upon in this book to explore changing notions of Santhal ethnic identity, including the twists and turns in the process of their identity assertion. The demand for Constitutional recognition of Santhali language and their separate religion, and demand for a territory of their own in the post-Independence period, are all part of their changed mode of identity assertion. Accordingly, this study tries to cover almost all the debates, from different perspectives, that have raged about the tribal world in recent times.
Colonial and Contemporary Bihar and Jharkhand
edited by Lata Singh
Associate Professor, Centre for Women’s Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
and Biswamoy Pati
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi
This volume highlights how popular culture and oral cultural traditions emerged as a site for multiple articulations—articulation of marginalization, as well as resistance and subversion—in Bihar, and Jharkhand. In doing so, it tries to capture the complexities of some of the diverse movements prevalent in these regions. The formation of the state of Jharkhand, which was earlier part of Bihar and known as Chotanagpur, has been the result of such movements, some of which have not only created a democratic space in these regions but also brought about a paradigm shift in Indian politics. Unfortunately, the rich popular/subaltern culture of these regions has been overshadowed and eclipsed in most of the scholarly work on this region, and this volume aims to be a corrective to this scholarly oversight.

‘This book provides a valuable insight into the social history, political, cultural and particularly tribal studies of Bihar and Jharkhand. . . . Overall, it is a well-complied collection of articles with substantial worth from a researcher’s point of view.’

—SANJAY KUMAR, Indian Historical Review

Dangerous Marginality
Rethinking Impurity and Power
Priyadarshini Vaijaisri
Associate Professor, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi
This book focuses on village festivals invoking Matangi, an outcaste clan goddess in Andhra Pradesh, to explore the ambiguous category of outcaste priest and priestess, whose intriguing presence appears in fleeting images in colonial archives and missiological accounts. These striking personae challenge the assumptions predominant in discourses on caste, making it apparent that the constraints in engaging with such seemingly inscrutable sites lies not only in the paucity of sources but also about the dread that comes with the loss of secure ideologies. The compelling evidence of this ritual space suggests the need to move beyond the frame of pathos that has come to define not only the past of outcastes but also their very being. Based on field data and historical sources, this book offers a framework to critically examine the ways in which outcastes shape caste culture in definitive ways even as their presence signifies a deeper tension in historical processes.

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Caṇḍāla: Untouchability and Caste in Early India
Vivekanand Jha
Former Director, Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi
This volume is a collection of essays on untouchability written by Professor Jha at various points of his long and illustrious career. It dwells on the manner in which social stratification in ancient India developed to exclude castes like Caṇḍālas and Niṣadas, leading to their exploitation and sub-human treatment. The book begins with tracing the origin and condition of Caṇḍālas (1000 BC to AD 600), who were first mentioned in later Vedic literature (1000 to 600 BC) at the Purushamedha (symbolic human sacrifice) dedicated to deity Vayu. Another essay examines the acculturation of the Niṣadas—who were mainly fishermen and hunters by profession—which started from the Later Vedic Period. Caṇḍalas and Niṣadas were both over time assimilated into the Brahmanical caste structure as degraded shudras, and ultimately relegated to being untouchables. The book also examines the Bhagavadgītā and Asoka’s Dhamma from the perspective of caste and untouchability. It provides key insights into the origin and growth of the caste system, especially untouchability, extending beyond the brahmanical lens. It is a valuable addition to the study of early Indian social history and social structures.

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Being Tribal
Shereen Ratnagar
Formerly Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
This book attempts to define tribal society, traces tribal migrations in history, and examines their modes of agricultural production. It is the result of ethno-archaeological research among tribal peoples in eastern Gujarat. It comes to the conclusion that tribal culture is robust, and that Indian society owes it to its tribal population—repeatedly displaced and marginalized in the interests of the powerful—to give them full scope to live out their destinies in their own way.

‘The book . . . is about the sustainable subsistence system of the Rathwa and Dhanak communities in Tejgarh-Chhota Udepur area in eastern Gujarat, which forms the huge tribal belt of central India.’

INDRA MUNSHI, Economic and Political Weekly
New Dimensions in Hunter-Gatherer Studies
The Prehistory of the Tarafeni Valley

Bishnupriya Basak
Senior Faculty, Department of Archaeology, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

In the last decade or so, there has been substantial development in understanding the behavioural patterns of past hunter-gatherers societies. Although images of existing hunting-gathering populations continue to be used as analogues in drawing inferences about the past, there has been a considerable shift in the analyses of both, the archaeological record and the ethnographic data as well as more meaningful engagement with inquiries in territoriality, mobility strategies, and the use of raw materials by past hunter-gatherer societies. This volume tries to explore these questions vis-à-vis the prehistory of a small river valley in West Medinapur, West Bengal to assess how far some of the theoretical issues raised in hunter-gatherer studies are relevant to the Indian context. Although remarkable advances have been made in expanding the database on new sites in Indian prehistory, in the appreciation of the palaeoenvironment and the chronology of the different cultures, yet studies highlighting theoretical issues are relatively few. This volume, therefore, will be of great interest to both, students and researchers alike.

Prehistoric Research in the Indian Subcontinent
A Reappraisal and New Directions

edited by K. Paddayya
Emeritus Professor of Archaeology and former Director, Deccan College, Pune

Bishnupriya Basak
Senior Faculty, Department of Archaeology, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

This volume is a timely study of recent researches in the prehistory of the Indian subcontinent, highlighting regional and subregional variations. The first three essays in this volume are extremely valuable in their critical stocktaking of prehistoric research, palaeontological studies and palaeoenvironmental reconstructions in the subcontinent. The regional and subregional variations of prehistoric cultures are brought out in papers focusing on a variety of areas like the Son Valley, the Narmada, the Hunsgi Valley, the Teri dune sites and the central Ganga valley where research has continued for over three decades. Essays on lesser known areas like the Ayodhya hill region of West Bengal, cave sites in the limestone karst zone of Nagaland bordering upon Myanmar, and the Chakalpunji area in north-eastern Bangladesh add to our knowledge with their unique findings.
**Harappan Archaeology**
**Early State Perspectives**

Shereen Ratnagar  
Formerly Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This book approaches the archaeology of the Harappan culture of Pakistan and India from the view point of the early state. It attempts to tease out information on the mobilization of labour, the organization of production, the direction of overseas trade by a newly formed elite, and the management of scarce water resources by the rulers. It discusses the environment and productivity of the culture, the sequence of excavations, early ideas of this civilization as quintessentially Indian, evidence for warfare, and the hand of the state behind certain kinds of settlement morphology and artefactual equipment. It asks whether residents of Mohenjo-daro lived in kin-group clusters, and attempts to explain through cross-cultural analogy why the citadel sites are located where they are. A new idea on sailing routes is tentatively suggested, and it is argued that it was elite intervention and management that secured both floodwater supplies at Dholavira and some degree of urban sanitation at Mohenjo-daro. Multiple views of the reasons for the end of the civilization are discussed in the final section of this book.

**Living with Floods**
**Archaeology of a Settlement in the Lower Ganga Plains, c.600–1800 CE**

Sheena Panja  
Formerly Associate Professor, Department of Ancient History and Archaeology, Visva-Bharati University, West Bengal

Arun K. Nag  
Formerly Professor of Ancient History and Archaeology, Visva-Bharati University, West Bengal

Sunando Bandyopadhyay  
Professor of Geography, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

This book seeks to understand archaeological sites unearthed upon excavations at Balupur and their relationship with the dynamic alluvial environment of north Bengal during c.600–1800 CE. Moving away from the prevalent emphasis on the study of art and architecture, it aims to bring back the ‘human’ to the study of these cultural periods through a study of the formation and changing character of past habitation settlements. It is a multidisciplinary work involving archaeology, geography, zoology, botany, sedimentology, and palaeoanthropology, seeking to understand the interaction between changes in the landscape and various aspects of cultural adaptation in a zone where humans are constantly living with floods and shifting river courses. An important contribution of this book is a diachronic study of the fluvial environment of this region using rare maps, satellite images, and field studies.
**Ceramic Variability**  
*An Ethnographic Perspective*  
Sharmi Chakraborty  
Fellow, Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training, Kolkata

Variations in ceramics are culturally significant. These are an expression of the functions that they are meant to perform, the identity of a community and a reflection of time. It is therefore of great interest to archaeologists and anthropologists. *Ceramic Variability* is based on a survey of villages in different parts of West Bengal to see ceramic variability that is noticed these days within a linguistically similar community occupying different regions. The research work attempts to locate the nature of variations within regions and analyse its causes. This volume ultimately aims at developing a conceptual framework for analysing archaeological ceramic.

*From the Oxus to the Indus*  
*A Political and Cultural Study*  
*c.300 BCE to c.100 BCE*  
Suchandra Ghosh  
Professor, Department of Ancient History and Culture  
University of Calcutta, Kolkata

*From the Oxus to the Indus* explores the political and cultural history of the Indo-Iranian borderlands during the reign of the Bactrian and the Indo-Greek rulers known as *Yavanas* in the subcontinent. This was a region *sans frontière* and shows unrestricted exchanges between cultures. In a sweeping survey of the power politics of the region this book identifies certain salient features of the political processes in the period discussed. One of the major themes this book explores is that of ‘Hellenism’, and its changing nature. From a study of the sites from the Oxus to the Indus, the foremost among them being Ai Khanum, it is evident that the region should be treated as an independent cultural zone. The iconography and languages used by the Indo-Greek rulers have a direct relationship with their own religious beliefs and cultures as well as with the ethnicity of their subjects.
The Archaeology of Iron and Social Change in Early South India
Om Prakash Singh
Associate Professor, Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, University of Delhi

Beginning with the Neolithic-Chalcolithic phase to the introduction of iron technology in the Megalithic period and its consequent impact in the early historic times, this book examines the variations in iron making in peninsular India. Using archaeological data, where available, of the various regions of Andhra Pradesh (including Telengana), Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala, a phase-wise analysis has been presented to highlight the material conditions of the various regions prior to, and after the introduction of iron technology, and to reflect changes in agricultural patterns, artisanal and structural activities and civilizational progress over time. An attempt has also been made to show the regional variations that exist in terms of the adoption of iron and its impact on the agricultural development and the proliferation of arts and crafts. Since it takes into account theories and empirical studies in peninsular India, this book makes a substantial contribution to the literature on iron technology and social change in India.

The City and the Country in Early India: A Study of Malwa
P.K. Basant
Associate Professor, Department of History, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

This book is about the emergence of urban centres in the sixth century BC, and analyses the processes and spatiality of urbanization taking Malwa as its case study. Research on urbanism has focussed on either literary or archaeological sources. While literary sources tend to locate the agency for change exclusively in preachers and rulers, in archaeology the forces of change become nameless and faceless. Using insights from anthropology and studies of early states, this book attempts to look for new ways to account for urbanization in this period. It also tries to recover the histories of their complex interrelations: since caste and kinship are considered central to the world of Indian sociology, the book also attempts to understand the relationships between caste, kinship and urbanism. Finally, it also examines changes in the attitude of the literati towards the city and the country in this period.

Awarded Braj Dev Prasad Memorial Prize at 76th Indian History Congress, Malda

‘Basant skilfully weaves together several strands to present an insightful new perspective on urbanization in India.’
—REETA GREWAL, Summerhill
**Mughal Architecture**  
*An Outline of its History and Development (1526–1858) (Revised Edition)*

**Ebba Koch**  
Professor of Art History, University of Vienna, Austria

This book provides a concise and richly-illustrated survey of the history of Mughal architecture and various influences exerted on the Mughal style by Central Asian-Timurid, earlier Indian and Persian architecture, as well as European engravings. All building types are considered, not only the well-known masterpieces but also country houses, hunting palaces, gardens, mausoleums, mosques, bath houses, bazaars, and other public buildings. Many of these are still unknown to specialists. This unique book, covering the whole range of Mughal architecture and including numerous new photographs and detailed plans, presents the results of the author’s extensive field work in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh as well as Iran and the central Asian region of the Soviet Union. The author’s in-depth knowledge of the original sources provides the reader with invaluable background information.

‘... this handsome, revised, hardcover edition, beautifully printed on glossy paper, is not a reprint but a new edition, incorporating the author’s continuing research and publications ...’

—STEPHEN FREDERIC DALE, *Journal of Islamic Studies*
The Music of Nationhood
Dwijendralal Roy of Bengal
Sarvani Gooptu
Professor of Asian Literary and Cultural Studies, Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata

During his lifetime, Dwijendralal Roy (1863–1913) was one of Bengal’s best known poet-musician-dramatists, and his lyrical songs and comic poetry which captured the imagination of the people, were used in historical and social dramas and satires of the period. His songs (called Dwijendra-geeti) combined Western music styles with sophisticated lyrics in Bengali and in doing so marked a breakthrough in the Indian music tradition. Dwijendralal skilfully used historical memory in his plays to highlight values that he considered crucial for the creation of an ideal India nation, based on compassion and integrity.

Islamic and Cultural Foundations of Kashmiriyat
Mohammad Ishaq Khan
Late Professor, Department of History, University of Kashmir, Srinagar

In this collection of essays, the late Professor Mohammad Ishaq Khan (1946–2013) caps a lifetime of research into the history of Kashmir, especially of its cultural heritage. These essays are a broad selection from years of scholarship and give a clear view of Professor Khan’s contribution to the field. Their main theme is Kashmiriyat, the essence of Kashmiri culture, that can be traced through history. Professor Khan forcefully argues that Kashmiri Islam is ‘neither syncretism nor synthesis’. In other words, Kashmiri culture should not be understood as a watered-down version of a ‘pure’ Islam, but rather as the result of a cultural transformation in no way at odds with Islam as a religion. He traces Kashmir’s history as an outward looking and culturally self-assured society, tied closely to the rest of the Indian subcontinent, but maintaining unique traditions available to both Muslims and non-Muslims. The essays take a close look at the range of available historical sources to address the relationship between Brahmanism and Islam, the role of saints and ritual in Kashmiri Islam, the Persian influence on Kashmir, and many other issues.
The Jews of Goa

edited by Shalva Weil
Senior Researcher, Research Institute for Innovation in Education, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

The Jews of Goa brings together scholars and researchers of international repute to discuss the history and legacy of the Jews and New Christians, through texts and primary documents, missionary literature and records of the Inquisitorial trials from the Lisbon and Goan archives. The volume covers new ground in examining the early and medieval history of the Jews, with a focus on the Portuguese period after Goa became a major power centre in India. It breaks the silence that has surrounded the Jews and New Christians and their descendants in Goa for the past few hundred years.

Will to Argue

Studies in Late Colonial and Postcolonial Controversies

Sumanyu Satpathy
Fellow, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla
Former Professor of English, University of Delhi, New Delhi

We live in a world of controversies, and often wonder what controversies do to a culture. Do they interpret it? Can one conceive of them as a genre? Can they offer serious diagnostic tools to the social scientist or the cultural historian? In this pioneering study, the author addresses these and similar questions, and examines if and how controversies help us understand the ways in which forms of nationalism and identity formation imagine, shape, and construct themselves. Focusing on major controversies at local and the national levels during colonial and postcolonial times, he deals with seemingly unconnected subjects, such as language, khadi, sexuality, textuality and authorship, and also personalities as diverse as Sarala Das, Radhanath Ray, Fakir Mohan, Tagore, Gandhi and Premchand.

‘The book traverses a vast canvas of the progressing discourse of Indian nationhood and nationalism through the colonial and postcolonial times and offers an acute insider's view of rich Odia literary Culture.’

—KALYANEE RAJAN
Department of English, University of Delhi
Vande Mataram
The Biography of a Song (Revised Edition)
Sabyasachi Bhattacharya
Former Vice Chancellor, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

This book revisits the fascinating story of the song *Vande Mataram*, an exceptional cultural and historical artefact of the Indian nation and peoples. Published in 1882 and written even earlier, *Vande Mataram* has been subject to many contestations and claims since its genesis. This book considers reasons for the special place it holds in the Indian national psyche; how the song became a battle cry in the freedom struggle; what inspired poets to translate it into all major languages; how it was recognized as a ‘national song’ after Independence; and why it has been a subject of communal controversy in the decades preceding Independence and in our times as well.

‘Not many in India—and it is not just the Generation Next—know that *Vande Mataram* has been dogged by controversy right through its over-a-century-old history. For this alone, Sabyasachi Bhattacharya’s biography of the national song ought to be read. . .’

—ANITA JOSHUA, The Hindu
The Moving Space: Women in Dance
edited by
Urmimala Sarkar Munsi
Associate Professor, Theatre and Performance Studies,
School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Aishika Chakraborty
Associate Professor and former Director of the School of Women’s Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.
Aimed at addressing the lacunae in academic publications on women dancers in India, The Moving Space highlights the idea of the ‘space’ created, occupied and negotiated by women in Indian dance. It initiates a conversation between dance scholarship and women’s studies, and brings together scholars from a multidisciplinary background, emphasizing that research and practice have roots in both these specific areas. This book takes dance as a critical starting point, and endeavours to create an inclusive discourse around the female dancer and the historic, gendered and contested ‘space(s)’ that accommodate or are created by her. This collection of essays contextualizes women dancers from diverse historical and social milieu—from temple to courtyard, from silver screen to dance bars and from national to regional stages—within the larger rubric of dance studies, and brings out stories of survival, struggle, empowerment, subjugation and subversion.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-50-1• 288 pp. • 2017• HB • ₹ 1395 • $ 64.95 • £ 52.95

The Actress in the Public Theatres of Calcutta
Sarvani Gooptu
Associate Professor, Department of History at Calcutta Girls’ College, University of Calcutta, Kolkata
This book tells the story of a bold new generation of women who, for the first time in the history of Bengali theatre, performed in the public theatres of Calcutta. Women managed to break into the exclusively male-dominated terrain of amateur and private Bengali theatre only in 1873, when actresses made their appearance on stage for the first time. This book traces the journey of these women who not only dared to be part of these Calcutta-based theatre groups but also put their life and soul into this world. It also examines their relationship with their male mentors and patrons, and considers whether their attempts to break their shackles and to speak with an independent voice was successful.

‘... a rich pool of resources for researchers and theatre enthusiasts in search of the roots of theatrical practice in Calcutta. It provides useful material through which the intimate histories of women can be written and addresses questions around the agency and the struggle of women in the public theatre.’
—SARAH RAHMAN NIAZI, The Book Review

ISBN: 978-93-84082-21-5 • 188 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 895 • $ 44.95 • £ 29.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Cultural Communism in Bengal, 1936–1952

Anuradha Roy
Professor of History, Jadavpur University, Kolkata

This book is about Communist-inspired cultural activism in Bengal that had strong national and international links, and responded to the critical social and political climate of the late colonial and early-Independence years. One of the main objectives of this activism was to give political direction to the middle-class and help them reach out to the labouring ‘other’. The ultimate aim was to establish a cultural counter-hegemony in society by preparing people for a big revolution. The objectives of this movement, however, remained largely unfulfilled even though it ignited creative talents of many writers and artists, and at the same time induced in them a political commitment that generated new themes and bold experiments in a range of art forms. This book, therefore, seeks to critically understand this cultural activism by examining three art forms, viz., music, theatre, and pictorial art. It also locates reasons for its failure in the middle-classness of this activism and in the lack of a long-term political mission, arguing further that this void was filled up by excessive stress on arts and aesthetics and that Bengal communism at its best remained cultural communism.

Awarded Savitri Chandra Shobha Memorial Prize at 76th Indian History Congress

‘. . . the book with its overwhelming information and exhaustive narrative reaches the status of a primary source.’

—UTTARA CHAKRABORTY, The Book Review

Plural Cultures and Monolithic Structures
Comprehending India

Kapila Vatsyayan
Chairperson, IIC-International Research Division, India International Centre, New Delhi

This book raises a set of highly pertinent questions with regard to comprehending the complex issues that arise when plural cultures meet monolithic structures of administration and policy that accompany the aspirations of the nation state. How does the nation state with its commitment to the quantifiable collectives of caste, religion, community, and culture respond to the fluid and multiple matrixes of region, history, social identity, ritual, and language in India? The essays herein explore the problems that arise when shifting cultural categories are juxtaposed against the more rigidly constructed categories created by institutions of the state. The issues enlarged upon here are those that the author has often discussed, including the interconnectedness of the arts and the integration of body, mind and senses in Indian artistic traditions.
Transmissions and Transformations
Learning through the Arts in Asia
edited by Kapila Vatsyayan
Chairperson, IIC-International Research Division, India International Centre, New Delhi

This volume highlights the diverse and distinctive ways of transmitting knowledge through arts and crafts, which also contribute to the recent focus on evolving alternative pedagogical tools in the formal and non-formal systems of education. The essays herein stress the need for identifying characteristic features of the numerous strategies for transmitting information, knowledge and techniques that existed in the Asian continent, not only through the written word but also through the oral, the visual and the performative mediums. They will give readers an idea of the innovative projects undertaken by educationists across Asia for sensitizing the younger generation towards their cultural heritage.

The Making of the Awadh Culture
Madhu Trivedi
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, School of Open Learning, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book deploys evidence scattered in a variety of primary and secondary sources, especially in Persian and Urdu, to study visuals and artefacts as well as the performance traditions and craft techniques which are derived from the Nawâbi period. It comments on the Nawâb’s creation of a Shi’a heritage in northern India, which had strong associations with other Indian cultural traditions. Highlighting the literary milieu of the period, and developments in the realm of music, painting, architecture, and the industrial arts, this book also explores how some of the arts and crafts assumed considerable European colour due to interaction between Europeans and the Awadh elite, and demonstrates how the ethos of the syncretic Indo-Persian culture—the renowned ganga-jamunî tahzīb that represented Persian aesthetics and Indian cultural values—remained intact.

‘This well researched work is indeed a significant and valuable contribution to the realm of knowledge and could be a spring board for further researches in socio-economic and cultural history. The presentation of the book is praiseworthy. The lucid and convincing language makes the book all the more an interesting reading.’

—PRODEEP KUMAR GHOSH, Summerhill

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Narratives of Indian Cinema

edited by Manju Jain
Former Professor of English, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume attempts to address some of the questions that arise when considering the complex role that cinema has performed and continues to perform in the public sphere in India. The essays herein focus on issues related to the shifting responses of the colonial state, the Indian nationalists and intellectuals, and the popular press to the emerging medium of cinema and its creative potential. It also examines the threats as well as the challenges to this medium; the transitions and the continuities, the filiations and the ruptures from the colonial to the postcolonial as represented in cinema. The schisms, fissures, and conflicts of the colonial state, and later of the postcolonial nation state which is increasingly marked by the economic and cultural processes of globalization, accompanied paradoxically by bitter local and ethnic conflicts, are critically analysed in the context of the local, national, and global financial networks within which cinema is located.

Class, Power and Consciousness in Indian Cinema and Television

Anirudh Deshpande
Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book offers a historical understanding of the Indian Audio-Visual media. It asserts that media is essential to the bourgeois domination of a system in which democracy normally does not work for the poor. Hence, in narrating the history of Indian cinema it simultaneously examines the histories of the Indian nation portrayed in this cinema. It is a well-known fact that cinema, and its cousin television, comprise a media which is central to the self-perception of contemporary Indians. Indeed, it would not be wrong to say that the visual representations of social realities in this media shape popular mentality in a country with an old, influential and thriving film industry. In sum, being Indian today is often expressed in the idiom popularized by Hindi cinema and television, and these idioms are what this book comments on.
Music as History in Tamilnadu
T.K. Venkatasubramanian
Former Professor of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi
This book examines the ways in which interdisciplinarity between music and history may be established and also how history and aesthetics exist in reciprocal relation to one another. Musicologists focus on the study of musical activity, while ethnomusicologists examine this activity first-hand using ‘field’ research methods of cultural anthropology. The historian’s task, then, is to interpret the musical past as part of cultural production, and thereafter relate music to general historical trends. This is precisely what this collection of essays seeks to establish by studying interdisciplinarity between the Karnatak music system and the history of Tamilnadu.

‘Musical heritage . . . territorially binds all the four linguistic States of southern India. The book traces the historical growth of music as a classical art in the Tamil-speaking areas of south India. . . . An interesting dimension of this evolutionary process is the deification of the king, with musical pieces singing his glory and attributing divinity to his persona.’
—V. SIRAM, The Hindu

Music and the Spiritual
Composers and Politics in the 20th Century*
Antony Copley
Honorary Professor of Modern European and Indian History, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK
This book discusses select twentieth century continental European composers. Its commentary will evoke the horrors of that age: war, violence, totalitarian systems of Left and Right, Gulag and Holocaust, and Occupations, both Nazi and Soviet. These compositions were an exploration of the spiritual—both this-worldly and transcendentaland are variously immersed in Indian culture. Indian philosophy mesmerized Scriabin, the Krishna story inspired Messiaen’s Turangalila Symphony, and Aurobindo’s supramentalism strongly influenced Stockhausen. Accordingly, this book contextualizes these twentieth century pieces in terms of family, sexuality, politics, and religion.

‘This is an accessible and thoughtful study, the aim of which is to examine music as an expression of the spiritual within an “Age of Fear” . . .’
—CHRISTOPHER PARTRIDGE, Religious Studies Review
Silent Cinema and the Politics of Space*
edited by
Jennifer M. Bean
Director of Cinema and Media Studies and Associate Chair of Comparative Literature at the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington
Anupama Kapse
Assistant Professor in the Department of Media Studies, Queens College, CUNY, USA
Laura Horak
Postdoctoral Researcher in the Department of Media Studies at Stockholm University, Sweden

In this cross-cultural history of narrative cinema and media from the 1910s to the 1930s, leading and emergent scholars explore the transnational crossings and exchanges that occurred in early cinema between the two world wars. Drawing on film archives from around the world, this volume advances the premise that silent cinema freely crossed national borders and linguistic thresholds in ways that became far less possible after the emergence of sound. These essays address important questions about the uneven forces—geographic, economic, political, psychological, textual, and experiential—that underscore a non-linear approach to film history. The ‘messiness’ of film history, as demonstrated here, opens a new realm of inquiry into unexpected political, social, and aesthetic crossings of silent cinema.

Art and Craft Workshops Under the Mughals
A Study of Jaipur Karkhanas
Sumbul Halim Khan
Associate Professor, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

This book focuses not only on the materials used and the means of production in the karkhanas of Jaipur, but also on the technical aspects of production. Tapping into rich statistical data and profusion of micro level details locked in regional sources such as the karkhanajat papers comprising roznama, arhsatta, siyah, and taujih, and rare documents in the Town Hall Museum at Jaipur and the Rajasthan State Archives at Bikaner, this book showcases the literary corpus of the karkhana documents which allow for a better understanding of the conditions of production, cost prices of raw materials, as well as the economic organization of these workshops. With specialized skills in bookbinding, cartography, textile designing, gem encrustation, and even manufacture and decoration of canons, the products manufactured in these karkhanas were not merely utilitarian items but also exquisite masterpieces of art and craft.

‘... those interested in craft production and material culture of the Mughal court will find much to explore in the rich empirical detail and numerous illustrations in this modest tome.’

—MARTHA CHAIKLIN, New Books Asia
Print Culture: Sir Syed’s Aligarh Institute Gazette, 1866–1897

Asghar Abbas
Former Professor of Urdu, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
This book begins with a brief account of the life and achievements of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and goes on to examine the role of the Scientific Society—which remained active from 1864 to 1884—in highlighting the need for social, educational, and political reforms in the Indian subcontinent. *The Aligarh Institute Gazette* was an organ of this Society and was popular throughout the subcontinent for its encouragement of scientific temperament amongst the peoples of India. An important feature of this Gazette were the editorials penned by Sir Syed himself on social and educational reforms. This book is an important contribution to the understanding of Urdu journalism and throws light on Sir Syed’s ideas and character.

‘Overall, this is a wonderful book that is organizationally articulate, theoretically lucid and empirically rigorous. It should be an essential reading for the scholars engaged in the field.’
—M.A. Jauhar, *Indian Historical Review*

Rabindranath Tagore: A Mind Staring into Infinity

edited by Chhanda Chatterjee
Professor of History, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal
This volume explores the multifaceted genius of Rabindranath Tagore in rescuing the stagnant cultural life of Bengal from its many inhibitions. He was an ardent supporter of women’s participation in dance and drama. His art was a precursor of Indian abstract art. In education, he was heavily influenced by the New School Movement, teaching young children to live in harmony with nature. His works often explore the relationship between human experience and the landscape and atmosphere, and he mobilized the energy of his dedicated children (bratibalakas and bratibalikas) for rural resuscitation. A bitter critic of the aggressive nationalism of the West, he acted as a cultural mascot for the ‘submerged nationalities’ of war-ravaged East Europe. The essays herein explore these works and legacies of Tagore, a man much ahead of his time.
Rabindranath Tagore in South-East Asia
Culture, Connectivity and Bridge Making
edited by Lipi Ghosh
Professor of South and South-East Asian Studies, University of Calcutta, Kolkata
This volume focuses on Rabindranath Tagore’s relations with the many mainland and maritime countries of South-East Asia he visited in the early twentieth century. The essays herein probe the intellectual bases of Tagore’s theory of civilization, his ideas of East and West, his theory of cultural encounter in the context of South-East Asia, and also provide an in-depth analysis of his philosophy, i.e. his concepts of nationalism, internationalism, and universalism. They also show how Tagore’s visits to South-East Asian countries led to the establishment of cultural ties between India and South-East Asia over the years, ties which finally resulted in a kind of permanent civilizational and cultural bond between them.
Modern Approaches to Fluvial Geomorphology

Ramkrishna Maiti
Associate Professor, Department of Geography and Environment Management, Vidyasagar University, West Bengal

This book provides all the technical aspects of fluvial processes and landforms as a process-response system. Theoretical details of the mechanism of initiation and development of channels, the hydraulic characters of rivers, the energy threshold for erosion, transport and deposition, mechanism of bank erosion, the dynamic nature of channels and all major landforms like alluvial terrace, fan, flood plain, delta, etc., are discussed in lucid language with detailed illustrations. These are supplemented with experimental studies based on sound research that will help the reader verify his/her theoretical understanding with practical experience. This book will be of tremendous help to students and researchers on fluvial geomorphology, engineers, hydrologists and managers dealing with bank erosion, flood, and estuarine protection.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-47-5 • 236 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 1695
• $ 74.95 • £ 49.95
ISBN: 978-93-84082-77-2 • 236 pp. • 2015 • PB • ₹ 850
• $ 39.95 • £ 15.95

Living with Floods

Archaeology of a Settlement in the Lower Ganga Plains, c.600–1800 CE

Sheena Panja
Formerly Associate Professor, Department of Ancient History and Archaeology, Visva-Bharati University, West Bengal

Arun K. Nag
Formerly Professor of Ancient History and Archaeology, Visva-Bharati University, West Bengal

Sunando Bandyopadhyay
Professor of Geography, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

This book seeks to understand archaeological sites unearthed upon excavations at Balupur and their relationship with the dynamic alluvial environment of north Bengal during c.600–1800 CE. Moving away from the prevalent emphasis on the study of art and architecture, it aims to bring back the ‘human’ to the study of these cultural periods through a study of the formation and changing character of past habitation settlements. It is a multidisciplinary work involving archaeology, geography, zoology, botany, sedimentology, and palaeoanthropology, seeking to understand the interaction between changes in the landscape and various aspects of cultural adaptation in a zone where humans are constantly living with floods and shifting river courses. An important contribution of this book is a diachronic study of the fluvial environment of this region using rare maps, satellite images, and field studies.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-59-8 • 356 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 1900
$ 99.95 • £ 65.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Development and Deforestation
The Making of Urban Bombay, c. 1800-1880
Louiza Rodrigues
Professor and Head, Department of History, Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College, Mumbai

This book studies the green dense in scaling the urbanization of Bombay in the nineteenth century. In particular, the book traces the principal consequences of the political intervention of the British in reshaping the ecological landscape of western India. In metamorphosing political intervention into the colonial control, the British botanists, conservators and military engineers undertook scores of forest surveys. This book underscores the colonial psyche in articulating conservation policies and uncovers strategies that have been overlooked in the literature on the Environmental history of the Bombay Presidency.

Urban Development in Howrah: Socio-Economic Perspectives
edited by Mahalaya Chatterjee
Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

This volume is the first comprehensive effort to understand and analyse various aspects of the urban development of the district and the city of Howrah, as well as its economy, transport, environment and its future prospects. It flourished as a centre for diverse industries during the colonial period, but post-independence planning for balanced industrial growth of the country and later the new economic policies wiped away most of the advantages it had as a manufacturing centre and pole for industrial growth. It retained, however, its premier position as an important transport hub and is now re-emerging as a logistics centre. A new Howrah, buoyed by market forces is straining to break out: this volume is a chronicle and a manifesto for Howrah’s future.

‘Given that the west bank of the Hooghly has always faced administrative apathy and academic obscurity, Urban Development in Howrah: Socio-Economic Perspectives assumes a significant position in understanding urban agglomerations beyond their metropolitan counterparts.’ —ANURAG MAZUMDAR, Economic and Political Weekly

276 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 995
• $ 49.95 • £ 39.95

426 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 1595
• $ 49.95 • £ 39.95

Parama Bannerji (Ray Chaudhuri) • Nandita Basak • Uttam Bhattacharya • Sonbhanlal Bonnerjee • Eshita Boral • Gargi Chakraborty • Koyel Chakraborty • Mahalaya Chatterjee • Riddhi Chatterjee • Rita De • Teshta Dey • Arijita Dutta • Pabitra Giri • Dipanjana Maulik • Soumen Mitra • Saurav Mondal • Anis Mukhopadhyay • Souvanic Roy • Sudip Kumar Roy • Prakasnarayan Santra • Manas Kumar Sanyal • Sankar Kumar Sanyal • Prasenjit Sarkhel • L.N. Satpati
Indian History and Beyond
Essays in Honour of B.D. Chattopadhyaya

edited by
Osmund Bopearachchi
Adjunct Professor of Central and South Asian Art, Archaeology, and Numismatics at the University of California, Berkeley, and Emeritus Director of Research at the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS-ENS Paris). He has also been Visiting Professor and Member of the Doctoral School VI of the Paris IV-Sorbonne University. He has published 11 books, edited 6 others, and published 150 articles in reputed international journals.

Suchandra Ghosh
Professor in the Department of Ancient Indian History & Culture, University of Calcutta. She takes a broad interest in the politico-cultural history of North-West India, south-eastern Bengal’s links with early South-East Asia, and the Indian Ocean Buddhist and trade network. She is the author of From the Oxus to the Indus: A Political and Cultural Study, c.300 BCE to c.100 BCE (2017) and Exploring Connectivity: South Eastern Bengal and Beyond (2014). She is one of the editors of Issues in Agrarian History of India: Essays in Memory of D.C. Sircar (2017) and Subversive Sovereigns Across the Seas, Indian Ocean Ports-of-Trade from Early Historic Times to Late Colonialism (2017). She also edited two volumes of Journal of Ancient Indian History.

Indian History and Beyond is a tribute to Professor B.D. Chattopadhyaya’s profound scholarship by a community of well-known scholars, his former colleagues, and students sharing his enthusiasm in the field of Early Indian history. The first section of the book is devoted to a personal reminiscence, write ups on his contributions and a list of books and papers published by him. Stimulated by Chattopadhyaya’s areas of scientific interests, the second section is a bouquet of twenty-six essays, arranged in five subthemes: Historical Perspectives from Texts; Looking through the Epigraphic lens; Art and Religion; City, Trade and Markets and Historiography. Through these outstanding essays, tribute is paid to Chattopadhyaya’s remarkable efforts to develop a distinctive historiography in the studies of Indian history. This collection reflects the sincerity and respect of his admirers.
In Search of Viswakarma
Mapping Indian Craft Histories

edited by Vijaya Ramaswamy
Former Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

‘The Indian craftsman conceives of his art, not as the accumulated skill of ages, but as originating in the divine skill of Vishwakarma and revealed by him’, wrote Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy, in his book The Indian Craftsman. For the traditional Indian craftsman, crafts and worship have a symbiotic relationship. Vishwakarma is both God and man, the divine architect of the Gods and the God of craftsmen, worshipped by all the artisanal communities, across the country. He is both signifier and signified. Vishwakarma is ‘the sum total of consciousness, the group soul of individual craftsmen of all times and places’ and simultaneously a community of craftsmen living their everyday lives—crafting icons and building monumental structures, while struggling to eke out a living as artisans. This volume on the conception and perceived realities of the Vishwakarma seeks to explore the hermeneutics of ‘Vishwakarma’ and to document a rich tapestry of images as well as historical information regarding crafts and craftsmen through the ages.

The Archaeology of Iron and Social Change in Early South India

Om Prakash Singh
Associate Professor, Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, University of Delhi

Beginning with the Neolithic-Chalcolithic phase to the introduction of iron technology in the Megalithic period and its consequent impact in the early historic times, this book examines the variations in iron making in peninsular India. Using archaeological data, where available, of the various regions of Andhra Pradesh (including Telengana), Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala, a phase-wise analysis has been presented to highlight the material conditions of the various regions prior to, and after the introduction of iron technology, and to reflect changes in agricultural patterns, artisanal and structural activities and civilizational progress over time. An attempt has also been made to show the regional variations that exist in terms of the adoption of iron and its impact on the agricultural development and the proliferation of arts and crafts. Since it takes into account theories and empirical studies in peninsular India, this book makes a substantial contribution to the literature on iron technology and social change in India.
Streaming the Past
Peninsular India in History

edited by Nilanjan Sarkar
Deputy Director, South Asia Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science.

Vikas K Verma
Assistant Professor in History, Ramjas College, University of Delhi.

In a conscious bid to avoid the categorization of ‘south’ India, Streaming the Past: Peninsular India in History changes the framework of the historical meta-narrative of the nation, which has failed to integrate the history of premodern peninsular India within it. This book demonstrates that a collection of varied essays is, in fact, a woven tapestry with perforated boundaries and a stage for interdisciplinary voices to speak to one another in several ways.

Focusing on peninsular India, the essays cover diverse topics stretching from megalithic times to the eighteenth century. They rely on classical languages and historical materials to source information, employ versatile methods and examine wide-ranging themes including archaeological sites, trade routes, iron technology, water management, coinage, social hierarchies, goddesses and narrative traditions, performing arts and culture, forms of protests, crime and punishment, and narratives of death alongside socioeconomic and political processes.
Beyond the Woman Question
Reconstructing Gendered Identities in Early India

Snigdha Singh
Associate Professor of History, Miranda House, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Shatarupa Bhattacharya
Associate Professor of History, Lady Shri Ram College of Women, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Shwetanshu Bhushan
Associate Professor of History, Lady Shri Ram College of Women, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Tara Sheemar
Associate Professor of History, Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

with an Introduction by
Kumkum Roy
Professor of History at the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

*Beyond the Woman Question* both revisits and interrogates some of the central tenets of the ‘woman question’ as it emerged in colonial India and shaped (and continues to shape) subsequent historiography. These include issues of women’s access to resources, ritual ‘rights’, and locations within the family, primarily relating to an unmarked category of upper-caste/class women. In terms of chronology, the essays range from the mid-first millennium BCE to the turn of the first/second millennium CE. Spatially, they deal with regions as diverse as Kashmir, and parts of north and central India. Using a wide range of sources—inscriptional and visual as well as normative and narrative texts—this book contends that gender identities were not monolithic, even as elite women seem to be the most visible/accessible. The issues explored include participation in gift exchanges and their economic, social, political and cultural significance; the construction of gender identities through rituals; and the representation of gender relations in literary traditions. Collectively, the volume contributes to the growing body of historical research on gender relations in early India.
The Law Code of Viṣṇu
A Critical Edition and Annotated Translation of the Vaiṣṇava-Dharmaśāstra

Patrick Olivelle
Professor Emeritus of Sanskrit, Department of Asian Studies, University of Texas at Austin

In this first critical edition of the legal treatise of Viṣṇu (Viṣṇu Smṛti), Olivelle locates the text geographically in Kashmir and dates it to around the seventh century CE based, among other factors, on the iconographic description of Viṣṇu. The text was composed by a scholar who belonged to the Kāṭhaka Branch of the Yajur Veda and who was also an adherent of the Vaiṣṇava Pañcarātra tradition. This is the only legal text that shows a deep influence of the bhakti tradition.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-87-7 • 604 pp. • 2018 • HB • ₹ 1895 • $ 89.95 • £ 72.95

A Sanskrit Dictionary of Law and Statecraft
edited by Patrick Olivelle
Professor of Sanskrit and Indian Religions, University of Texas at Austin, USA

Associate Editors
David Brick
Senior Lector of South Asia Studies, Yale University, New Haven, USA

Mark McClish
Assistant Professor, Department of Religion, Birmingham-Southern University, Birmingham, Alabama, USA

This Dictionary contains technical terms used in Sanskrit texts of ancient and medieval India dealing with law and statecraft within Dharmaśāstra and Arthaśāstra. Gathering terms used in all the most significant texts of these two traditions, it arranges entries according to the Sanskrit alphabet, giving each entry in both Devanāgarī and Roman scripts. Each entry is followed by one or several definitions and by a few representative passages where the term is used. These citations are meant to be illustrative instead of be exhaustive. This is the first dictionary of its kind, and it is hoped that it will further spur research into Dharmaśāstra, one of the most significant areas of ancient Indian cultural expression.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-64-2 • 472 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 1995 • $ 79.95 • £ 52.95
ISBN: 978-93-86552-21-1 • 472 pp. • 2017 • PB • ₹ 695 • $ 44.95 • £ 36.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Clio and Her Descendants
Essays for Kesavan Veluthat
edited by
Manu V. Devadevan
Assistant Professor of History, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi, Himachal Pradesh

*Clio and Her Descendants* is a collection of essays dedicated to honour Veluthat’s scholarship, and brings together the work of thirty historians who look to expand the horizons of South Asia’s diverse and polyphonic past. The variety of themes, concerns, and methodologies that these essays explore, not only capture the vibrancy of the historiography of the present, but also offer invaluable signposts for future research. This volume is an essential reading for any student of South Asian history and will remain so for years to come.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-96-9 • 1014 pp. • 2018 • HB • ₹ 1995
• $ 104.95 • £ 79.95
ISBN: 978-93-86552-97-6 • 1014 pp. • 2018 • PB • ₹ 1395
• $ 79.95 • £ 69.95

Essays in Ancient Indian Economic History
edited by Brajadulal Chattopadhyaya
Former Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This volume is part of a three-volume series focusing on developments in the economic history of India during the last millennium. The essays herein provide an outline of the change in the status and orientation of early Indian economic history and in the approach to the economic features of ancient Indian history. They traverse diverse subjects such as the function of property, family and caste, the origin of the state in early India; agriculture, surplus appropriation and distribution, and labour; the role of crafts and craftsmen in the economy of early India; and trade, trade organizations, and coinage. Re-issued in a revised form to synchronize with the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of the Indian History Congress, these essays are accompanied by a new Preface and an Introduction that highlights the changing contours of emphases, shifting focus and methodologies and projections of research, both encouraged and documented under the aegis of the Indian History Congress.
See also pp. 64 and 83.

Vasudeva S. Agarwala • A.S. Altekar • Adhir Chakravarti • A. Chattopadhyaya
• Radhakrishna Chaudhary • Sudhir Ranjan Das • P.B. Desai • G.S. Dikshit • Rajan Gurukkal • V.K. Jain
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• Om Prakash Prasad • A. Mohan Ram • R. Narasimha Rao • Bhairabi Prasad Sahu • M.D.N. Sahi • Ram Sharan Sharma • K.S. Shivanna • Rakeshwar Prasad Singh • Y.B. Singh
• O.P. Srivastava • Y. Subbarayalu • Raghavendra Vajpeyi
Notes of Dissent
Essays on Indian History

Kesavan Veluthat
Former Professor of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Brought together here are ten essays, characterized by their dissent to the commonly accepted notions in the field, a first requirement for the growth of knowledge. Issues such as the dialectical process in the religious history of India; Mauryan presence in south India; the contradictions in the construction of Kaliyuga in Purāṇic literature; political criticism in Sanskrit kāvya poetry; regional identity and its varied perceptions; evolution of landlordism; emergence of castes and the use of ‘Hindu’ idioms in Christian worship and propaganda form the theme of these essays. A seminal essay by M.G.S. Narayanan and Kesavan Veluthat on the Bhakti Movement in south India, included in this collection, breaks new ground.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-70-9 • 214 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 1095 • $ 54.95 • £ 42.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Representing the Other?: Sanskrit Sources and the Muslims Eighth to Fourteenth Century

Brajadulal Chattopadhyaya
Former Professor, Centre for Historical Studies
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

*Representing the Other?*, originally published almost two decades ago, makes an attempt to construct perceptions of new ethnic groups in India in an important phase of its history, from the eighth to the fourteenth century. The evidence though insufficient, reveals not homogenous religious communities, but ethnic groups of diverse origins, located in different socio-political contexts as traders, raiders and plunderers, as well as rulers and administrators. The contexts define the characterization of these different categories by either invoking terminologies from the past for others or by coining ethnic terms. Based mainly on contemporary Sanskrit epigraphic and textual sources, this book is expected to be a major corrective to the way students are generally taught to read the history of our country.

Irreverent History: Essays for M.G.S. Narayanan

edited by Kesavan Veluthat
Former Professor of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi
Donald R. Davis, Jr.
Associate Professor, Department of Sanskrit and Indian Religions, University of Texas at Austin, USA

This volume brings together essays in honour of M.G.S. Narayanan, a historian who brought a veritable shift in the paradigm of historiography in Kerala. It contains articles on the history and culture of Kerala, epigraphy, anthropological analysis of temple festivals, caste, and money trade. It is not merely a homage to this truly path-breaking academic, but also a monument to the influential nature of Narayanan’s work. This volume will be useful for students of Kerala history and those who seek to understand the nuances that have shaped what is today called ‘God’s Own Country’.

‘The editors of this volume need to be congratulated for their efforts in putting together sixteen essays which are both informative and insightful. Each of the essays here treads the path of hard empiricism and reflects distinctive voices of different sources of our past.’

—SUCHANDRA GHOSH, *The Book Review*
Looking Within Looking Without
Exploring Households in the Subcontinent Through Time
Essays in Memory of Nandita Prasad Sahai
edited by Kumkum Roy
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
This volume includes discussions based on archaeology, visual representations, literature, early Tamil texts, compositions drawn from a variety of religious traditions, official documents including court records, and inscriptions. Chronologically, it ranges from the early historic to the early modern period. Spatially, the regions explored include the Gangetic Valley, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, Bengal, and Rajasthan. The essays herein envisage the household as a site of production, consumption and distribution, and as one where cultural meanings are constituted, communicated, and contested. Running through these essays is a focus on the everyday, on the ways in which gender, class, caste, and community identities evolve through and revolve around the household.

‘. . . the real weight of this volume lies in the interrogation of powerful normative discourses that have sought to name, normativize and interdict the minutiae of everyday relationships in the household.’

—RASHMI PANT, The Book Review

Aspects of Rural Settlements and Rural Society in Early Medieval India
Brajadulal Chattopadhyaya
Former Professor, Centre for Historical Studies
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Aspects of Rural Settlements and Rural Society in Early Medieval India seeks to undertake two kinds of explorations, one methodological and the other thematic. Methodologically, it examines texts of inscriptions—historians’ main source for references to ancient villages—from diverse angles to try and understand the morphologies of villages in relation to different terrains across the country. One important aspect of this exploration concerns understanding, to the extent possible, the relationship of village location/s and sources of water, both for fields and habitats.
From the Oxus to the Indus
A Political and Cultural Study
c.300 BCE to c.100 BCE

Suchandra Ghosh
Professor, Department of Ancient History and Culture
University of Calcutta, Kolkata

*From the Oxus to the Indus* explores the political and cultural history of the Indo-Iranian borderlands during the reign of the Bactrian and the Indo-Greek rulers known as *Yavanas* in the subcontinent. This was a region *sans frontière* and shows unrestricted exchanges between cultures. In a sweeping survey of the power politics of the region this book identifies certain salient features of the political processes in the period discussed. One of the major themes this book explores is that of ‘Hellenism’, and its changing nature. From a study of the sites from the Oxus to the Indus, the foremost among them being Ai Khanum, it is evident that the region should be treated as an independent cultural zone. The iconography and languages used by the Indo-Greek rulers have a direct relationship with their own religious beliefs and cultures as well as with the ethnicity of their subjects.
Self, Sacrifice, and Cosmos
Vedic Thought, Ritual, and Philosophy

edited by Lauren M. Bausch
Assistant Professor at Dharma Realm Buddhist University, California

The eleven articles in this volume mark a significant advance in Vedic studies. Contributions range widely across critical topics in early, middle, and late Vedic texts and their commentaries, as well as classical themes in contemporary Sanskrit literature. Essays elucidate the explanations and arguments found in Brahmana texts, the historical and ecological development of Vedic ritual, concepts and underlying messages in Vedic texts, anachronisms in commentarial exegesis, and literary devices in narrative. From a variety of philological, philosophical, ritual, gender, and literary approaches, these articles shed new light on our understanding of these seminal texts of Indian religion and philosophy. This book is dedicated to the life and work of Professor Ganesh Umakant Thite.

Approaching the Divine
The Integration of Āḻvār Bhakti in Śrīvaisnāvism

Bharati Jagannathan
Associate Professor, Department of History, Miranda House, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book is situated in the context of the ongoing scholarly debate regarding the historical evolution of Tamil Śrīvaisnāvism. It spans the period from the second half of the first millennium, i.e. the bhakti period, to the period of consolidation of the scriptural and sectarian tradition in the first half of the second millennium. Traditionally, lives of the bhakti saints have been used to understand their hymns. However, examination of these hagiographies through the lenses of theology, caste, sectarian conflict and popular legends suggests that these life stories might themselves be constructs of the latter period, and are governed by socio-economic and political impulses as much as by spiritual ones. Thus, this work attempts to trace the process whereby a Sanskritic brahmanical tradition and a devotional Tamil folk tradition were knit together, arguing that the ways in which the saint poets’ hymns were interpreted and integrated contained elements of both continuity and change.

‘Based on a detailed and meticulous study of the source materials comprising the hagiographies, hymns and inscriptions, the book admirably demonstrates the ways in which the Śrīvaisnava ideologues . . . reoriented and integrated a pre-existing Tamil religious tradition . . .’

—RANJEETA DUTTA, The Book Review
The Rgveda in its Historical Setting

Ramendra Nath Nandi
Former Professor of History, Patna University

The text-archaeology correlation in respect of the Harappan Civilization shows that the Harappans and the people of the Rgveda were part of the same multi-ethnic, multilingual, multicultural, geographical, and chronological space; that a prolonged phase of geo-climatic devastations ravaging the Vedic-Harappan subcontinent triggered an ideology of nature worship in which prayers could be recited only in the Vedic dialect which, in turn, put the Vedic-speaking community on a high moral pedestal. This book tries to identify the Soma plant on the basis of available literary and archaeological evidence.

ISBN: 978-93-84092-89-4
• 152 pp. • 2018 • ₹ 1195
• $ 54.95 • £ 44.95

Plunging the Ocean
Courts, Castes, and Courtesans in the Kathāsaritsāgara

Tara Sheemar Malhan
Associate Professor, Department of History
Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book engages with the voluminous content of the Kathāsaritsāgara, a text meant for courtly entertainment. It locates various points of its retelling, weaving gender as the discursive mesh with themes such as caste, class, occupations, control and flow of resources or wealth, religious practices, sexuality and power structures. In their creation and negotiation with the past, the narratives in the Kathāsaritsāgara crucially demonstrate the importance of ‘social space’, the organization of space itself, and the reflection of social relations of production and reproduction. The structures of power that create systems of knowledge are essentially projected as ominously omnipresent in this ‘Ocean of Stories’, and this book comments on these in light of the folk antecedents and monarchical elite appropriation of the kathās.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-86-4 • 344 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 59.95 • £ 49.95
State, Power & Legitimacy
The Gupta Kingdom
edited by Kunal Chakrabarti
Professor of Ancient Indian History at the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University
Kanad Sinha
Assistant Professor of History, Udaynarayanpur Madhabilata Mahavidyalaya, Howrah

State, Power & Legitimacy: The Gupta Kingdom presents a comprehensive account of the Gupta state, with particular emphasis on its strategies of legitimizing its power. The political strategies that characterized this crucial juncture of early Indian history, termed 'threshold times' by Romila Thapar, employed certain features of ancient Indian polity even as new political mechanisms were emerging. This volume argues that this unique combination of political strategizing was a part of the process of legitimizing royal authority, in which religion, literature and art were essential tools. The volume also includes a large selection of pre-published essays which provide the reader with a comprehensive idea of how the Gupta state has been studied by earlier historians together with recent articles which help us to look at the Gupta state and the manner in which it exercised and legitimized its power. A substantive introduction suggests the need to move beyond the nationalist perspective that views the rule of the Guptas as the ‘Golden Age’ or the Marxist model of ‘Indian feudalism’.

Sharing Sovereignty: The Little Kingdom in South Asia*
(Second Edition)
edited by Margret Frenz
Lecturer in Global and Imperial History, St. Cross College, University of Oxford, UK
Georg Berkemer
Research Associate, Department of South Asia Studies, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany

This volume focuses on little kingdoms, a concept developed by anthropologists and historians to characterize a specific type of local rulership in South Asia. It emphasizes the role of Hermann Kulke, whose work on the little kingdoms of Odisha took forward the explorations of Bernard Cohn and Nicholas Dirks. It also integrates the most comprehensive of these models, i.e. the little kingdom model, with post-modern historiography, which is an important and hitherto neglected issue in current historiographical debates. The essays herein seek to formulate models in analogy to the textual and anthropological studies that have elaborated the idea of the little kingdom as a multifaceted reality—a reality expressed in ritual and performative processes, as well as in textual and oral representations.

* For sale only in South Asia

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Niyoga: Alternative Mechanism to Lineage Perpetuation in Early India
A Socio-Historical Enquiry
Smita Sahgal
Associate Professor of History, Lady Shri Ram College for Women
University of Delhi, New Delhi
This book attempts to explore the institution of niyoga in early India, examining its genesis and trajectory through the temporal and spatial canvas, for though the focus remains on the early period, the fluctuations are best studied over a larger span of time. The early texts refer to niyoga as āpaddharma, a practice to be resorted to only in times of exigency. Niyoga allowed a married woman to cohabit with a designated male if her husband was infertile or had died without leaving an heir. Niyoga, therefore, emerged as an alternative to lineage perpetuation with due normative sanction. The institution had its beginnings in a pastoral set-up, but with changes in social formations, it also underwent many variations. As state societies gave way to regional polities, and as property issues became increasingly important, normative traditions evolved and mutated, and patriarchies changed their stance on the socio-sexual regulation of both men and women. With the passage of time, the institution of niyoga became marginalized within the legal framework, and yet, as this study shows, the practice continues to be espoused at local levels up to the modern era.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-85-7 • 260 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 39.95 • £ 32.95

Caṇḍāla: Untouchability and Caste in Early India
Vivekanand Jha
Former Director, Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi
This volume is a collection of essays on untouchability written by Professor Jha at various points of his long and illustrious career. It dwells on the manner in which social stratification in ancient India developed to exclude castes like Caṇḍalas and Niṣadas, leading to their exploitation and sub-human treatment. The book begins with tracing the origin and condition of Caṇḍalas (1000 BC to AD 600), who were first mentioned in later Vedic literature (1000 to 600 BC) at the Purushamedha (symbolic human sacrifice) dedicated to deity Vayu. Another essay examines the acculturation of the Niṣadas—who were mainly fishermen and hunters by profession—which started from the Later Vedic Period. Caṇḍalas and Niṣadas were both over time assimilated into the Brahmanical caste structure as degraded shudras, and ultimately relegated to being untouchables. The book also examines the Bhagavadgītā and Asoka’s Dhaṃma from the perspective of caste and untouchability. It provides key insights into the origin and growth of the caste system, especially untouchability, extending beyond the brahmanical lens. It is a valuable addition to the study of early Indian social history and social structures.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-55-6 • 262 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 1125 • $ 59.95 • £ 47.95
The City and the Country in Early India: A Study of Malwa

P.K. Basant

Associate Professor, Department of History, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

This book is about the emergence of urban centres in the sixth century BC, and analyses the processes and spatiality of urbanization taking Malwa as its case study. Research on urbanism has focussed on either literary or archaeological sources. While literary sources tend to locate the agency for change exclusively in preachers and rulers, in archaeology the forces of change become nameless and faceless. Using insights from anthropology and studies of early states, this book attempts to look for new ways to account for urbanization in this period. It also tries to recover the histories of their complex interrelations: since caste and kinship are considered central to the world of Indian sociology, the book also attempts to understand the relationships between caste, kinship and urbanism. Finally, it also examines changes in the attitude of the literati towards the city and the country in this period.

Awarded Braj Dev Prasad Memorial Prize at 76th Indian History Congress, Malda

‘Basant skilfully weaves together several strands to present an insightful new perspective on urbanization in India.’

—REETA GREWAL, Summerhill

Genealogy, Time and Identity: Historical Consciousness in the Deccan, Sixth Century CE –Twelfth Century CE

Aruna Pariti

Assistant Professor, Department of History at Nizam College, Osmania University, Hyderabad

This book provides for the first time a detailed analysis of the prasasti and donative parts of the inscriptive records of different Chalukyan families that ruled the Deccan between 600 CE and 1200 CE. It shifts focus away from the genre of writing regional political history to the genre of writing social history at the regional level using the same genealogical sources more effectively. Through a fourfold classification of inscriptions spread across time and space, and inclusion of some of the families of local chiefs, it has also addressed issues relating to the use of time in its varied dimensions—cyclic or mythical, linear or historical. The main argument in this book also disproves the theory that pre-colonial India had no historical consciousness. Since every individual, family and nation has a past, studying genealogies as records of the past increases understanding of how ruling families viewed their past, which was based on both memory and time.

‘Pariti’s analysis of the genealogical portions of inscriptions as a form of historical narrative both corrects the traditional positivist historiographical emphasis on inscriptions as primarily a source of political history and highlights the nature of traditional forms of historical consciousness . . .’

—UTHARA SUVRATHAN, South Asian Studies

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Buddhism at Sārnāth

Anand Singh
Professor in the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions, Nālandā University

This book attempts a reconstruction of the different Buddhist traditions that evolved at Sārnāth between the preaching of the Four Noble Truths (sixth century BC) and the construction of Dharmachakrājina Vihāra (twelfth century CE) in the early medieval age. Sārnāth is one of the eight centres of Buddhism, and this book attempts an objective assessment of the history, rise, and decline of Sārnāth by studying archaeological, epigraphic and literary sources. It explores the religious traditions, origin and geomorphological construction of the Sārnāth region, dharmacakkapabattana, and its religious and architectural symbolism and patronage. The probable causes of the decline of Buddhism at Sārnāth have also been discussed in the context of Chinese, Indian and Persian sources, and archaeological reports.

‘The author has discussed in detail the evolution of Sārnāth as a centre of Buddhist pilgrimage and the historical development of Buddhism and its various sects, stupas and art and architecture in the region concerned. . . . The book is further enriched by photographs of Buddhist monuments and figures of Buddhist deities discovered at the time of excavation.’

—SARITA KHETTRY, Indian Historical Review

Dāna
Reciprocity and Patronage in Buddhism

edited by Anand Singh
Professor in the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions, Nālandā University

This book encompasses wide-ranging yet fundamental questions that have played a pivotal role in introducing, defining, structuring, and institutionalizing rules, practices, and traditions throughout the historical stretch of Buddhism. The papers herein explore dāna in Buddhism as a primarily rational and ethical phenomenon and examine its superimposing, mythic, and cultic dimensions attainable only to the eye of faith. The scholars who contributed their papers have attempted to examine dāna in Buddhism either with regard to contemporary religious traditions or in relation to its various sects and traditions, re-examining the established hypothesis and challenging occasional extremes that are prone to carrying exaggerations.

Winner of ‘Outstanding Book on Buddhism’ Award carrying a prize of 500 NZD.
Planet, Plants & Animals
Ecological Paradigms in Buddhism

Anand Singh
Professor in the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions, Nālandā University

This book is a modest attempt to look at and examine the beginnings of ecological concerns in the Buddhist religious traditions, based on a meticulous examination of diverse narratives pointing towards a correlation between Buddhism and environmental issues. By examining the seminal teachings of the Buddha through the concepts of Paticcasamuppāda, Kamma (Karmat), the eightfold path, ahimsā, Pañcaśīla and in literature, like the Jātakas, Therīgātha and Theragātha in relation to animals, population dynamics, yajñas and animal sacrifices as well as flora and fauna associated with the Buddha, this book attempts to discover the inescapable connection between the individual’s well-being and Nature.
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ISBN: 978-93-84082-73-4 • 2016 • HB • 392 pp. • ₹ 1995 • $ 94.95 • £ 46.95

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**Approaches to History**  
*Essays in Indian Historiography*  
edited by Sabyasachi Bhattacharya  
Former Vice Chancellor of Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

This volume is the first in a series, bringing to readers the latest and most pertinent scholarship in Historiography. Historiography in itself as a subject of study has rarely found its place in the syllabi of Indian universities, while knowledge of Historiography is often taken for granted when a scholar plunges into research. In an attempt to address this lacuna, the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) has planned a series of volumes on Historiography comprising articles by subject specialists commissioned by the ICHR. The ten essays herein will complement the pedagogical and scholarly work of scholars all across the historical academe in India.

‘Approaches to History is a superb anthology for the choice of themes as well as for the scholarly ways of addressing [them]. All essays in the book are informative and analytical, none polemical, and some truly brilliant.’

—B. SURENDRA RAO, The Hindu

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**A History of Humanity**

Marvin Bram  
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*A History of Humanity* completes the remarkable story of the worldwide human community by including the unique insights of symbolic history alongside careful accounts of political, economic, and cultural events. While political, economic, and cultural matters give us an ‘outer history’, the illumination of humanity’s extraordinary symbol-making activities gives us our ‘inner history’. These two orientations to history together permit fully rounded characterizations of human life before the advent of civilization and of the subsequent civilizations of the Middle East, South Asia, East Asia, and the West. Because of its dual orientation to the human career, *A History of Humanity* also makes it possible to understand world history not only descriptively but prescriptively, encouraging participation in the creation of an increasingly humane planetary future.
Indo-Persian Historiography to the Fourteenth Century (Enlarged Edition)

Iqtidar Husain Siddiqui
Former Professor of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

This book discusses the origin and growth of Indo-Persian historiography with particular emphasis on India’s contribution to the literary heritage of the Persian world. It also evaluates the important changes that writing of history underwent as it developed within the Indian environment. Besides a discussion of the methods employed by Indo-Persian historians, the book focuses, for the first time, on an important contemporary work, Awfi’s Jawami’ul-Hikayat-wa-Livam’ul-Rivaayat, as a source for study of the history of social and political developments in the Islamic world. This enlarged edition also examines the poet ‘Isami’s Futuhus-Salatin that chronicles the reign of the Sultans from the eleventh to fourteenth centuries, and is remarkable for the details of the political and social developments that took place in south India after its annexation to the Sultanate of Delhi. Besides introducing some of the previously unknown works of Zia uddin Barani, the book also focuses on the two versions of Barani’s famous Tarikh-i-Firuzshahi and the treatise Fatawa-i-Jahandari.

‘The strength of I.H. Siddiqui’s Indo-Persian historiography up to the fourteenth century lies in its ability to provide the reader with a platter of diverse source material. Siddiqui’s work very successfully manages to lend a tinge of cosmopolitanism and contemporaneity to historical memory.’

—SHIVANGINI TANDON, Social Scientist

Histories, Regions, Nodes

Essays for Rattan Lal Hangloo

edited by
Salma Ahmed Farooqui
Professor-cum-Director, H.K. Sherwani Centre for Deccan Studies
Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad

The volume Histories, Regions, Nodes is a collection of eighteen essays that brings together assorted opinions and issues raised by scholars on themes related to trade and urbanization, art, architecture and popular culture, religion and ideology, historiography, nature of state, status of women, diplomacy and ethnic conflict in remote parts of India. Contributed by scholars who have known Professor Rattan Lal Hangloo over the years, these essays deliberate upon political, cultural and economic aspects of history to which Professor Hangloo as a historian has contributed.

270 pp. • 2014 • HB • ₹ 1095
• $ 69.95 • £ 46.95

346 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 1195
• $ 64.95 • £ 52.95

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The Varied Facets of History
Essays in Honour of Aniruddha Ray

edited by Ishrat Alam
Professor of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

Syed Ejaz Hussain
Professor of History, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

This book throws new light on numerous aspects of Indian history: its sources and their interpretations; the evolution of cultural aspects like languages, archaeology, painting, technology, trade and commerce and labour.

‘Importantly, this book shows and confirms how complex the construction of history is, how perspectives can be contested and how historical paradigms are constantly challenged. It is useful for students and academics alike who are interested in the dynamic construction of history between the sixteenth and the nineteenth century and the consequent contestations that surround it.’

—javayria masood, South Asia Research
Western Medicine and Colonial Society
Hospitals of Calcutta c.1757–1860

Srilata Chatterjee
Former Professor, Department of History, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

This book studies the social and political environment that spurred the development of hospitals and asylums in Calcutta under the East India Company’s rule from c.1757 to 1860. It traces the trajectories of hospital formation for the indigenous population, beginning with the early military and European hospitals. It also focuses on the growth of dispensaries in the suburbs of Calcutta, as well as speciality hospitals in the city. Based on a thorough examination of the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century records preserved in India and the UK, it attempts to link the urban development of Calcutta, as the second capital of the Empire, with the social, political and cultural forces that fashioned the process of institutional health care in the city, and which became an important legacy for the organization of health care after India’s Independence.

ISBN: 978-93-84092-98-6 • 332 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 1195 • $ 59.95 • £ 49.95

Mind and Body in Health and Harmony in
the Asian Systems of Medicine

edited by
Ranjit Roy Chaudhury
Pharmacologist, leading medical researcher, specialist in medical teaching and health planner

Kapila Vatsyayan
Chairperson, IIC-International Research Division
India International Centre, New Delhi

This volume studies the relationships between ancient systems of Asian philosophy and medicine. It explores the mutually dependent relation between the mind and the body, and argues that Asian and Hippocratic medical systems as well as the body and consciousness should not be studied in isolation. Bringing together medical practitioners and researchers—including specialists of ayurveda, siddha, unani, homeopathy, Sowa-Rigpa, naturopathy, yoga, and acupuncture based on the Chinese system—from different parts of Asia, including India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Myanmar and Bangladesh, this volume demonstrates how ancient medical traditions can be used for improving the physical and mental health of people today.

ISBN: 978-93-84092-02-3 • 174 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 44.95 • £ 32.95

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A Meeting of the Minds
European and Tamil Encounters in Modern Sciences, 1507-1857

S. Jeyaseela Stephen
Directeur, Institut pour études Indo-Européennes

This book uncovers new aspects of contributions of Portuguese, Dutch, Dane, English, and French East India Company officials and European missionaries to intellectual history in the fields of botany, chemistry, medicine, earth and space science within the specific geographical-historical locality of the Tamil coast in the Early Modern Age. It discusses the relationships forged to underpin progress in scientific knowledge and scholarship, and also examines varied manifestations of ideas, practices and forms of intellectual life developed and shared through association with the learned elite. With the flow of novel ideas, instruments and practices, spectacular achievements were made in science, and this knowledge was redistributed through the printing press. In the process, scientific data at the theoretical and experimental levels, both in Europe and on the Tamil coast, also got transmuted, assimilated and received. Given these, this book asserts that science alone aided education and enabled research institutions to usher in modernity.

Contesting Colonial Authority
Medicine and Indigenous Responses in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century India*

edited by Poonam Bala
Visiting Professor, Centre for Studies in Science Policy, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This volume explores the interplay of conformity and defiance amongst the plural medical tradition in colonial India and highlights various indigenous interpretations and mechanisms through which Indian medicine was re-visited against the cultural background of established medical traditions. Manifested in the encounters between Indian and Western medicine and colonial dictates, these interpretations led to emergence of new structural forms, which were as much ‘paradigms of defence’ as sites of negotiation for these encounters. Accordingly, the essays herein reflect upon these structural representations validated through colonial discourse on female education, nationalizing Indian medicine, strategies of memory and representation, and expressions of non-compliance in various health measures, enabling a relocation of the trajectory of Western medicine and reconfiguration of medical knowledge.

* For sale only in South Asia
India’s Indigenous Medical Systems: A Cross-Disciplinary Approach

edited by Syed Ejaz Hussain
Professor of History, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal
Mohit Saha
Senior Medical Officer, Pearson Memorial Hospital, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

This volume brings together essays by historians, botanists and physicians of indigenous as well as Western medicine to show how Indian medicine evolved, constantly adapting itself to the challenges posed by Western medical science. It highlights the development of medicine and public health under the patronage of Jahangir; the efficacy of Ayurveda in combating epidemics and fatal diseases; the introduction of vaccination in colonial Bengal and the social resistance to it; the rich heritage of folk and tribal medicine among the tribes of Birbhum; use of traditional herbs which have now become patent drugs for curing serious ailments like jaundice; and the development of organized documentation of ethno-botanical medicine in India. This volume underscores the continuous conflict as well as collaboration between Ayurveda, Unani and Western medicine, and comments on how each system learnt from the other.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-62-7 • 360 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 1395 • $ 69.95 • £ 46.95

Health Care in Bombay Presidency, 1896–1930

Mridula Ramanna
Former Associate Professor, Department of History at SIES College, University of Mumbai, Mumbai

This book studies aspects of public health in Bombay Presidency from 1896 to 1930. Based upon extensive primary data, it charts both changes in the colonial plague policy from the deadly epidemic of 1896 to the frequent epidemics that appeared in the 1900s, as well as changes in Indian responses to that plague in different regions of the Presidency. It also refers to unique local initiatives by activist health officials, civic leaders, and Indian doctors, and efforts to bring sanitary consciousness into the public sphere. There was also a close link between attempts to improve the health of women and the growing number of female Indian doctors, and this book also comments on the forging of this connection and its ramifications as it grew and strengthened.

‘Dr Ramanna has placed all those who are interested in the history of Bombay and its medical history in her debt by providing these fruits of her research over decades.’

— SUNIL K. PANDYA, The National Medical Journal of India

ISBN: 978-93-80607-24-5 • 212 pp. • 2012 • HB • ₹ 795 • $ 59.95 • GBP 39.95

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The Social History of Health and Medicine in Colonial India*

edited by Biswamoy Pati
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Mark Harrison
Professor of History of Medicine, University of Oxford, UK

This volume analyses diverse facets of the social history of health and medicine in colonial India. It explores a unique set of themes that capture the diversities of India, such as public health, medical institutions, mental illness, and the politics and economics of colonialism. Based on interdisciplinary research incorporating sources ranging from palm leaf manuscripts to archival materials, the essays herein offer valuable insights into topics that have only recently received scholarly attention, including the use of opiates and the role of advertising in driving medical markets.

‘The book is a must for students of the history of South Asia, and not just its medical history, since it has a lot about colonial rule in practice.’

—MICHAEL MANN, H-Soz-U-Kult
India, the Portuguese and Maritime Interactions
*Vol. I: Science, Economy and Urbanity*

edited by Pius Malekandathil
Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Lotika Varadarajan
Is an independent researcher

Amar Farooqui
Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

The two-volume *India, the Portuguese and Maritime Interactions* is the outcome of the 14th International Seminar on Indo-Portuguese History held at New Delhi. These essays look at the multilayered nature of Indo-Portuguese interactions.

The first volume focuses on Indo-Portuguese interactions in terms of circulation of medical knowledge and aspects of health care; the nature of scientific and technological interactions; dynamics of trade and political economy; and meanings of urbanity. Networks of information, indigenization of techniques, land-centric economic processes, calendar-reckoning traditions, and complexities of urban milieu are analysed so that our understanding of the ‘early modern history of India’ is recast.

India, the Portuguese and Maritime Interactions
*Vol. II: Religion, Language and Cultural Expressions*

edited by Pius Malekandathil
Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

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Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

*India, the Portuguese and Maritime Interactions, Vol. II, Religion, Language and Cultural Expressions* is the outcome of the 14th International Seminar on Indo-Portuguese History held at New Delhi. The second volume offers an in-depth study of such varied themes and aspects as conflicts and compromise in the realms of religion, community life and identity-assertion processes. Central to all chapters is the enquiry into the nature of social and cultural changes in and around the nodal points of Indo-Portuguese interactions.

This volume recasts our understanding of the ‘early modern history of India’ and highlights the web of interconnectedness within which India redefined itself against the background of Portuguese interactions.

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Cross-Cultural Networking in the Eastern Indian Ocean Realm, c.100–1800

edited by
Kenneth R. Hall
Professor of History at Ball State University in the United States

Suchandra Ghosh
Professor of Ancient Indian History & Culture at the University of Calcutta.

Kaushik Gangopadhyay
Assistant Professor in the Department of Archaeology, University of Calcutta

Rila Mukherjee
Professor of History at the University of Hyderabad

Cross-Cultural Networking in the Eastern Indian Ocean Realm examines the history of the Bay of Bengal and beyond, as initially documented in archaeological recoveries from AD 100 to AD 900 and subsequently the variety of regional historical evidence that demonstrates India’s eastern Indian Ocean maritime and northern overland connections to the nineteenth century. In sum, the book highlights the importance and variety of consequence in east-coast India’s linkage with the coastlines of the Bay of Bengal and the extended eastern Indian Ocean, especially India’s eastern maritime and overland networking with South-East Asia and China. In the eighth century post-Gupta era the Buddhist religious centre at Nalanda in north-west Bengal assumed a major role as the destination of Indian and international Buddhist pilgrims who arrived by sea and land to study at Nalanda, and returned to promote Buddhist and Hindu religious and cultural exchanges in wider India and Sri Lanka, South-East Asia, and China through the fifteenth century. The book details India’s long-term historical relationships with the legendary Sumatra-based Srivijaya thalassocracy and its successors in the Straits of Melaka region, sequential Vietnam coastline-based polities c.600–1800s, and the Andaman Islands and Tibet, as populations in northern and eastern Asia selectively localized South Asian culture.
Ports of the Ancient Indian Ocean

edited by Marie-Françoise Boussac
Professor of Greek History, Nanterre-La Défense University, Nanterre, France

Jean-François Salles
Former Directeur de Recherche, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris

Jean-Baptiste Yon
Researcher, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris

This volume looks at the multisided role that ports played in the exchange and transfer of knowledge between the ‘Indian Ocean’ and Mediterranean societies. Through the early Greek Periplus to minute descriptions by the Portuguese in the late sixteenth century, or French archives of the colonial period, an accurate knowledge was gradually developed and transmitted on what is now called the Indian Ocean. The essays herein focus on the nature of this knowledge, its history and status, using and combining new archaeological data and recent publication of textual material. They deal with material originating from the Red Sea to India, through Arabia and the Persian Gulf, shedding new light on ancient ports and maritime contacts, with special interest not only on India but on related areas as well, such as Sri Lanka and South-East Asia.

‘The 16 papers divide into two groups: the first explores Palmyrenes “abroad”, and the second, larger group focuses on the city itself. . . . The collection is well illustrated throughout, with many photographs in colour; there are also short abstracts. Given the international cast—Germany, Japan, Norway, Poland and Russia—it is inevitable that the lingua franca is English . . . the text is good.’

—ROBERT WITCHER, Antiquity
Port Towns of Gujarat

edited by Sara Keller
A Medieval Historian and Building Archaeologist
Michael Pearson
Emeritus Professor of History, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

This volume offers new insights on cost-hinterland connections, urban morphology, port cities and littoral societies, the role of Gujarat in the Indian Ocean and data on the history of Gujarat, the Indian Ocean, and the many great port cities on India’s north-west coast. Gujarat’s port cities, ‘gems in the necklace of the coast’, were vital hubs which enabled connections with other cities and other cultures across the Indian Ocean and beyond, including the Mediterranean and the South China Sea. These cities, cosmopolitan in their outlook, also acted as cultural centres attracting traders and scholars from far away. With contributions by subject specialists who have worked extensively on port cities and who provide new and innovative perspectives, this volume will appeal to historians, urban geographers, economists, and other social scientists.

‘... the book has much to offer on lesser researched areas like the ports of northern Gujarat/Kutch, and the changing nature of coastal and maritime trade after the eighteenth century.’

—KANAKALATHA MUKUND, The Book Review

Oceanscapes: Tamil Textiles in the Early Modern World

S. Jeyaseela Stephen
Directeur, Institut pour études Indo-Européennes

This book traces the global diffusion of woven, painted, printed, and dyed cotton Tamil textiles during the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries. This occurred not only because of the skills of Tamil weavers and dyers, but also because of the political and economic compulsions in the various regions it travelled. These resulted in an exchange of technical and technological knowledge of textile production between the Tamil coast and Europe. Consequently, this book examines the long-term economic history of the Tamil region through the lens of textiles and provides not only an extensive and quantitative analysis of the types of textiles traded, but also examines the movement of precious metals, the process of monetization, and the struggle between the Portuguese, Dutch, English, French, Armenian, Tamil, and Telugu traders. Adopting Braudel’s approach, it breaks new ground by looking at changes and continuities in the Tamil textile economy, society, and technology as an integral phenomenon, thus rescuing history from becoming region or nation-centric and elevating its status to the global.
Networks of Trade, Polity, and Societal Integration in Chola-Era South India
\textit{c.875–1279}

Kenneth R. Hall
Professor of History, Ball State University, Indiana, USA

This book studies transitional south Indian society during the critical Chola age, c. 875–1279, when there was notable evolution of pre-existing as well as new societal institutions. It considers issues of emic ('local') and etic ('external') agency; the origin of urban communities relative to movements of material and ideational ‘commodities’; and confrontations between alien cultures, formation of plural societies, dual loyalties, and multiple affiliations. Specifically, it highlights epigraphic sources from south India that document the purposeful creation of clearly defined market and temple districts adjacent to settled agricultural societies. Local inscriptive records are notable for their variety of detailed societal contracts, marketplace charters, and the coincidental approval of religious institutions, all relationships that served the religious, political, cultural, and productive economic needs of various societal communities. These civil records are consistent with contemporary charters of Hindu temples that were foundational to invasive urbanism into previously rural societies. In sum, this book incorporates new social network literature as a means to re-examining local historical records, to better understand the variety of regional primary and secondary urban networking that was basic to early south Indian societal change.

The Mughals, the Portuguese and the Indian Ocean
Changing Imageries of Maritime India

Pius Malekandathil
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This book explores changing meanings that ‘maritime India’ acquired during the Early Modern period as a result of frequent efforts of the Mughals and the Portuguese, from two different fronts, to control its vast, resourceful enclaves and profit-yielding neighbourhoods. Some of the issues explored here focus on political implications of the religious dialogues between Akbar and Jesuits; the attempts of the Portuguese to create a supportive social group out of the Paravas in the Pearl Fishery Coast; the creation of parallel circuits to Ottoman markets in the eastern Mediterranean as an alternative to the Cape Route trade of the Portuguese; multiple strands of trade between coastal western India and the markets of East Africa; the economic and political processes that prompted the shifting of the Mughal capital from the hinterland to the vicinity of the major maritime trading centres of northern Konkan; voices of dissent in Christianity and discourses on early nationalism; the changing perceptions of Portuguese enclaves in Bengal, and aspects of the ethnic mutation of the Luso-Indians as well as social manoeuvrings of the English.

‘In effect this book is a welcome relief from the often told stories of maritime history as it looks at the scenario afresh and the integrated approach of sea, land and religion and the logical arrangement of the chapters make the reader sit up and read with attention.’

—K.R.A. NARSIAH, \textit{The Hindu}

\textit{Prices are subject to revision without prior notice}
Trade and Politics on the Coromandel Coast
Seventeenth and Early Eighteenth Centuries

Radhika Seshan
Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Pune, Pune

This book studies connections between trade and politics in the Coromandel Coast in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, with special focus on Madras. It questions the largely uncontested view that trade and traders in pre-modern India were disconnected from the world of politics and the state, arguing instead that south Indian merchants depended on, and functioned within, the structures and stability provided by the state. It also addresses the breakdown of political structures within which the merchants operated, and the impact of the arrival of Europeans, especially the English. In this sense, this is a regional history which challenges accepted notions about the place of merchants and the state, and through a detailed economic history sheds new light on the political and transitional nature of the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries.

‘Dr Radhika Seshan raises a series of questions, especially on the contested relationship between politics and trade, showing some very intricate and important connections. Though much of the information here is familiar, this is still a lively and well researched account.’

—MICHAE L N. PEARSON, University of New South Wales

Pelagic Passageways: The Northern Bay of Bengal Before Colonialism

edited by Rila Mukherjee
Professor of History, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

This volume visualizes the cultural space of the northern Bay of Bengal as embracing upland landlocked areas—Ava, Yunnan, the Tripuri, Dimasa and Ahom states—not usually seen as part of maritime history, therefore suggesting that they too be studied as part of the social and commercial networks of the Indian Ocean. There are not one but two deltas here: the western delta, corresponding to the present West Bengal, and the south-eastern delta, in present Bangladesh. The essays in this volume question the conventional fault line located on the south-eastern Bengal delta, between the historiography of South and South-East Asia. Concentrating on commodity and currency flows, travel, trade routes and interactive networks, this volume proposes that these areas be viewed as crossroads, mediating flows between the land-dwelling and aquatic worlds.

‘This book defines the place of the Bay of Bengal in the larger Indian Ocean world, relative to the historical significance of its polycentric ports, trade, commercial/financial, and cultural networks. . . .’

—KENNETH R. HALL, Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient
Networks in the First Global Age: 1400–1800

edited by Rila Mukherjee
Professor of History, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

This volume views waterscapes as conduits of much economic and cultural sharing between peoples and lands, focussing on oceans and seas—the Indian, the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans and the Mediterranean Sea—and economic, military and cultural transmissions within and across them. It shows how conventional arguments in history writing about the rise of the West, the hegemon of the State and the might of overseas colonial empires can be overturned by emphasizing on dynamic, collaborative, nonlinear networks as opposed to formal networks based on hierarchy. Such networks signal a completely different picture about global interactions in the period 1400–1800, emphasizing the centrality of peoples and commodities at different times in different parts of the world.

‘The scholarly value of this book is undeniable . . . this collective work may make historians and social scientists realize that if there is a need for a model to help understand and explain the way the world functioned before the nineteenth century, that model also needs to represent and not merely footnote the contributions of non-Europeans to the First Global Age.’ —C.A.P. ANTUNES, International Journal of Maritime History

Coastal Histories: Society and Ecology in pre-Modern India

edited by Yogesh Sharma
Former Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This volume examines a number of themes pertaining to different coastal regions of India: coastal ecology, commercial crops, transmission of diseases, fortifications, port hierarchy, new port towns, vessels and boats, fishing communities, and social life of women. It studies littoral societies, or the coastal regions, to better understand the influence of the ocean upon these lands. Coastal societies have their own particular notion of identity and ambience, which differentiates them from the extensive continental zones. It is in this context that coastal territories and their histories constitute an interesting theme of enquiry. The general pattern of existence and the rhythm of life in all these dissociated regions, however, had considerable commonality, due to the overwhelming impact of the two dominant elements—water and land—in shaping the destinies of its inhabitants.

‘. . . well-researched and documented, quite a few of the articles throw valuable new light on the early modern maritime history of India.’ —K.R.A. NARASIAH, The Hindu
Maritime India
Trade, Religion and Polity in the Indian Ocean (Revised Edition)
Pius Malekandathil
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
This book discusses various socio-economic and political processes that evolved over centuries in the vast coastal fringes of India and out of the circuits of the Indian Ocean, ultimately giving these littoral zones the distinctive consciousness and identity of Maritime India. It dwells upon a wide range of issues, including the nature of maritime trade of the Sassanids with India; the impact of maritime trade on the political processes of Goa; the social processes linked with the settlements of foreign merchant groups in India; the nature of Portuguese expansion in coastal India; and the nuances of political assertions over maritime centres of exchange and their hinterlands. It also discusses in some detail the repercussions of Ottoman expansion into the Indian Ocean, the impact of Portuguese commercial expansion on traditional Muslim merchants of Kerala, the changing methods of information-networking between coastal India and the Mediterranean, the burgeoning of Portuguese power units in Bengal, and the role of private traders in the structure and functioning of Estado da India.

‘Malekandathil’s detailed historical analysis of Maritime India reinforces the importance of trade, religion, and polity in the Indian Ocean for a better comprehension of Maritime India.’
—GEORGE PATI, Journal of Asian Studies

Living with Water
Peoples, Lives and Livelihoods in Asia and Beyond
edited by Rila Mukherjee
Professor of History, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad
This volume examines the relation between water and human history through the prism of archaeology, ethnography, history, maritime anthropology, literature, sociology and musicology. It moves away from traditional and generic themes of maritime history such as oceanic trade, migration, slavery, piracy, shipping and port-to-port linkages to focus instead on human-water interaction in history. Water histories have the potential of bringing remote, marginal histories to the centre of historical research, and the essays in this volume—whose spatial extent includes Russia, Bangladesh, India (Assam, Bengal, the Tamil country) and the Philippines—present different types of archives facilitating a history of water with the aim of widening the scope of water histories.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-01-6 • 240 pp. • 2010 • HB • ₹ 695 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95
ISBN: 978-93-80607-83-2 • 240 pp. • 2013 • PB • ₹ 395 • $ 29.95 • £ 19.95
ISBN: 978-93-84092-00-9 • 208 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 49.95 • £ 32.95
Rethinking Connectivity
Region, Place and Space in Asia

edited by Lipi Ghosh
Professor of South and South-East Asian Studies, University of Calcutta, Kolkata
Rila Mukherjee
Professor of History, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

This volume urges us to discern not just connections but also connectivities. Starting with cases of highly visible and structured/networked connectivities from an overland route spanning Central Asia and a coastal polity on the far side of the Indian Ocean, it showcases some of the remarkable links forged in Asian history. It gives three examples of ideologies and individuals negotiating connections already established in colonial Bengal, and, from these realms of the visible, moves to the more intangible domain of visual strategies to discern connectivities. Cultural icons celebrating the nation, and maps displaying increasingly novel conceptions of space and time, reinforce the idea of an Asia that is connected, braided, and also contested from early times to the present.

Beyond National Frames
South Asian Pasts and the World

edited by Rila Mukherjee
Professor of History, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

This volume envisions a mobile South Asia flowing beyond its geographical confines, showcasing a history transcending present borders of both land and sea and resulting in a truly connected transnational history of Asia and the Indian Ocean world. Recommending a shift from the conventional region or nation-centred histories to spaces seen as borderless, the essays herein re-evaluate known sources, open up fresh ones, raise new questions, and attempt to find answers to them. New formulations, novel hypotheses, and innovative spatialities are seen in the resultant cross-regional histories, with the consequence that the dual nature of the source—as archive (text and terrain) and also as window (context)—is also interrogated. Hence, this volume asserts a need to take stock of the sources we have inherited, to visualize the sources we can access, and to reflect on new histories which become possible once they are accessed.
Convergence
Rethinking India’s Past
edited by Radhika Seshan
Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Pune, Pune

This volume explores the multiplicity of sources that can be used for studying Indian history. Texts, literature, inscriptions, and other sources have long been the fountainheads of history. The essays in this volume, however, begin with the premise that such sources, in the true spirit of historical research, need to be re-interrogated. Without ignoring questions of the validity of a source, they also emphasize the hybridity and range of material that can be used as a historical source. Starting, therefore, with the idea of ‘re-search’, this volume examines sources that have so far been used before proceeding to study newer ones that are yet to be utilized. Keeping this in mind, it re-examines the better known sources, such as Portuguese, French and English factory records, travel accounts, Chinese texts, and also maps, travel accounts, Tibetan and Japanese sources.

‘The book, as a whole, offers helpful guidance on where to find specific sets of historical sources and will be useful as a source of reference for many scholars and students of South Asian history and related fields.’

—WERNER MENSKI, South Asia Research

Vanguards of Globalization
Port-Cities from the Classical to the Modern
edited by Rila Mukherjee
Professor of History, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

This volume considers the historical evolution of port-cities from Emporion to Gateway and interrogates their nature over time. It studies specific port-cities such as Barbarikon, Chaul, Porto Novo, Madras, Nagasaki, and Sitangkai, and more generally the ports around the Erythraean Sea, the Indian Ocean and the Atlantic, Portuguese, Andhra, Bengal, and Vietnamese coasts. In doing so, the essays in this volume celebrate the hybridity and cosmopolitanism that port-cities offer, and discuss the wider implications of cross-cultural competition, port-hinterland dynamics as well as themes, problems and textual evidence about port-cities and how they link to ports today.

‘All in all, this is an excellent volume with new and invigorating ideas on commercial networks.’

—UJJAYAN BHATTACHARYA, Indian Historical Review
Oceans Connect
Reflections on Water Worlds Across Time and Space

edited by Rila Mukherjee
Professor of History, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

This volume explores how seas and oceans connect not only geographically but also through networks of trade, cooperation, beliefs, scientific knowledge, and even rumour. More importantly, it makes a case for the decolonization of regional history by way of defining it through ocean spaces rather than land borders and therefore brings into focus the distinction between marine and maritime worlds. The essays herein look at the Pacific, the Atlantic, and the Indian oceans to explore waterscapes as autonomous bodies with networks of mobility and paths of cultural transmission. They consider the manner in which people, goods, and ideas travelled across waters; the imagined unities of peoples, regions, trading blocs and empires; and the restructured paradigms of vision, time and space.

‘The collection is a departure from the normal selection of papers on a particular subject, in the sense that the articles embrace subjects that are even distantly connected to make an integrated study of the subject of Ocean and its ability to connect civilisations and people across the oceans.’

—K.R.A. NARASIAH, The Hindu

Amândio Jorge Morais Barros • Paul D’Arcy • Lipi Ghosh • Ryan Tucker Jones • Ruby Maloni • Rila Mukherjee • Antoni Picazo Muntaner • J.B. Owens • Amélia Polónia • Om Prakash • Radhika Seshan • Ana Crespo Solana • Arvind S. Susarla

ISBN: 978-93-80607-40-5 • 306 pp. • 2013 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 69.95 • £ 46.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Islam and its Culture in South Asia

Iqtidar Husain Siddiqui
Late Professor, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

Arabs brought Islam to India in the very first century of its rise in Arabia. This book focuses on the arrival and growth of Islam in South Asia, and the important socio political changes it brought about. Islam and Its Culture in South Asia examines the identity and lives of the converts to Islam, the reasons for their conversion, the role of modern reformers in initiating modernist trends, and analyses the approaches employed by modern Islamicists in their writings on the Muslims and their history in India. The book also examines some contemporary and near-contemporary sources that have been hitherto unknown or neglected, and help scholars reconstruct the social and intellectual history of different communities in South Asia.

Streaming the Past
Peninsular India in History

edited by Nilanjan Sarkar
Deputy Director, South Asia Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science.

Vikas K Verma
Assistant Professor in History, Ramjas College, University of Delhi.

In a conscious bid to avoid the categorization of ‘south’ India Streaming the Past: Peninsular India in History changes the framework of the historical meta-narrative of the nation, which has failed to integrate the history of premodern peninsular India within it. This book demonstrates that a collection of varied essays is, in fact, a woven tapestry with perforated boundaries and a stage for interdisciplinary voices to speak to one another in several ways.

Focusing on peninsular India, the essays cover diverse topics stretching from megalithic times to the eighteenth century. They rely on classical languages and historical materials to source information, employ versatile methods and examine wide-ranging themes including archaeological sites, trade routes, iron technology, water management, coinage, social hierarchies, goddesses and narrative traditions, performing arts and culture, forms of protests, crime and punishment, and narratives of death alongside socioeconomic and political processes.
India and the Silk Road
Exploring Current Opportunities
edited by Nasir Raza Khan
Officiating Director, India-Arab Cultural Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

*India and the Silk Road: Exploring Current Opportunities* is based on the historical as well as contemporary relevance of the Silk Road. This volume comprises essays by a number of contributors who have dealt with varied aspects of the reality of this historical road in a new geopolitical context, with the potential of shared prosperity among the states connected with this route. The new Silk Road of the twenty-first century covers almost all modes of communication, infrastructure and transportation, including road network, rail and oil and gas pipelines.

Medieval India
Studies in Polity, Economy and Society
Fourteenth-Nineteenth Centuries
Zakir Husain
Retired as Assistant Director (Oriental Records), National Archives of India, New Delhi

This volume contains wide-ranging surveys of various aspects of the history of India's medieval past. Based on a close scrutiny of the documents at the National Archives of India as well as private collections, the volume explores the Persian archival material, from the mid-fourteenth to the mid-nineteenth centuries, highlighting important (but little known) aspects of our past. Sufi texts are scanned for original administrative documents of the Tughluq period. A manual for the treatment of birds, and ecclesiastical positions under Firoz Shah Tughluq are some other rare finds. These essays also explore Humayun's wanderings around Kabul and the meticulous details of the preparation for the first Mughal expedition to Qandhar under Shahjahan. Some rare and unexplored material on the uprising of 1857 has also been included here for the first time.
The Jews of Goa
edited by Shalva Weil
Senior Researcher, Research Institute for Innovation in Education, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

*The Jews of Goa* brings together scholars and researchers of international repute to discuss the history and legacy of the Jews and New Christians, through texts and primary documents, missionary literature and records of the Inquisitorial trials from the Lisbon and Goan archives. The volume covers new ground in examining the early and medieval history of the Jews, with a focus on the Portuguese period after Goa became a major power centre in India. It breaks the silence that has surrounded the Jews and New Christians and their descendants in Goa for the past few hundred years.

Indo-Persian Historiography to the Fourteenth Century (Enlarged Edition)
Iqtidar Husain Siddiqui
Former Professor of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

This book discusses the origin and growth of Indo-Persian historiography with particular emphasis on India’s contribution to the literary heritage of the Persian world. It also evaluates the important changes that writing of history underwent as it developed within the Indian environment. Besides a discussion of the methods employed by Indo-Persian historians, the book focuses, for the first time, on an important contemporary work, *Awfi’s Jawami’ul-Hikayat-wa-Livam’ul-Rivaayat*, as a source for study of the history of social and political developments in the Islamic world. This enlarged edition also examines the poet 'Isami’s *Futuhus-Salatin* that chronicles the reign of the Sultans from the eleventh to fourteenth centuries, and is remarkable for the details of the political and social developments that took place in south India after its annexation to the Sultanate of Delhi. Besides introducing some of the previously unknown works of Zia uddin Barani, the book also focuses on the two versions of Barani’s famous *Tarikh-i-Firuzshahi* and the treatise *Fatawa-i-Jahandari*.

‘The strength of I.H. Siddiqui’s Indo-Persian historiography up to the fourteenth century lies in its ability to provide the reader with a platter of diverse source material. Siddiqui’s work very successfully manages to lend a tinge of cosmopolitanism and contemporaneity to historical memory.’

—SHIVANGINI TANDON, Social Scientist
The Making of the Awadh Culture
Madhu Trivedi
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, School of Open Learning, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book deploys evidence scattered in a variety of primary and secondary sources, especially in Persian and Urdu, to study visuals and artefacts as well as the performance traditions and craft techniques which are derived from the Nawâbi period. It comments on the Nawâb’s creation of a Shi’a heritage in northern India, which had strong associations with other Indian cultural traditions. Highlighting the literary milieu of the period, and developments in the realm of music, painting, architecture, and the industrial arts, this book also explores how some of the arts and crafts assumed considerable European colour due to interaction between Europeans and the Awadh elite, and demonstrates how the ethos of the syncretic Indo-Persian culture—the renowned ganga-jamunî tahzîb that represented Persian aesthetics and Indian cultural values—remained intact.

‘This well researched work is indeed a significant and valuable contribution to the realm of knowledge and could be a spring board for further researches in socio-economic and cultural history. The presentation of the book is praiseworthy. The lucid and convincing language makes the book all the more an interesting reading.’

—PRODEEP KUMAR GHOSH, Summerhill

The Junaydî Sufis of the Deccan
Discovery of a Seventeenth Century Scroll
Mohammed Suleman Siddiqi
Former Vice Chancellor, Osmania University, Hyderabad

This book recasts the history of Sufism in the Deccan and in India in general. Establishing the presence and active involvement of the Junaydî Sufis in the Deccan during the Bahmani period (1347–1538), contrary to established assumption that it was the Chishtîs who spread Sufi teachings there, this study brings to light some rare thirteenth century documents, including the oldest Persian document in the history of the Deccan. Two sacred scrolls of the seventeenth century from the private collection of a prominent Junaydî Sufi family of Bijapur, tracing its spiritual and family descent to Abul Qasim al-Junayd of Baghdad, have also been produced. The scrolls contain extracts from an extinct fourteenth century text, Atwar al-abrar by ‘Ayn al-Din Ganj al-‘Ilm, revealing rich details on prominent Junaydîs, including women Sufis.

‘This volume provides a meticulously edited and translated cache of Persian documents, opening a window onto a fascinating chapter of Indo-Muslim history that would otherwise remain hidden. . . .’

—CARL W. ERNST
Religious Tradition and Culture in Eighteenth Century North India

Tabir Kalam
Associate Professor, Department of History, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi

This book highlights religious and cultural efflorescence in India during the eighteenth century. By shifting focus from the political and economic transition of that period, it examines the wide array of primary sources in Persian and—especially—Urdu to study intellectual and cultural trends in the period. It also brings into prominence the vibrant religious-intellectual outpouring, the poetics and politics of Shia-Sunni polemics, the educational innovations, the growth of Urdu and its entanglement with religious and regional sensibilities along with regional networks of patronage and, finally, the diffusion of Mughal court culture in different regional centres up to the qasba level which became the template to re-contextualize, re-define and adapt various elements of the Mughal culture. Significantly, this book also contends that the seepage and assimilation of Mughal culture at various regional centres when confronted by European modernity in the eighteenth century in many ways acted as the foundation of Muslim politics in the nineteenth century.

‘… [this book] emphasizes the dynamics of the historical phase that followed in the wake of the Mughal decline, and inspires scholars to further explore this field.’

—MADHU TRIVEDI, Studies in History

Revisiting the History of Medieval Rajasthan
Essays for Professor Dilbagh Singh

edited by
Suraj Bhan Bhardwaj
Associate Professor, Department of History, Motilal Nehru College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Mayank Kumar
Associate Professor of History at Satyawati College (Evening), University of Delhi, New Delhi

Rameshwar Prasad Bahuguna
Professor of Medieval Indian History, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Immensely rich and diverse documentation for the region have resulted in exceptional growth in the research conducted on the history of medieval Rajasthan. Professor Dilbagh Singh has been one of the pioneers to explore archival documents of the different principalities of Rajasthan in his research and under his guidance, generations of researchers have been able to integrate archival documentation with extraordinary literary works available on that region.
Speaking Rivers
Environmental History of a Mid-Ganga Flood Country, 1540–1885

Vipul Singh
Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

The question of water and human dependence on river systems has become a major public concern of the twenty-first century. Based on a long term historical study of a flood country in the mid-Ganga basin, *Speaking Rivers* looks at the changing perception of the people of the Ganga region from a useful to a problematic river. Based on environmental, agricultural and cultural histories it explores the British colonial policy that altered the age-old relationship between the people and the river, and the long-term landscape transformations and cropping pattern changes that have been taking shape since early modern times. This book also examines the man-made calamities of 1770 and 1873–4 in ecological and human terms.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-82-2 • 256 pp. • 2018 • HB • ₹ 1195 • $ 59.95 • £ 47.95

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Pondicherry under the French
Illuminating the Urban Landscape, 1674–1793

S. Jeyaseela Stephen
Directeur, Institut pour études Indo-Européennes

*Pondicherry under the French: Illuminating the Urban Landscape, 1674–1793* explores how the town of Pondicherry developed as the epicentre of the French presence in India, becoming a major centre of Company administration. It evaluates the relative significance of inland trade and overseas commerce in generating mercantile wealth by examining the volume and value of commercial transactions and the interactions between the French, Tamils, Telugus, Gujaratis and the Armenians. This resulted in the urbanization of the town, which in turn dramatically and radically changed its skyline. The collective composition of the external agencies, cross-cultural connections and knowledge networks led to new forms of art, architecture and culture with the French attempting to convert the urban reality of Pondicherry into a smart city. As the French presence evolved from a trading company into a colonial state, Pondicherry, called ‘The Pearl of French India’, became one of the most advanced cities in the world in terms of governance, politics and global linkages.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-92-1 • 690 pp. • 2018 • HB • ₹ 1695 • $ 79.95 • £ 64.95

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*Prices are subject to revision without prior notice*
Medieval City of Agra

K.K. Trivedi
Former Professor of Medieval Indian History
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This book on the city of Agra makes a close examination of this medieval Indian urban centre that grew into a multifunctional town completely outside of the supposed agenda or impact of Turkish rule, as well as European influence. This enquiry uncovers possible deliberations in the evaluation of a settlement that was unknown in the sixteenth century, but which was to develop into an alternate prominent political centre in northern India. It is argued that while Agra derived its political strength from restructured governance, the location of the town contributed towards its economic development that, in many ways, helped it become the base of operations in intra-regional and international trade and finance for products from far-flung regions of the subcontinent. The book also ruminates on the development of arts and culture under the fostering care of the Mughals which, in the later period, influenced the refinement of regional cultures.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-40-2 • 194 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 1295 • $ 64.95 • £ 52.95

Relations of Golkonda with Iran
Diplomacy, Ideas, and Commerce, 1518–1687

M.Z.A. Shakeb
Historian-archivist of Mughal India and the Deccan

edited by Subah Dayal
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Clemson University, South Carolina

This book traces the diplomatic connections and intellectual linkages of the Golkonda sultanate with Safavid Iran and Mughal Hindustan. Complementing studies of early modern empires, it examines a breadth of Persian manuscripts, epistolary correspondence, archival documents, and European travel accounts from the Deccan. It is one of the first of its kind to explore the movement of knowledge, talent, and people in the early modern world from the perspective of a non-imperial, regional polity. Regional sultanates were not merely receivers of statecraft, religion, and politics from large empires, but also a critical site where diplomatic negotiations and new forms of intellectual exchange transpired and bore upon broader shifts in the eastern Islamic world.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-91-8 • 260 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 895 • $ 49.95 • £ 40.95
Identity, Community and State
The Jains under the Mughals

Shalin Jain
Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This work traces the history of the Medieval Jain community, focusing on the engagements of the Jains with the imperial authority in the Mughal provinces of Ajmer, Awadh, Allahabad, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Lahore and Malwa. It examines the trajectories of Jain community formation under the Mughals in India by scrutinizing the everyday reproduction of a religious minority ruled by a monarchical dynasty belonging to another religious affiliation. The endeavour is to gain insights on how diverse complexities of early modern South Asian society were dealt with. One can argue that socio-economic realities and cultural considerations had a significant influence in the evolution of the intercommunity relationship and state formation in early modern South Asia. An analysis of the ideological underpinnings of the political processes into their relations with the Jains reflects the subtleties of the making of Mughal India. Although most of the Jains were traders and merchants, their relations with the Mughal state can be examined beyond the technicalities of economic considerations.

Composite Culture under the Sultanate of Delhi
(Revised and Enlarged Edition)

Iqtidar Husain Siddiqui
Former Professor of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

This book explores the cultural orientation of the Sultanate of Delhi, a subject on which little work has been done so far. The architects of the sultanate introduced a new system of governance with novel social and cultural institutions, and Persian as an official language. These were significant moves as they served as catalysts for social change. Alongside, the emergence of new urban centres as well as setting up of colonies of foreign immigrants from lands of more advanced culture in the old towns led to the transfiguration of culture in the sultanate. Structurally, it is divided into three parts. The first explores the role played by the metropolis of Delhi as an integrating nucleus, and examines the cultural and social relationship between the Hindus and Muslims. The second focuses on the nature of the relationship between the sultans of Delhi and the Mongol rulers of Central Asia. The third examines the life and position of women and the attitude of different classes of society towards their women folk during this period. As in his earlier works, the author marshals an impressive array of sources to underline his argument and offers a paradigm shift from conventional historiography, and in doing so opens up vistas for further research in the history and culture of the sultanate period.

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Al-Hind: The Making of the Indo-Islamic World
Volume III: Indo-Islamic Society, 14th-15th Centuries*

André Wink
Professor of History, University of Wisconsin, USA

This third volume of André Wink’s acclaimed and pioneering Al-Hind: The Making of the Indo-Islamic World takes the reader from the late Mongol invasions to the end of the medieval period and the beginning of early modern times in the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries. It breaks new ground by focusing attention on the role of geography, and more specifically on the interplay of nomadic, settled, and maritime societies. In doing so, it presents a picture of the world of India and the Indian Ocean on the eve of the Portuguese discovery of the sea route: a world without stable parameters, of pervasive geophysical change, inchoate and instable urbanism, highly volatile and itinerant elites of nomadic origin, far-flung merchant diasporas, and a famine and disease prone peasantry whose life was a gamble on the monsoon.

‘... a splendid (and much needed) project which is setting Indian history within a global context and revolutionizing our view of the Indo-Islamic world.’

—Peter Jackson, Royal Asiatic Society


Meena Bhargava
Associate Professor, Department of History, Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book examines the specificities and peculiarities of Gorakhpur in a period of transition, viz., c.1750–1830. The new, revised Introduction, rewritten chapters, extended Bibliography, and newly introduced Appendix aim to provide a greater focus to the issues discussed in this book. In keeping with the trend of regional studies, it reinforces notions of growth and development, continuity and change, and thereby widens the transition debate, juxtaposing it with colonial discourse and orientalism. In doing so, its major contribution is its attempt to redefine economic history and focus on new ways of studying the subject. The issues herein—ecology and forests; people, their caste compositions and affiliations, their history and culture; economic growth, social change and the changing political traditions—give the book a definite tilt towards social history.

‘The book, by examining the land rights in their entire complexity, goes beyond the traditional narratives on British intervention in Indian land revenue system. ... This book will interest specialists of South Asian economic history. ...’

—Mayank Kumar, Indian Historical Review
Cities in Medieval India
edited by Yogesh Sharma
Former Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Pius Malekandathil
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
This volume focuses on the significance of urbanization in medieval India by highlighting aspects of the rural-urban continuum and divide, power assertion, spatialization, social segmentation, labour process, as well as aspects of culture and human activity. By relating urbanization to issues such as economic transformation, commercial dynamism, agricultural production, ecology and environment, and the exercise of power and authority, the essays herein discuss many facets of medieval cities. These essays will be of interest to scholars of medieval Indian history as well as the general reader looking for a nuanced understanding of urbanization during the medieval phase.

‘...the commendable effort of the volume...[it] has studied variants of medieval Indian cities with representation from almost all regions of India...significant contribution to urban history of medieval India.’

—Meena Bhargava, The Book Review

Inscriptions of the Vijayanagara Rulers Volume V, Part I (Tamil Inscriptions)
edited by Y. Subbarayalu
Head of Department of Indology, French Institute of Pondicherry, Puducherry
S. Rajavelu
Head of Department of Maritime History and Marine Archaeology, Tamil University
This volume, the fifth in the ICHR series of Vijayanagara inscriptions, is the first part of a two-volume publication and contains 576 Tamil inscriptions of the pre-Krishnadevaraya period. The Vijayanagara Empire (c.1336–1650), the first south Indian state spread over most of the peninsula, except Kerala, has to its credit a rich corpus of inscriptions in three Dravidian languages—Kannada, Tamil, and Telugu—besides many in Sanskrit. Compiled from several standard publications, these inscriptions have been arranged in a chronological order, and the text of each inscription is given in Roman transliteration followed by an abstract in English. The Index provides explanations to most technical terms found in the inscriptions.

‘This compilation is an important tool for the researcher. ICHR and the editors deserve our gratitude for the effort and Primus our appreciation for meticulous copy-editing, layout and elegant production.’

—T.K. Venkatesubramanian, Indian Historical Review

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Art and Craft Workshops Under the Mughals
A Study of Jaipur Karkhanas
Sumbul Halim Khan

This book focuses not only on the materials used and the means of production in the *karkhanas* of Jaipur, but also on the technical aspects of production. Tapping into rich statistical data and profusion of micro level details locked in regional sources such as the *karkhanajat* papers comprising *roznama*, *arhsatta*, *siyah*, and *taujih*, and rare documents in the Town Hall Museum at Jaipur and the Rajasthan State Archives at Bikaner, this book showcases the literary corpus of the *karkhana* documents which allow for a better understanding of the conditions of production, cost prices of raw materials, as well as the economic organization of these workshops. With specialized skills in bookbinding, cartography, textile designing, gem encrustation, and even manufacture and decoration of canons, the products manufactured in these *karkhanas* were not merely utilitarian items but also exquisite masterpieces of art and craft.

‘... those interested in craft production and material culture of the Mughal court will find much to explore in the rich empirical detail and numerous illustrations in this modest tome.’

—MARTHA CHAIKLIN, *New Books Asia*
Studies in Polity, Economy and Society of the Trans-Gangetic Valley: Fifteenth-Nineteenth Centuries

Iqbal Husain
Former Professor of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

This book explores the varied political structures and socio-cultural formations in the Trans-Gangetic Valley from the fifteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Empirically rich and extensively documented, the essays in this book delve into rare sources and documents, and provide fresh insights into our understanding of the period. They deal with the diffusion of Islam in India, and highlight its varied, indigenous character, focusing on both revivalist as well as reformist trends within South Asian Islam. They also extensively analyse the thoughts and ideas of Indo-Muslim reformist thinkers like Syed Ahmed Khan and Akbar Allahabadi, and focus on Dara Shikoh and Shahabuddin Suhrawardi to comment on the philosophy and metaphysics of medieval thinkers. These essays are based on a wide variety of extant archival records: family papers of the revenue-grantees in Lucknow, Firangi Mahal papers, and Urdu and Persian manuscripts.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-51-1 • 456 pp. • 2013 • HB • ₹ 1295 • $ 99.95 • £ 65.95

The Spinning World: A Global History of Cotton Textiles, 1200–1850*

edited by Giorgio Riello
Professor of Global History, University of Warwick, UK

Prasannan Parthasarathi
Professor of History, Boston College, USA

This volume explores the pre-modern history of cotton, examining the medieval and early modern antecedents of cotton production. To explore the nature of this history, and the importance of the Indian subcontinent—whose cotton goods traversed the world and which lay at the centre of a vast worldwide trading system—requires a global perspective, which the essays in this volume provide. Ranging from China and Japan to Europe, the Ottoman Empire, South-East Asia, and East and West Africa, these essays explore the global exchange and use of cotton textiles in the Pacific, Indian and Atlantic worlds, as well as the impact of Indian cotton on local consumption and production systems. Taken together, they provide a wide-ranging survey of cotton cloth between 1200 and 1850, as well as a framework which decentres Europe in the pre-modern global order.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-29-0 • 506 pp. • 2012 • HB • ₹ 1795 • * For sale only in South Asia

‘A significant addition to the growing number of multi-authored histories of globally traded commodities. . . . This well-edited collection is also beautifully illustrated and designed, as befits its rich and fascinating content.’

—R.C. NASH, Economic History Review

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Medieval Indian Mindscapes: Space • Time • Society • Man

Eugenia Vanina
Faculty in the Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia

This book centres on the world perception of Indians in precolonial times. It compares specific features of their ‘mental programme’ and its comparability with counterparts in other pre-modern societies. While analysing the importance of space in the medieval world view, it discusses how medieval Indians comprehended their territories and landscape as ‘their own’ vis-à-vis the ‘alien’ space; it also dwells on the development of territorial-cultural and territorial-political identities, and knowledge about other lands and peoples. In a discussion of medieval temporality, the book also studies ways of perceiving the reckoning time, attitudes to the historical past and the manifold ways of recording it. Chapters on ‘Society’ and the medieval Indian perception of ‘Man’, his appearance and peculiarities further complement this book’s usefulness to medievalists as well as general readers keen to learn the dynamics of pre-modern Indian history and culture.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-19-1 • 346 pp. • 2012 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 69.95 • £ 46.95

Literature, Culture and History in Mughal North India, 1550–1800

Sandhya Sharma
Associate Professor, Department of History, Vivekanand College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book studies Mughal Indian polity and dynamics of family, kinship, and caste through Riti Kal literature. It is the first detailed study of the so-called vernaculars, in this case Braja poetry, as source material, so far neglected by both the literati and the historians in context of Mughal north India. The literature, in the form of drama and Braja bhasha poetry, provides evidence of regional diversities and varied patterns of historical developments in medieval north India as well as a dynamism in the political and socio-cultural spheres in pre-modern India. A detailed analysis of Riti Kal poetry reveals that the region, in spite of conflicts and contestations for power, did acknowledge the Mughals as the undisputed rulers of Hind, the future India. Further, while poets continued to advocate the conventional role of women in family and society, they also depicted, with sympathy and understanding, the individuality, liberty and sexuality of the fairer sex.

‘The book can also be placed alongside, and in counterpoint to, scholarship on the changing tenor of Indo-Persian aesthetic cultures in the Mughal period (as in the work of Sunil Sharma and Muzaffar Alam). Sharma’s study is an indispensable contribution, pointing to new and revelatory considerations of a highly formalized literature vitally engaged in history.’

—SUTOPA DASGUPTA, The Journal of Asian Studies
Music as History in Tamilnadu

T.K. Venkatasubramanian
Former Professor of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book examines the ways in which interdisciplinarity between music and history may be established and also how history and aesthetics exist in reciprocal relation to one another. Musicologists focus on the study of musical activity, while ethnomusicologists examine this activity first-hand using ‘field’ research methods of cultural anthropology. The historian’s task, then, is to interpret the musical past as part of cultural production, and thereafter relate music to general historical trends. This is precisely what this collection of essays seeks to establish by studying interdisciplinarity between the Karnatak music system and the history of Tamilnadu.

‘Musical heritage . . . territorially binds all the four linguistic States of southern India. The book traces the historical growth of music as a classical art in the Tamil-speaking areas of south India. . . . An interesting dimension of this evolutionary process is the deification of the king, with musical pieces singing his glory and attributing divinity to his persona.’

—V. SRIRAM, The Hindu

ISBN: 978-93-80607-06-1 • 174 pp. • 2010 • HB • ₹ 695 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95

Chingiz Khan
The Life and Legacy of an Empire-Builder

S.A.H. Haqqi
Formerly Professor of Political Science, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

This book provides an evocative account of Temuchin Chingiz Khan, who knitted the warring Mongol tribes into well-trained warriors, and who went on to establish an empire from the Great Wall of China to the Caspian Sea and the Indus River. The career and achievements of Chingiz Khan have been of singular interest to both the East and the West. Gifted with a magnetic personality, penetrating insight, unerring judgement and disarming candour, Chingiz Khan was a strict disciplinarian, a master strategist and a great commander, who marched far ahead of some of the greatest figures of history and out-rivalled the achievements of the all-time great captains of war. He founded an empire far ahead of his times not merely on his name, fame and might but on law, political organization, and justice and uninhibited tolerance.

‘The book . . . is quite relevant to the students of medieval Indian history because the emergence of the Delhi Sultanate cannot be understood without taking into account the Mongol presence in north-western India . . . the publisher has done a tremendous job in producing a beautiful volume. . . .’

—SURINDER SINGH, Summerhill

ISBN: 978-81-908918-9-9 • 356 pp. • 2010 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 69.95
ISBN: 978-93-80607-81-8 • 356 pp. • 2013 • PB • ₹ 525 • $ 35.95 • £ 23.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
In Pursuit of Playfulness
The Girl-Child/Woman and Nineteenth-Century India

Ruby Lal
Professor, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Atlanta

In this engaging and eloquent history, Ruby Lal traces the becoming of nineteenth-century Indian women through a critique of narratives of linear transition from girlhood to womanhood. In the north Indian patriarchal environment, women’s lives were dominated by the expectations of the male universal, articulated most clearly in household chores and domestic duties. The author argues that girls and women in the early nineteenth century experienced freedom, eroticism, adventurousness and playfulness, even within restrictive circumstances.

Although women in the colonial world of the later nineteenth century remained agential figures, their activities came to be constrained by more firmly entrenched domestic norms. Lal skillfully marks the subtle and complex alterations in the multifaceted female subject in a variety of nineteenth-century discourses, elaborated in four different sites—forest, school, household and rooftops.

Woods, Mines and Minds

Sahara Ahmed
Associate Professor, Department of History, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata

Woods, Mines and Minds: Politics of Survival in Jalpaiguri and the Jungle Mahals deliberates upon a wide spectrum of events and processes as it endeavours to trace the ecological changes brought about by the evolution of two industries, forestry and mining, and their eventual institutionalization in the Bengal Province. An analysis of the topographical changes in this region is essential to render an understanding of the dialectics of colonial rule. The focus on regional history unravels the myriad ways in which colonial intrusion transformed the production process, as well as investigates its impact on the local social fabric. The role of the State, the local stakeholders and the power-liaisons in the colonial and postcolonial period, together with the devolution of authority under the independent government are also examined. The vexed issue of development, which had to accommodate the legacy of the erstwhile regime, the proclivities of the rulers, and the resistance offered by the ruled, covert as well as overt, also deserves attention.
The World of Rebels of 1857
Proclamation, Tracts and Documents, 1857–1859
Iqbal Husain
Late Professor, Centre of Advanced Study in History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
In the ‘rebel world’ of 1857, indigenous discourse on the great uprising in the form of proclamations, pamphlets and appeals issued by rebel leaders and other ideologues offers primary data for understanding the motives of the rebels, their means of mobilization and the people who were sought to be mobilized. It also helps us to figure out if the appeal by the leaders of the rebellion remained within the earlier traditional framework as well as the kind of ‘polity’ or ‘polities’ they envisioned. The material contained in this volume is also likely to throw light on how the sepoys, as members of the most modern army of their times, used modern machines and modern ideas in their fight against their colonial masters, and answer questions regarding the conflict between the Sepoys and the more traditional elements, namely the wahlabis.

Christianity in Indian History
Issues of Culture, Power and Knowledge
Pius Malekandathil
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Joy L.K. Pachau
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Tanika Sarkar
Former Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
This volume is a collection of wide ranging essays on Indian Christianity and Christian missionaries in India. It attempts to identify and reflect upon Christianity’s regional and temporal variations from Early Modern times, its links with global Christian institutions and movements, its diverse cultural practices, and its relationship with caste and class. The essays herein underline the existence of many Christianities in Indian history, their mutual linkages, their exchanges and interactions as well as their debates with other Indian religions and communities. They anchor Christian historical experiences within a larger Indian modernity and identify the specificities and influences of Christian identities as well as locate their intermeshing with other Indian identities.

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
**Highland Odisha**  
*Life and Society Beyond the Coastal World*  
Edited by Uwe Skoda  
Associate Professor, Department of Indology, School of Culture and Society  
Aarhus University, Denmark  
Biswamoy Pati  
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume inverts the othering characteristic of most studies of Odisha by drawing attention to the highlands in the west and south. Based on fieldwork, participant observation, oral traditions, archival materials and long-term historical and anthropological research by a range of scholars negotiating this region and its people, this volume examines the less visible and often misrecognized highlands of Odisha, thus questioning dominant coast-centric views and acknowledging a multitude of perspectives on Odisha beyond simplified dichotomies. The nine essays herein cover themes such as social structures and patterns of kinship and relatedness; concepts of food, music or death and their significance to wider cosmologies; interdependencies among highland communities and the position of migrant farmers between caste and Adivasi society; and processes of resistance and ideas around Nehruvian industrialization projects set up in the supposed 'wilderness'.

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**Streaming the Past**  
*Peninsular India in History*  
Edited by Nilanjan Sarkar  
Deputy Director, South Asia Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science  
Vikas K Verma  
Assistant Professor in History, Ramjas College, University of Delhi.

In a conscious bid to avoid the categorization of ‘south’ India *Streaming the Past: Peninsular India in History* changes the framework of the historical meta-narrative of the nation, which has failed to integrate the history of premodern peninsular India within it. This book demonstrates that a collection of varied essays is, in fact, a woven tapestry with perforated boundaries and a stage for interdisciplinary voices to speak to one another in several ways.  

Focusing on peninsular India, the essays cover diverse topics stretching from megalithic times to the eighteenth century. They rely on classical languages and historical materials to source information, employ versatile methods and examine wide-ranging themes including archaeological sites, trade routes, iron technology, water management, coinage, social hierarchies, goddesses and narrative traditions, performing arts and culture, forms of protests, crime and punishment, and narratives of death alongside socioeconomic and political processes.
Development and Deforestation
The Making of Urban Bombay, c. 1800-1880
Louiza Rodrigues
Professor and Head, Department of History, Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College, Mumbai

This book studies the green dense in scaling the urbanization of Bombay in the nineteenth century. In particular, the book traces the principal consequences of the political intervention of the British in reshaping the ecological landscape of western India. In metamorphosing political intervention into the colonial control, the British botanists, conservators and military engineers undertook scores of forest surveys. This book underscores the colonial psyche in articulating conservation policies and uncovers strategies that have been overlooked in the literature on the Environmental history of the Bombay Presidency.

276 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 995
• $ 49.95 • £ 39.95

R ritual, Caste and Religion in Colonial South India*
edited by Michael Bergunder
Professor of Religions and Intercultural Studies, University of Heidelberg, Germany
Heiko Frese
Research Fellow in Department of History of Religions and Mission Studies, University of Heidelberg, Germany
Ulrike Schröder
Lecturer of Religious Studies and Interreligious Encounter, Hermannsburg Mission Seminary

This volume attempts detailed analyses of Tamil and Telugu sources to explore the impact of notions of rituals, caste and religion in the formation of social, cultural and religious identities of the society of colonial south India. Within the Tamil context there is special focus on the different forms of Saiva Siddhanta revival in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, which reveals a wide range of responses to the social and religious challenges of colonial society in south India and Ceylon. Brahmin dominance was questioned in the wake of the Tamil Renaissance, and groups like Vanniyars, Nadars, and Paraiyars tried to renegotiate and improve their social and cultural status. Accordingly, this volume makes a case for considering these changes separately for the Tamil and Telugu contexts.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-21-4
386 pp. • 2011 • HB • ₹ 1095
* For sale only in South Asia

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Colonial and Contemporary Bihar and Jharkhand
edited by Lata Singh
Associate Professor, Centre for Women’s Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
and Biswamoy Pati
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi
This volume highlights how popular culture and oral cultural traditions emerged as a site for multiple articulations—articulation of marginalization, as well as resistance and subversion—in Bihar, and Jharkhand. In doing so, it tries to capture the complexities of some of the diverse movements prevalent in these regions. The formation of the state of Jharkhand, which was earlier part of Bihar and known as Chotanagpur, has been the result of such movements, some of which have not only created a democratic space in these regions but also brought about a paradigm shift in Indian politics. Unfortunately, the rich popular/subaltern culture of these regions has been overshadowed and eclipsed in most of the scholarly work on this region, and this volume aims to be a corrective to this scholarly oversight.

‘This book provides a valuable insight into the social history, political, cultural and particularly tribal studies of Bihar and Jharkhand. . . . Overall, it is a well-complied collection of articles with substantial worth from a researcher’s point of view.’
—SANJAY KUMAR, Indian Historical Review

India Through American Eyes
100 Years Ago
edited by Pran Nevile
Retired diplomat and UNCTAD Adviser
This volume presents a rare collection of writings by Americans on early twentieth-century India. Culled from ASIA: The American Magazine on the Orient (1901–46), the articles in this volume encompass a range of subjects: nautch girls and snake charmers; issues of caste and class in Indian society; faith and folklore; Christianity and Hinduism; politics of the British Raj, and Gandhi and his strategies of non-violence and civil disobedience. Not connected in any way with the British imperial network, the authors of these articles bring independent ideas and some fresh insight to bear upon their accounts. Taken together, these articles provide significant historical perspectives by persons who visited India long before the first wave of American scholars arrived in post-independent India.
Connecting Nations
Politico-Cultural Mapping of India and South East Asia
edited by
Achintya Kumar Dutta
Professor of History, University of Burdwan, West Bengal
Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury
Fellow and Coordinator of the research project ‘Proximity to Connectivity’ at the Observer Research Foundation, Kolkata Chapter, under the Neighbourhood Regional Studies Initiative

An important aspect of India’s foreign policy from the 1990s has been its attempt to consolidate its ties of friendship and mutual understanding with its East and South East Asian neighbours. India’s Act East Policy has initiated a new positive approach towards South East Asia through its roots which can be traced to India’s past history and tradition. While it began primarily with religious interaction which lead to the spread of Buddhism in the far-flung areas of South East Asia, economic and cultural connections followed soon after. Against this backdrop, the present volume analyses various facets of India’s connectivity with the South East Asian countries, including its linkages with the north-eastern states of India; a rediscovery of Indian imprinted culture, mainly Buddhism and other religions in the South East Asian region and beyond; the use of the Indian diaspora for economic development; and the implementation of various agreements signed by India with the South East Asian countries. This volume is an interesting combination of the analytical method of historical linkages between India and South East Asia with critical observations of the contemporary dynamics of international politics.

ISBN: 978-93-5290-269-8 • 224 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 49.95 • £ 36.95

Hidden Histories
Religion and Reform in South Asia
edited by
Syed Akbar Hyder
Associate Professor of Asian Studies and Islamic Studies at the University of Texas at Austin
Manu Bhagavan
Professor of History and Human Rights at Hunter College and the Graduate Center-CUNY

The essays in this volume examine ‘hidden histories’ related to gender, religion, and reform in modern South Asia. Chapters from an array of eminent contributors examine Indo-Muslim cultures and political mobilization, literary aesthetics, and education, broadly defined. Dedicated to Gail Minault, a pioneering scholar of women’s history, Islamic reformation, and Urdu literature, this volume raises new questions about the role of identity in politics and public life, about memory and historical archives, and about innovative approaches to envisioning egalitarianism. It showcases interdisciplinary methodologies. Timely and thought-provoking, this book will interest all who wish to understand how our diverse and plural pasts have informed our cosmopolitan present as we struggle to arrive at a better future for all.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-84-6 • 324 pp • 2018 • HB • ₹ 1295 • $ 69.95 • £ 54.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
**Mumbai: Socio-Cultural Perspectives—Contributions of Ethnic Groups and Communities**

*edited by*
Dr (Sister) Anila Verghese  
Director/Principal of Sophia Polytechnic, Mumbai  
Swarup Kamat  
Head and Assistant Professor, Department of History, Sophia College for Women, Mumbai  
Rashna Poncha  
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Sophia College for Women, Mumbai

Mumbai, the city of dreams, has always been a city of migrants. People moved here from near and far, by land and sea, their dreams wrapped in optimism and hope. The seven islands that became the erstwhile Bombay welcomed them all. This book, however, focuses on the history of the many communities that contributed to its wealth, both culturally and financially.

**Contesting Nationalisms**  
**Hinduism, Secularism and Untouchability in Colonial Punjab, 1880-1930**

Vikas Pathak  
Currently Deputy Political Editor with *The Hindu* in New Delhi

Indian nationalism has been a contested space over the last century. Claims and counter-claims have been advanced regarding its nature for long now. This book argues that there are multiple visions of Indian nationalism, each seeking hegemony over national discourse, and that divergences regarding the cultural-ideological contours of the idea of India are central to the contest over what Indian nationalism means.
Modernity and Changing Social Fabric of Punjab and Haryana
edited by Yogesh Snehi
Teaches history at the School of Liberal Studies, Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD)
Lallan S. Baghel
Teaches philosophy at the Department of Philosophy, Panjab University, Chandigarh
This eclectic collection of essays is embedded in both the past and present of the region’s complex interface with modernity. It is pertinent to note that despite the postmodernist critiques of the abstract notion of the term modern, modernity continues to be relevant for an understanding of contemporary social processes. Apart from theoretical debates, ‘modernity’ as a process and value system as well as a contrast to ‘tradition’ offers multiple interpretative possibilities which are deeply manifested in the everyday experience of the self and community. While acknowledging both enchantment and disenchantment with modernity, this volume explores the opportunities, contingencies and contestations of the process.
Spatializing modernity, therefore, takes the concept to the arena of experience and practice, thereby bringing it closer to the script of the everyday: the contradictory and at times polemical positioning of access and denial, institutional and individual, urban and rural, trader/moneylender and peasant/zamindar, Jat and Dalit (in context of landownership and access to wealth), and erotic/gender (urban) and ideal (rural). These and other similar themes involve self-positioning and Othering. Modern, modernity and modernization are, therefore, competing, contradictory and overlapping concepts that get situated around the narratives of power, prestige, entitlement and access.

Indian Emigrants to Sugar Colonies
A Study through Calcutta Port, 1842–1900
edited by Sutapa Das Dhar
Research Fellow, Socio-Economic Research Institute, Kolkata
Chandralekha Basu Ghosh
Research Fellow, Socio-Economic Research Institute, Kolkata
Indian Emigrants to Sugar Colonies examines the relationship between the two phases of migration during the nineteenth century that made Calcutta Port the centre of overseas emigration from specific areas of India. It also delves into the reasons that made the migrants settle near the place of embarkation at the end of the century. Starting with an analysis of the causes of large-scale emigration from parts of northern and eastern India and ending with reasons behind changes in the direction of such population movements, this volume presents a new framework for writing migration history, intermingled with industrial expansion in British India during the nineteenth century. It is, thus, a combination of both external as well internal migration histories, enhanced with a cost-benefit analysis of this migration process and its consequences.
Blending Nation and Region
Essays in Honour of Late Professor Amalendu Guha

edited by
Sajal Nag
Professor in History, Assam University, Silchar, and former Distinguished Chair Professor in Social Sciences, Presidency University, Kolkata

Ishrat Alam
Professor, Centre for Advanced Studies in History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

Late Professor Amalendu Guha belonged to that first generation of historians in post-independent India who not just gave Indian history an identity but were also responsible for its decolonization, modernization and internationalization. When most historians were writing macro history, Professor Guha concentrated on regional history and brought into focus a region of India about which very little was then known—north-east India. Besides being an eminent scholar, he was a first rate poet in Assamese, a fearless political activist, as well as a political theorist. He passed away in May 2015.

In this commemoration volume to Late Professor Amalendu Guha, eminent historians of India, his contemporaries, and a host of younger scholars who have grown up following his scholarship gather to offer a scholarly tribute to him through their own research which discuss, debate, discover and controvert a wide array of themes of Indian history. Although other regions such as north and south India and even Ceylon are covered in some of the contributions, this volume focuses specially on north-east India since this was the primary region of Professor Guha’s interest. Some of the issues discussed in this volume include Indian demographic history; the army and social bases of patronage in early India; forests in Mughal India; Euro-Asian trade relationship in the seventeenth century; the culture of dowry; transnationalism and transhumanism of Tagore and Aurobindo; British expansion into northern East Bengal; frontier small wars; application of the concept of martial race on certain communities; colonial masculinity; law and labour in colonial tea plantations; wastelands as a colonial construct; East Bengali settlers in the Assamese public sphere; religious change in north-east India; flood control in colonial Assam; propaganda and tribal response during the Second World War in north-east India; language and nationalities in nineteenth-century Assam; and the colonial state and ethno-genesis in the north-east.
Nature, Knowledge and Development
Critical Essays on the Environmental History of India
edited by Arun Bandopadhyay
Visiting Professor, University of Calcutta, Kolkata
This volume delves deeply into historical research to exemplify theoretical claims of historical meta-narratives and to explain the present predicament of environmentalism. The consequences of colonialism, industrialization, and capitalist interventions in the environment have brought the colonized regions of South Asia into intense global focus and made environmental history a field of great importance. Accordingly, the essays herein highlight the importance of comparative studies within the field of environmental history. From the legacy of colonial forest policies to contemporary watershed programmes, they address several of India’s more prominent environmental history issues, placing them within the comparative frameworks of time, region, society and culture.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-61-1 • 190 pp. • 2016 • HB • ₹ 1395 • $ 59.95 • £ 44.95

Tilling the Land
Agricultural Knowledge and Practices in Colonial India
edited by Deepak Kumar
Professor of History of Science and Education, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Bipasha Raha
Professor of History, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal
This volume sheds light on systems of agricultural knowledge, inherited agricultural practices and allied activities, adoption of new knowledge as well as attempts at modernization, and the involvement and perception of the key historical players and agricultural pioneers who initiated the process of transformation of the system of agrarian production and the creation of a new agrarian knowledge base against the backdrop of burgeoning Western scientific knowledge. Going beyond the scope of work of those who have written agrarian histories of colonial India focussing primarily on issues related to control over land, organization of agrarian production, agrarian relations, rural credit and agrarian commercial network, this volume attempts to examine the productionist discourse in the colonial period as well as throws new light on hitherto unexplored issues related to the colonial impact on indigenous agrarian systems.

ISBN: 978-93-84092-80-1 • 338 pp. • 2016 • HB • ₹ 1195 • $ 64.95 • £ 49.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Hope and Despair
Mutiny, Rebellion and Death in India, 1946

Anirudh Deshpande
Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book recounts the story of the thousands of Indians—sailors and working class individuals—who braved British bullets and bayonets on the streets of Bombay and Karachi during the Royal Indian Navy (RIN) Mutiny and the attendant civil rebellions of 1946. The Indian subcontinent had witnessed inflation, food shortages, a crippling famine in Bengal, and a surge of nationalist sentiment during the course of the Second World War. Millions of Indians also became recruits in the Imperial armed forces in the hope of a better future even as the labouring and working classes bore the brunt of the War. The end of the War, however, brought neither prosperity nor peace, and thousands of demobilized servicemen entered the employment market precisely when wage and job-related strikes rocked Indian cities almost every day. This was a time when immense social anxiety about the future gripped the Indian masses and created a collective consciousness of rebellion woven around the slogans and symbols of wartime Indian nationalism. The INA trials and strikes in the Royal Indian Air Force in 1945 paved the way for the political upheavals of February 1946, which is what this book sets out to explore in detail.

An Idealist in India
Selected Writings and Speeches of Sister Nivedita

Amiya P. Sen
Heinrich Zimmer Chair for Philosophy and Intellectual History, South Asia Institute
University of Heidelberg, Germany

This book puts together representative speeches and writings of Sister Nivedita. Posterity has often judged Margaret Elizabeth Noble (1867-1911), better known as Sister Nivedita, and her guru, Swami Vivekananda (1863–1902), in sharply different ways. Opinion remains divided over whether or not the Swami was more a patriot than prophet, and Nivedita's biographers have read her life and work in widely different ways, aided perhaps by the fact that she remained deeply committed to the memory of her Master and his ideas even as she was increasingly drawn to a life of active politics, which, paradoxically, had been forbidden by none other than the Master himself. Suitably annotated, this book covers a wide array of subjects, ranging from the education of Indian women, Hindu religion, and mythology to issues born of the burgeoning Indian nationalism of the times. A substantive introduction comments upon and contextualizes the selections included.
Real and Imagined Widows
Gender Relations in Colonial North India

Jyoti Atwal
Associate Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This book explores the politico-cultural imagination that formed the subtext of the reformist, nationalist and women’s discourses on widowhood from the colonial period to the 1950s. It examines legislative debates on the relationship between sexuality, morality, property rights and widowhood, and explores the world of literate widows of the early twentieth century. It also traces the manner in which the complex connection between the nineteenth-century idea of widowhood and the concept of the anti-colonial Mother India of the 1920s transformed the notion of the ideal Hindu widow into a metaphor for a struggling/recovering nation in post-colonial India. This metaphor further evolved in independent India under Nehruvian socialism, where, uniquely combined with Gandhian moral reformism, it produced renewed and reformed cultural codes for widows in particular and for Indian women in general.

The Colonial State
Theory and Practice

Sabyasachi Bhattacharyya
Former Vice Chancellor, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

This book addresses through historical narrativization of some specific moments of colonial state building the historical specificities of the 'colonial' state as distinct from other state forms. It weaves together the discourse of state theory and the narrative of state practices. Its approach is based on the argument that theory was not something out there to guide practice. Rather, empirical evidence suggests a more complex picture of interaction between the two where, within parameters structured by theory, practice in turn produces and structures theory at each conjuncture. Given this, and given the absence of theoretical enquiries of the kind which have so enriched the analysis of the post-colonial state, the historiography of the colonial period needs to revisited and complemented—and this is precisely what this book attempts.

‘This work—by adopting a methodology that strikes a fine balance between empiricism and theoretical postulates—comes as an appropriate corrective to the post-modernist stress on textual supremacy, on fragments against overarching identities, and on the local as opposed to general processes.’

—SURANJAN DAS, The Sunday Statesman

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Rabindranath Tagore: A Mind Staring into Infinity

edited by Chhanda Chatterjee
Professor of History, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

This volume explores the multifaceted genius of Rabindranath Tagore in rescuing the stagnant cultural life of Bengal from its many inhibitions. He was an ardent supporter of women’s participation in dance and drama. His art was a precursor of Indian abstract art. In education, he was heavily influenced by the New School Movement, teaching young children to live in harmony with nature. His works often explore the relationship between human experience and the landscape and atmosphere, and he mobilized the energy of his dedicated children (bratibalakas and bratibalikas) for rural resuscitation. A bitter critic of the aggressive nationalism of the West, he acted as a cultural mascot for the ‘submerged nationalities’ of war-ravaged East Europe. The essays herein explore these works and legacies of Tagore, a man much ahead of his time.

Tea Plantation Workers of Assam and the Indian National Movement, 1921-1947

Bikash Nath
Assistant Professor, Department of History, C.K.B. College, Dibrugarh University, Assam

This book studies various phases of workers’ politics in the tea plantations of Assam and deliberates upon the role of nationalist leaders in moulding the fate of these workers. The struggles of tea plantation workers were a manifestation of the strength of their protests against varied forms of exploitations of the tea planters. Their struggle occurred at the time of the formation of the indigenous bourgeoisie, and continued despite the nationalist leadership not providing sufficient support to them. The deep incongruity between interests of the workers and of the nationalist leadership largely determined the fate of the material conditions of these labourers. This book dwells on these and related issues in delineating the history of nationalism amongst the tea plantation workers of Assam.
Cochin Forests and the British Techno-ecological Imperialism in India

Sebastian Joseph
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Union Christian College
Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala

This book sifts through a variety of archival material that has hitherto remained unexamined so as to trace the making of forest reforms and their impact on the rich ecological life of the Cochin region. It examines the workings of the tramway constructed through dense tropical forests in the beginning of the twentieth century to transport massive amounts of extracted teak to the nearest ports and railway lines; the enormous financial burden this brought on the state and how that was mitigated through further exploitation of forest resources whilst limiting access of the local population to the forests. Examining the varied intersections between modern economic and scientific rationality, the technological expansion of an imperialist state, and the predicaments of local ecological worlds, this book is crucial for understanding the environmental history of a princely state less written about.

Awarded Fifth Historia Award for best research work on the history of Kerala.

Colonial State, Agrarian Transition and Popular Protest in Orissa, 1921–1947

Susanta Kumar Bag
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Sri Aurobindo College (Evening)
University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book attempts to understand the agrarian socio-economic transition that took place during colonial rule in the provinces and princely states of Odisha. It deals with the theory of peasant nationalism in India in general, and Odisha in particular, providing a broad historical outline of the Nationalist Movement in the Gandhian period. The peasantry, both tribal and non-tribal, actively participated in anti-imperialist mass movements for independence, and although some regional studies have focused on peasant and tribal movements in Odisha, this book is the first to delineate the agrarian socio-economic structure of Odisha with reference to land relations. It is also unique in discussing the role of the peasantry during the National Movement in Odisha, and tracing the activities of the Krushak Sangh and of the Prajamandals in the princely states in the late 1930s.

‘One needs to appreciate Bag’s effort to steer clear of cultural symbols that are steamrollered, homogenized and connected—rather unhistorically—by some scholars with peasant and tribal consciousness.’

—BISWAMOY PATI, Social History
Chronicles of Time and Chance
Raymond Francis Isar
Formerly with the Indian Foreign Service, and the erstwhile Indian Civil Service

This book questions the myths, action models, and growing corruption of the new Indian ruling class after Independence. Far more than simply autobiographical, these selections from the memoirs of a former ICS officer offer a fascinating cultural and social history of the subcontinent, notably of the Indian-Christian community of the Punjab in the first half of the twentieth century. They explore the conditions in which conversions were made and delineate entanglements between ideas and imaginings of a freshly Westernized lower middle class and the culture of the colonizers. They recount how, as a young District Officer, the author confronted the cultural challenges of rural postings in the extreme south; the implications of being a fledgling Guardian; and his experience of the bloodletting of 1947 in New Delhi. The concluding chapters capture the political manoeuvrings of the last Nehru years as well as the prime ministerial life and times of Lal Bahadur Shastri, his still undervalued successor.

‘This volume of over 260 pages, while being essentially autobiographical, narrates the political and social history of India during the most important period. Raymond Francis Isar, as a civil servant having served on either side of Independence, had a ringside view of the establishment that ruled the country and the cabal that emerged in the political scenario at critical times and changed the fate of the country.’

—K.R.A. NARASIAH, The Hindu

ISBN: 978-93-84082-36-9 • 278 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 1195 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95

Agriculture and Environment
Debates in the Central Legislature of India, 1937–1957
Surendra Mohan Mishra
Former Deputy Director (Research), Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi

This book studies agriculture-related debates in the Central legislature of India between 25 January 1937, the first day of the Fifth Session of the Fifth Legislative Assembly, and 28 March 1957, the last day of the First Lok Sabha. It details various aspects and shades of the agrarian culture of India that underwent transformations as a consequence of contact with an industrially advanced colonial culture. With 15 August 1947 forming the dividing line between the British Raj and the Republic of India, this book looks at various aspects and agencies of agriculture in India during the two historic decades before and after the nation’s freedom at midnight. As such, it is a significant tool towards understanding environmental history in India, for while engagement with the environment became commonplace post-1970, the basic awareness that agriculture affects the natural environment, and is in turn affected by it, has been part of traditional subcontinental wisdom.

‘...the voluminous information provided in this book will be of great use to interested readers.’

—K. SIVARAMAKRISHNAN, Social History

ISBN: 978-93-84082-11-6 • 254 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 1395 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95
In Defence of Honour and Justice
Seyopy Rebellions in the Nineteenth Century
Sabyasachi Dasgupta
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

This book focuses on the ‘sepoys’ rebellions of the nineteenth century as an entry point into the wider dynamics of the pre-1857 colonial armies. Delving beyond the usual binaries of discipline and indiscipline which tend to draw a linear teleology between localized mutinies in the colonial armies and the greater event of 1857, it seeks to explore the broader issues these mutinies raise about the colonial armies. These were issues like the prevalence of certain notions of honour and justice among the ‘sepoys’, contrasting conceptions of discipline, structures of deference, the construction of colonial stereotypes, and their influence on policy decisions. These indices were linked to broader questions of loyalty and the construction of a distinct ‘sepoys’ identity. Thus, the various sepoys mutinies of the nineteenth century can be read as violent interventions by the sepoys to renegotiate the indices around which company armies sought to build a ‘sepoys’ identity.

‘...the present volume convincingly attempts to bring out sepoys-centric perspective of various mutinies scripted by them in the nineteenth century by treading into their worldview and sensibilities.’
—SAURAV KUMAR RAI, Social Scientist

Invoking Ambedkar
Contributions • Receptions • Legacies

This volume brings together a wide variety of scholarly ideas of and on B.R. Ambedkar: the way ‘Aryans’ are perceived in Dalit historical thinking; seeing the problem of Dalit liberation through the lenses of Adam Smith; the election of the Constituent Assembly (1946) with which Ambedkar was intimately involved, and which scripted India’s Constitution; the approach of Gandhi and Ambedkar to the process of planning and India’s economic development; and Ambedkar’s attitude to Marx and Buddha, as well as Dalit Christianity. It also includes a comparative study of Ambedkar and some of his contemporaries like Charan Singh and Ram Manohar Lohia in Uttar Pradesh.

‘The book can be recommended to scholars, policymakers, Dalit activists or those interested in human rights issues.’
—JOHANNES BELTZ, South Asia: A Journal of South Asian Studies

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Contesting Colonialism and Separatism
Muslims of Muzaffarpur Since 1857
Mohammad Sajjad
Associate Professor, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
This book explores the history of Muslim communities of Muzaffarpur in north Bihar, the socio-political behaviour of these communities, their economic conditions, and negotiations for a share in the power-structure. It is presented in three segments: the political evolution of the area during the colonial era through an exploration of the sub-regional socio-political setting; the participation of the Muslims of this area in the Congress-led movements till the 1930s, narrating the largely untold story of Muslim resistance to the Muslim League’s politics of territorial separatism; and their post-independence experiences and political anxieties, problems and prospects. Intercommunity cooperation and harmony prevailed in this area over divisive politics even during the most vitiated atmosphere of 1946–7.

‘. . . while the level of Muslim participation in the freedom struggle was more than the community’s percentage in population, their political participation in independent India is far less, showing isolation, separatism and segregation. A different book based on a Muslim individual’s introspection and therefore provides interesting material to read.’

—K.R.A. NARASIAH, The Hindu
**Interrogating Politics & Society**  
*Twentieth-Century Indian Subcontinent*  
Suranjan Das  
Vice Chancellor, Jadavpur University, Kolkata

This book broadly addresses three themes relevant to South Asian history: communalism, nationalism, and the social underworld. Focusing on communal riots and patterns of communal mobilizations in the Indian subcontinent throughout the twentieth-century, the essays herein aim to enrich readers’ understanding of an issue that continues to plague our body politic. Bengal’s involvement with India’s freedom struggle highlights an intermingling of mainstream nationalism and various forms of protest politics, a theme which has also been dealt with in this book. In examining the underworld of Bengal, this book also intermingles social history and political history. By way of new insights on crime and criminality, it studies the *goondas*, a part of Calcutta’s underworld, and the dacoits of nineteenth-century rural Bengal.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-77-1  
228 pp. • 2014 • HB • ₹ 950  
• $ 59.95 • £ 39.95

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**Thuggee**  
*Banditry and the British in Early Nineteenth-Century India*  
Kim A. Wagner  
Senior Lecturer of British Imperial History, Queen Mary University of London, UK

This book constitutes the first in-depth examination of thuggee as a type of banditry which emerged in a specific socio-economic and geographic context. Thuggee did not constitute a caste-like identity, and was a means of obtaining a livelihood reverted to by all strata of Indian society in certain areas. As such it constituted a highly institutionalized social practice related to issues of patronage and retainership, identity and legitimacy, and was defined by the appropriation of high status rituals and martial ethos. The history of ‘thugs’ need no longer be limited to the study of their representations, and this book reconstructs and historicizes thuggee as a social phenomenon—as less than the sacrificial cult constructed by the British, yet more than the colonial phantasmagoria counter-posed by post-colonial scholars.

‘In this study Kim Wagner by and large goes along with the present consensus, though he has put forth a nuanced thesis, carefully weighing the available evidence.’

—AMAR FAROOQUI, *The Book Review*

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*Prices are subject to revision without prior notice*
Essays in Modern Indian Economic History
edited by Sabyasachi Bhattacharya
Former Vice Chancellor, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

This volume is part of a three-volume series comprising representative articles of Indian History Congress Proceedings (1935-85). The essays herein provide an overview of the continuities and changes in historians’ approach to economic aspects of ‘modern’ Indian history. In the agenda of economic historians, the problems uppermost have been policies of the colonial state, the impact of metropolitan capitalism on colonial trade and industry, and in particular the evolution of land revenue systems in various regions. At the same time, many of the continuities from the pre-colonial period to the so-called modern period in terms of social institutions, political structures, and organization of production have engaged historians. Accordingly, this volume indicates how research in modern economic history has pushed beyond the study of colonial economic policies per se into processes internal to the economy and society under the impact of these policies, resulting in the development of a culturally and socially sensitive economic history. Re-issued in a revised form to synchronize with the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of the Indian History Congress, these essays are accompanied by a new Preface and an Introduction that highlights the changing contours of emphases, shifting focus and methodologies and projections of research, both encouraged and documented under the aegis of the Indian History Congress.

See also pp. 41 and 83.
Traces of Empire
India, America and Postcolonial Cultures: Essays and Criticism
Satadru Sen
Professor of South Asian History, City University of New York, USA
The essays in this volume examine the interwoven strands of empire and resistance in not just the contexts of India and the United States, but also in other parts of the world, such as Germany and Israel-Palestine. They highlight not only the particular histories of cultures of power and desire, but also the convergences of forms of power and desire originating in different historical settings. What, for instance, links the culture of schoolchildren in the Indian hinterland with the isolation of small-town America? What does the fact that Indian crowds stare openly at strangers have to do with police violence and race relations on the other side of the world? What might happen if Günter Grass and Rabindranath Tagore encountered Nirad Chaudhuri and Gandhi in the ‘global’ space of an airport transit lounge? Can the ‘PJ’—the Indian concept of the ‘poor joke’—be considered a response to the decidedly unfunny violence of empire? These questions have no easy answers, but the complexities and contradictions of the answers are what make the problems worth exploring, shedding light on the novelty as well as the familiarity of the post-September-Eleven world.

Zafar and the Raj: Anglo-Mughal Delhi c.1800–1850
Amar Farooqui
Professor of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi
This book studies the formative phase of the history of colonial Delhi, a phase that from its duality, social and political, may be referred to as Anglo-Mughal. From 1803 onwards there were two centres of authority in the imperial city: the Residency and the Palace. The competing influence of the Palace determined the manner in which colonial authority was established in Delhi. Simultaneously, the association of the Mughal emperor’s name with Delhi, combined with participation in fin-de-siècle Mughal court ritual by the East India Company’s officials, was to shape the colonial perception of Delhi as the premier imperial city of the subcontinent. Information available in the colonial archive about Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar (1775–1862; r. 1837–57), and his two immediate predecessors, is used in this book to reconstruct the history of the city from the period c.1803–1857. This book is also a political biography of Zafar, aiming to present the story of his life not, as is typical, from the perspective of the revolt of 1857, but in terms of Zafar as a prominent local aristocratic figure who was part of the Urdu-speaking urban elite of the first half of the nineteenth century.

‘The book is particularly significant in the context of the need to understand the anomalous nature of the colonial state which the merchant entrepreneurs of the East India Company were creating in India.’
—B. SURENDRA RAO, Indian History

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Dictionary of Historical Places
Bengal, 1757–1947
edited by Ranjan Chakrabarti
Vice Chancellor, Vidyasagar University, West Bengal
This volume is the first of its kind to deal with the little known histories of hundreds of places in Bengal. Given the recurring geophysical and climatic disruptions in West Bengal, repeated changes of administrative units and names, lack of collective memory or adequately documented folk sources or oral traditions, the compilation of such a dictionary brings its own challenges. The entries in this dictionary are an attempt at writing aspects of local history during a particular period, and demonstrate how numerous factors affected the landscape of West Bengal.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-36-8 • 290 pp. • 2013 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 69.95 • £ 46.95

History, Ideas and Society
S.C. Mishra Memorial Lectures in History
edited by S.Z.H. Jafri
Professor of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi
This volume concentrates on the concerns and problems that have informed scholarly reflection among historians of South Asia on precolonial and colonial India. In their scope and depth, the essays herein seek to serve as correctives to conventional perspectives in Indian history, particularly on the social consequences of colonialism and the socio-economic history of the precolonial period. The issues discussed include the effects of learning and education in colonial India, aspects of social reforms and caste-based politics, the emergence of religious identities leading to the problem of communalism in the modern period, and cultural nationalism and its limitations in the development of the modern nation state in India. In attempting to understand the workings of the economy and the state in precolonial India, these essays use extant Persian and Bengali sources of the fourteenth-sixteenth centuries to explore the methods by which the Mughal State facilitated economic growth; facets of the currency system and agrarian relations; and pre-modern minting methods and numismatic history.

‘By bringing together writings on various periods of time and place, it not only adds to the richness but also contributes to unravelling the pathbreaking moments of Indian historical research.’

—BYAPTI SUR, The Book Review
Religion and Ideology of the Rebels of 1857

Iqbal Husain
Former Professor of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

This book effects a departure from dominant historiography of the events of 1857 and seeks to understand the ideological elements to the background of the rebellion. Most of the popular studies on 1857 rely almost exclusively on official sources that present the imperial point of view. This book, on the other hand, brings to light largely unexplored sources such as proclamations of the rebels and their sympathizers and the correspondence they carried out amongst themselves. Reinterpreting the revolt, it asserts that 1857 was not a mutiny but involved the masses, making it a national war against an alien ruler. It also suggests that the rebels’ stress on unity between Hindus and Muslims in the joint struggle against an alien ruler paved the way for the emergence of the national struggle for freedom and of a secular India after independence.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-48-1 • 228 pp. • 2013 • HB • ₹ 850 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95

Disciplined Natives
Race, Freedom and Confinement in Colonial India

Satadru Sen
Professor of South Asian History, City University of New York, USA

This volume examines three interrelated aspects of the history of British India: race, the disciplining institution, and attempts by the colonized to imagine states of freedom. The essays herein deal with sites as diverse as the prison, the family, the classroom, the playing field and children’s literature. They confront the ideological, social and political ramifications of the fact that even as metropolitan prisons and schools shifted their attention from the body of the inmate to the confined ‘soul’, colonial disciplinary institutions ensured that race was firmly attached to the body and its habits. Situated within work on gender, domesticity and the state, they also engage the historiography that has sought to underline the challenges of reconciling Michel Foucault and Edward Said, i.e. studying the making of norms in a world of deviance and difference. They ask whether the liberating possibilities of the racialized-and-embodied ‘native’ self were confined to inversions and rearrangements of given normative hierarchies, or if we can occasionally glimpse radical departures and alternative configurations of power.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-31-3 • 368 pp. • 2012 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 69.95 • £ 46.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Chandernagore: From Bondage to Freedom, 1900–1955

Sailendra Nath Sen
Former Professor of History, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

This book is a groundbreaking work on Chandernagore—a town on which there is still little published material available—and provides important scholarship in the field of the history of West Bengal. Chandernagore was a French possession near Kolkata and has experienced several changes in fortune, moving from being the hub of revolutionary activities against British imperialists to being subjugated by the French. The struggle against French colonial rule was fought in a non-violent manner through a process of negotiations that led to a peaceful referendum in 1949, the first of its kind in India. Utilizing diverse original sources from India and France, as well as the private papers of Debendra Nath Dash, a key figure in Chandernagore politics, this book examines the unfolding of events in the struggle against French tutelage.

‘. . . vividly describes the historical role of Chandernagore in the revolutionary activities against the British and its ultimate desire to merge with the mainland Bengal . . . this work will be a treasure for the students of history, more notably the history of the Indian freedom struggle.’

—V.B. Ganesan, The Hindu

Recording the Progress of Indian History
Symposia Papers of the Indian History Congress, 1992–2010

edited by S.Z.H. Jafri
Professor of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume is comprised of papers presented at the annual symposia of the Indian History Congress. It introduces groundbreaking research from a number of top Indian scholars and therefore makes a notable advancement in the fields of History and Archaeology in India. The essays in this volume traverse subjects central to the study of History in India: they are arranged thematically under the sections People and Environment; Language Change, Education and Transmission of Knowledge; Gender History; Caste, Class, and Social Justice; Frontiers of History; Facets of Our Cultural Past; Money and Social Change; State in Indian History; and Towards Freedom. They examine data from a variety of primary sources and, hence, provide new frameworks and offer fresh and original insights on various dimensions of Indian History and Archaeology.
Popular Translations of Nationalism
Bihar, 1920–1922

Lata Singh
Associate Professor, Centre for Women’s Studies
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This book revisits historiography on nationalism by moving beyond the binary of elite and subaltern nationalism and focusing on the complex nature of popular nationalism. It also underscores the protests of the subordinate police, an area which has so far remained unexplored. By foregrounding the police’s interface with nationalism and its varied trends, it problematizes both the accepted view of the state’s subordinates as being effectively integrated with the colonial state and their identity as agents of the state. In effect, the book asserts that nationalism was not merely an attempt to eject the British nor was it simply a political struggle for power. Rather, it was also a hegemonic contestation with colonialism, but one within which the counter-hegemonic struggle of nationalism was also intertwined with contest for hegemony within Indian society.

Bal Gangadhar Tilak
Popular Readings

edited by Biswamoy Pati
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume explores Bal Gangadhar Tilak’s engagements with not just the Indian national movement, but also with nuanced diversities associated with a context that preceded these mass movements. Based on a variety of sources, the essays herein attempt to historicize a nationalist icon, presenting, in the process, a holistic picture of a leading nationalist personality, including his contradictions and ambiguities, making both Tilak and his contexts accessible. It will be of use to those interested in the Indian national movement and the manner in which it intersected with a range of social, cultural, and political issues.
Sindias and the Raj
Princely Gwalior c. 1800–1850

Amar Farooqui
Professor of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book is a study of the Sindia state of Gwalior during the colonial period. It traces the history of one of the leading princely states of the British Indian Empire from its first major military encounter with the British at the beginning of the nineteenth century to the eve of the Revolt of 1857. In doing so, it explores the fascinating factional conflicts at the Gwalior durbar and the connections these had with the politics of the powerful Sindia army. The book also examines the political economy of princely Gwalior, and pays close attention to the responses of various classes in the state to colonial intervention—responses ranging from outright collaboration to armed conflict. It also attempts a reappraisal of several facets of the history of Malwa in the colonial period, including the history of the Pindaris and trade in Malwa opium.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-08-5 • 166 pp. • 2011 • HB • ₹ 650 • $ 39.95 • £ 26.95

Explorations in Modern Bengal, c. 1800–1900
Essays on Religion, History and Culture

Amiya P. Sen
Heinrich Zimmer Chair for Philosophy and Intellectual History at the South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, Germany

This book examines the regional culture of nineteenth-century Bengal, subjected to acute interpretative stress throughout this period. This is done through an original study of three key facets of contemporary Hindu thought: new perspectives on the possible interplay between the divinely ordained and humanly enacted history, innovative extensions in the meaning of older terms like Dharma; and attempts at evolving new moral and cultural theories around select mythical figures and traditionally revered texts. In essence, then, this book is a unique contribution to the history of modern Bengal as distinct from the more conventionally political or social histories.

‘This work will interest the specialist, one keen to study the intellectual activity that colonial intervention unleashed in Bengal.’

—ANSHU MALHOTRA, American Historical Review
India’s Princely States
People, Princes and Colonialism*

edited by Waltraud Ernst
Professor of History at Oxford Brookes University, UK

and Biswamoy Pati
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume reassesses the place of Indian princely states within the history of South Asia and weaves together hitherto uncharted terrains. It employs a multidisciplinary approach and critiques some of the received paradigms of conventional historiography about Princely India, leading the reader into new realms of discussion such as literary constructions, aspects of political economy and legitimacy, military collaborations, gender issues, peasant movements, health policies and the mechanisms for controlling and integrating the states. The essays herein focus on a range of states in different regions and base their analyses on hitherto unused or under-used archival sources.

‘The twelve essays in this . . . share a habit of utilizing rare archival sources to critique the colonial mode of historiography and the tradition that studies the Indian states in reductionist ways. . . . Taken together, the articles in this anthology raise important questions for future research.’

—NAWARAJ CHAULAGAIN, The Journal of Asian Studies

ISBN: 978-93-80607-03-0 • 244 pp. • 2010 • PB • ₹ 495

* For sale only in South Asia
Sūrdās: Poet, Singer, Saint

John Stratton Hawley

Informally, Jack—is Claire Tow Professor of Religion at Barnard College, Columbia University.

For decades Sūrdās has been Jack Hawley’s ideal poet. But not the Sūrdās we all think we know—the poet of Krishna’s childhood, the disciple of Vallabhacarya. Rather, Hawley focuses on a Sūrdās who emerges from the early manuscripts where his poems were first collected. They reveal quite another Sūr: a poet of extraordinary range, a man who never abandoned his sense of personal struggle, a saint devoted to singing.

Was this Sūrdās blind? Probably not. Did he take initiation from Vallabha? No. Who was he, then? Proceeding theme by theme, Hawley paints a very different portrait. In the final chapter, Hawley shows us how actual portraits of Sūrdās appeared in the course of the seventeenth century. By roughly 1700, some 150 illustrations of Sūr’s poems had been painted in Udaipur, and in each one we see the poet himself—far more often than any of his bhakti peers. Hawley argues that the legend of Sūr’s blindness helps explain this efflorescence. In a new 100-page chapter written especially for this revised edition, we have a chance to see how this visual tradition developed—and to see it in glorious colour.

Essays on Hinduism
(Third Edition)

Karan Singh

Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha

This volume discusses the basics of Hinduism. The essays herein outline the message of the *Bhagavad Gita* and the *Upanisads*, arguing that Hinduism is not a cult, nor a bunch of dogmas, but a religion of the highest order that speaks of an immanent and transcendental god. It also offers a philosophy of life that cuts across ethnic and geographic barriers. The essentials of Hindu religio-philosophic teaching are pervaded by the ideal of universalism and love for humanity, and the book iterates the relevance of Hindu universalism to an age in which nations are armed for mutual annihilation. It maintains that successful application of the religio-philosophic teachings of Hindu seers will help humankind to overcome the worst crisis facing it in this nuclear age, and will lead to restructuring the world on the all-embracing principle of freedom and equity. The text is followed by a lucid translation and commentary on *Mundaka Upanisad*. 
Self, Sacrifice, and Cosmos
Vedic Thought, Ritual, and Philosophy
edited by Lauren M. Bausch
Assistant Professor at Dharma Realm Buddhist University, California

The eleven articles in this volume mark a significant advance in Vedic studies. Contributions range widely across critical topics in early, middle, and late Vedic texts and their commentaries, as well as classical themes in contemporary Sanskrit literature. Essays elucidate the explanations and arguments found in Brahmana texts, the historical and ecological development of Vedic ritual, concepts and underlying messages in Vedic texts, anachronisms in commentarial exegesis, and literary devices in narrative. From a variety of philological, philosophical, ritual, gender, and literary approaches, these articles shed new light on our understanding of these seminal texts of Indian religion and philosophy. This book is dedicated to the life and work of Professor Ganesh Umakant Thite.

Histories, Regions, Nodes
Essays for Rattan Lal Hangloo
edited by
Salma Ahmed Farooqui
Professor-cum-Director, H.K. Sherwani Centre for Deccan Studies
Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad

The volume Histories, Regions, Nodes is a collection of eighteen essays that brings together assorted opinions and issues raised by scholars on themes related to trade and urbanization, art, architecture and popular culture, religion and ideology, historiography, nature of state, status of women, diplomacy and ethnic conflict in remote parts of India. Contributed by scholars who have known Professor Rattan Lal Hangloo over the years, these essays deliberate upon political, cultural and economic aspects of history to which Professor Hangloo as a historian has contributed.
Pursuing Death: Philosophy and Practice of Voluntary Termination of Life (Revised Edition)

S. Settar
Visiting Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore

This book widens the canvas of enquiry on the Jaina practices of voluntary termination of life, identified with terms such as Santāra, Sallekhanā, Samādhī, Sanyasana, Arādhanā, Bhaktapratyakhyana, Pañchapada, Prāyopagamana, Ingiṇī, etc. It undertakes an in-depth study of both the philosophy and the practice of death, as revealed in a wide variety of texts written in Prakrit, Sanskrit, Kannada as well as a vast body of historical records dated between the third century BCE and nineteenth century CE.

ISBN 978-93-80607-43-6 • 326 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 1395 • $ 84.95 • £ 56.95

Inviting Death: Historical Experiments on Sepulchral Hill (Revised Edition)

S. Settar
Visiting Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore

This book presents the history of Jainas spread over a millennium and half on the Samadhi-betta, or the Sepulchral Hill at Sravana Belogola, the foremost of the Digambara Jaina centres in the world. The Jainas are one of the foremost communities to have paid serious attention to death. Indeed, their preoccupation with it has been so intense that without understanding their philosophy of death, it is almost impossible to make out their notion of life. The Jainas did not consider death a subject of intellectual exercise; they held it as a force that permeates the social, religious and philosophical sinews of life. The codified rules of the art of inviting death, descriptive accounts of Puranic and historical personalities who embraced it, and an interesting body of epigraphical and archaeological remains provide a rich corpus of information on those who voluntarily terminated their lives.

‘Professor Settar has made a very considerable contribution to the literature on . . . religion. He says, modestly, that he has taken the first step into an unexplored territory. He has, in fact, done far more than this . . . [He] has produced a work of valuable scholarship which is readable and enlightening for the scholar and non-expert alike.’

—Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society
Sixty-Four Yoginis: Cult, Icon and Goddesses

Anamika Roy
Associate Professor, Department of Ancient History, Culture and Archaeology
University of Allahabad, Allahabad

This book examines different layers of complex phenomena related to the Yoginis based on rigorous fieldwork in the hitherto untraversed terrain where the Yoginis have their abode. Abandoned temples, stretching from Banda in Uttar Pradesh to Bolangir in Odisha, were once witness to the evolution of the mysterious cult of these goddesses. Well supplemented with a rich collection of photographs, this book offers valuable insights for researchers in the fields of religion, myth, culture, history, and gender studies respectively. It identifies Yoginis of the temple, of the Puranas, of tantric texts, of folklore, and, finally, of the Yogini Kaula. Various portrayed as malevolent goddesses, deities of tantric rituals, and yoginis of flesh and blood, they are seen as sixty-four forms of the goddess and the sixty-four embraces of Shiva and Shakti. This book deciphers the complex forms of these Yoginis by engaging with the subject historically, aesthetically, theologically, and anthropologically.

‘... the book adds to the available resources on the subject and to a certain extent advances some thought-provoking ideas ...’

—PRANSHU SAMADARSHI, Frontline

Approaching the Divine
The Integration of Āḻvār Bhakti in Śrīvaiṣṇavism

Bharati Jagannathan
Associate Professor, Department of History, Miranda House, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book is situated in the context of the ongoing scholarly debate regarding the historical evolution of Tamil Śrīvaiṣṇavism. It spans the period from the second half of the first millennium, i.e. the bhakti period, to the period of consolidation of the scriptural and sectarian tradition in the first half of the second millennium. Traditionally, lives of the bhakti saints have been used to understand their hymns. However, examination of these hagiographies through the lenses of theology, caste, sectarian conflict and popular legends suggests that these life stories might themselves be constructs of the latter period, and are governed by socio-economic and political impulses as much as by spiritual ones. Thus, this work attempts to trace the process whereby a Sanskritic brahmanical tradition and a devotional Tamil folk tradition were knit together, arguing that the ways in which the saint poets’ hymns were interpreted and integrated contained elements of both continuity and change.

‘Based on a detailed and meticulous study of the source materials comprising the hagiographies, hymns and inscriptions, the book admirably demonstrates the ways in which the Srivaishnava ideologues ... reoriented and integrated a pre-existing Tamil religious tradition ...’

—RANJEETA DUTTA, The Book Review
The Junaydī Sufīs of the Deccan
Discovery of a Seventeenth Century Scroll

Mohammed Suleman Siddiqi
Former Vice Chancellor, Osmania University, Hyderabad

This book recasts the history of Sufism in the Deccan and in India in general. Establishing the presence and active involvement of the Junaydī Sufis in the Deccan during the Bahmani period (1347–1538), contrary to established assumption that it was the Chishtīs who spread Sufi teachings there, this study brings to light some rare thirteenth century documents, including the oldest Persian document in the history of the Deccan. Two sacred scrolls of the seventeenth century from the private collection of a prominent Junaydī Sufi family of Bijapur, tracing its spiritual and family descent to Abul Qasim al-Junayd of Baghdad, have also been produced. The scrolls contain extracts from an extinct fourteenth century text, Atwar al-abrar by ‘Ayn al-Din Ganj al-‘Ilm, revealing rich details on prominent Junaydīs, including women Sufis.

‘This volume provides a meticulously edited and translated cache of Persian documents, opening a window onto a fascinating chapter of Indo-Muslim history that would otherwise remain hidden. . . .’

—CARL W. ERNST
Religious Tradition and Culture in Eighteenth Century North India

Tabir Kalam
Associate Professor, Department of History, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi

This book highlights religious and cultural efflorescence in India during the eighteenth century. By shifting focus from the political and economic transition of that period, it examines the wide array of primary sources in Persian and—especially—Urdu to study intellectual and cultural trends in the period. It also brings into prominence the vibrant religious-intellectual outpouring, the poetics and politics of Shia-Sunni polemics, the educational innovations, the growth of Urdu and its entanglement with religious and regional sensibilities along with regional networks of patronage and, finally, the diffusion of Mughal court culture in different regional centres up to the qasba level which became the template to re-contextualize, re-define and adapt various elements of the Mughal culture. Significantly, this book also contends that the seepage and assimilation of Mughal culture at various regional centres when confronted by European modernity in the eighteenth century in many ways acted as the foundation of Muslim politics in the nineteenth century.

‘... [this book] emphasizes the dynamics of the historical phase that followed in the wake of the Mughal decline, and inspires scholars to further explore this field.’
—MADHU TRIVEDI, Studies in History

Ritual, Caste and Religion in Colonial South India*

edited by Michael Bergunder
Professor of Religions and Intercultural Studies, University of Heidelberg, Germany

Heiko Frese
Research Fellow in Department of History of Religions and Mission Studies, University of Heidelberg, Germany

Ulrike Schröder
Lecturer of Religious Studies and Interreligious Encounter, Hermannsburg Mission Seminary

This volume attempts detailed analyses of Tamil and Telugu sources to explore the impact of notions of rituals, caste and religion in the formation of social, cultural and religious identities of the society of colonial south India. Within the Tamil context there is special focus on the different forms of Saiva Siddhanta revival in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, which reveals a wide range of responses to the social and religious challenges of colonial society in south India and Ceylon. Brahmin dominance was questioned in the wake of the Tamil Renaissance, and groups like Vanniyars, Nadars, and Paraiyars tried to renegotiate and improve their social and cultural status. Accordingly, this volume makes a case for considering these changes separately for the Tamil and Telugu contexts.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-21-4 • 386 pp. • 2011 • HB • ₹ 1095
* For sale only in South Asia

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Gināns: Texts and Contexts
Essays on Ismaili Hymns from South Asia in Honour of Zawahir Moir
edited by Tazim R. Kassam
Associate Professor of Religion, Syracuse University, USA
Françoise Mallison
Directeur d’Etudes Emeritus, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes

This volume is in honour of Zawahir Moir, one of the earliest scholars on the Gināns. Composed in Indian languages and idioms, the Gināns illustrate how Muslims were influenced by cultures and philosophies surrounding them, and created new ways of expressing their beliefs and values. Although this living tradition of religious songs is central to Ismaili practice, only a handful of studies have dealt with this subject. This volume, with essays from scholars and community enthusiasts, fills this lacuna in existing scholarship.

‘The volume . . . opens some doors . . . to new discussions and alternative perceptions of this phenomenon, while at the same time scrutinizing its management in modern times with a refreshing openness.’
—M.G. VASSANJI, Summerhill

Buddhism at Sārnāth
Anand Singh
Professor in the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions, Nālandā University

This book attempts a reconstruction of the different Buddhist traditions that evolved at Sārnāth between the preaching of the Four Noble Truths (sixth century BC) and the construction of Dharmachakrajina Vihāra (twelfth century CE) in the early medieval age. Sārnāth is one of the eight centres of Buddhism, and this book attempts an objective assessment of the history, rise, and decline of Sārnāth by studying archaeological, epigraphic and literary sources. It explores the religious traditions, origin and geomorphological construction of the Sārnāth region, dharmacakkapabattana, and its religious and architectural symbolism and patronage. The probable causes of the decline of Buddhism at Sārnāth have also been discussed in the context of Chinese, Indian and Persian sources, and archaeological reports.

‘The author has discussed in detail the evolution of Sārnāth as a centre of Buddhist pilgrimage and the historical development of Buddhism and its various sects, stupas and art and architecture in the region concerned. . . . The book is further enriched by photographs of Buddhist monuments and figures of Buddhist deities discovered at the time of excavation.’
—SARITA KHETTRY, Indian Historical Review
Dāna
Reciprocity and Patronage in Buddhism

edited by Anand Singh

Professor in the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions, Nālandā University

This book encompasses wide-ranging yet fundamental questions that have played a pivotal role in introducing, defining, structuring, and institutionalizing rules, practices, and traditions throughout the historical stretch of Buddhism. The papers herein explore dāna in Buddhism as a primarily rational and ethical phenomenon and examine its superimposing, mythic, and cultic dimensions attainable only to the eye of faith. The scholars who contributed their papers have attempted to examine dāna in Buddhism either with regard to contemporary religious traditions or in relation to its various sects and traditions, re-examining the established hypothesis and challenging occasional extremes that are prone to carrying exaggerations.

Winner of ‘Outstanding Book on Buddhism’ Award carrying a prize of 500 NZD.

Planet, Plants & Animals
Ecological Paradigms in Buddhism

Anand Singh

Professor in the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy and Comparative Religions, Nālandā University

This book is a modest attempt to look at and examine the beginnings of ecological concerns in the Buddhist religious traditions, based on a meticulous examination of diverse narratives pointing towards a correlation between Buddhism and environmental issues. By examining the seminal teachings of the Buddha through the concepts of Paticcasamuppāda, Kamma (Karmat), the eightfold path, ahimsā, Pañcaśila and in literature, like the Jātakas, Therīgātha and Theragātha in relation to animals, population dynamics, yajñas and animal sacrifices as well as flora and fauna associated with the Buddha, this book attempts to discover the inescapable connection between the individual’s well-being and Nature.

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Religious Culture of Gujarat
Twelfth to Twentieth Century

Françoise Mallison
Directeur d’Études Emeritus at the École Pratique des Hautes Études,
Section des Sciences Historiques et Philologiques, Paris

This book, written between 1974 and 2010, deals with the religious history and culture of Gujarat. The first part focuses on Gujarati devotional literature: Vaiṣṇava pad-bhajan, Vallabhite dhōl, Sant-vāṇi, Iṣmā’īlī Ginân, Cištī Gujarati bhajan, all with textual and thematic convergences. The second part analyses stories of saints and sacred places. The focus of these essays is on an exploration of popular religions (lok-dharma) mainly in Saurashtra and Kutch, both in their oral and written transmission.
The World of Rebels of 1857
Proclamation, Tracts and Documents, 1857–1859

Iqbal Husain
Late Professor, Centre of Advanced Study in History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.

In the ‘rebel world’ of 1857, indigenous discourse on the great uprising in the form of proclamations, pamphlets and appeals issued by rebel leaders and other ideologues offers primary data for understanding the motives of the rebels, their means of mobilization and the people who were sought to be mobilized. It also helps us to figure out if the appeal by the leaders of the rebellion remained within the earlier traditional framework as well as the kind of ‘polity’ or ‘polities’ they envisioned. The material contained in this volume is also likely to throw light on how the sepoys, as members of the most modern army of their times, used modern machines and modern ideas in their fight against their colonial masters, and answer questions regarding the conflict between the Sepoys and the more traditional elements, namely the wahhabis.

Tarikh-i Firoz Shahi
An English Translation of Zia ud Din Barani’s original
by Ishtiyaq Ahmad Zilli
Former Professor of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

This book is an English translation of Tarikh-i Firoz Shahi, considered one of the finest specimen of Indo-Persian historiography produced during the Sultanate period in India. Written during the reign of Firoz Shah Tughlaq, it was completed in 1357 CE and dedicated to the reigning monarch. Primarily a history of the sultans of Delhi, it covers Balban’s dynasty, the Khaljis, and the Tughlaqs, and ends with the sixth year of Firoz Shah Tughlaq’s reign. Information regarding Balban’s dynasty was supplied to Barani by his father, grandfather, and others who held important offices in the regime, while from the period of Jalal ud Din Khalji the account is based on Barani’s personal observations. Unlike other histories of the period, Tarikh-i Firoz Shahi is not confined to an account of wars and the accession of rulers and is, in this regard, a welcome departure for taking into account the socio-economic conditions of the time and, thereby, providing a realistic portrait of society as it existed at that time.

‘This revised and enlarged version was released in 1357 with six years’ account of Firoz Shah’s reign. Professor Ishtiaq Zilli has translated this enlarged second version and earned our gratitude.’

—IQTIDAR HUSAIN SIDDQUI, Shodhak

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Calendar of Persian Correspondence

With an Introduction by Muzaffar Alam
George V. Bobrinskoy Professor of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago, USA
Sanjay Subrahmanyam
Professor and Doshi Chair of Indian History, University of California, USA

The year 1911 saw publication of the first volume of the Calendar of Persian Correspondence, arguably the most significant publication of the period of the Imperial Record Department that had been founded in 1891, under G.W. Forrest. These records were part of the very large corpus of ‘ancient papers’ of the East India Company that had long been held in ‘various secretariat offices at Calcutta’. They included some 26,000 bound volumes, as well as 1.5 million unbound documents, making up a total of roughly 18 million folios of Company-related papers in various languages. The Calendar was to present to the public a summary version of merely a part of these, namely the Persian-language ‘letters which passed between some of the [East India] Company’s Servants and Indian Rulers and Notables’, commencing in 1759. Though initially concerned mainly with the ‘Affairs in Bengal’, the series—of which the first five volumes, covering the years 1759 to 1780, had appeared by 1930—eventually came to take into account other parts of India as well.

Volume I, 1759–1767
Being Letters, referring mainly to Affairs in Bengal, which passed between some of the Company’s Servants and Indian Rulers and Notables
ISBN: 978-93-80607-64-1 • 598 pp. • 2013 • HB • ₹ 1895 • $ 119.95 • £ 79.95

Volume II, 1767–1769
Being Letters which passed between some of the Company’s Servants and Indian Rulers and Notables
ISBN: 978-93-80607-65-8 • 582 pp. • 2013 • HB • ₹ 1895 • $ 119.95 • £ 79.95

Volume III, 1770–1772
Being Letters which passed between some of the Company’s Servants and Indian Rulers and Notables
ISBN: 978-93-80607-66-5 • 400 pp. • 2013 • HB • ₹ 1395 • $ 89.95 • £ 59.95

Volume IV, 1772–1775
Being Letters which passed between some of the Company’s Servants and Indian Rulers and Notables
ISBN: 978-93-80607-67-2 • 470 pp. • 2013 • HB • ₹ 1595 • $ 99.95 • £ 65.95

Volume V, 1776–1780
Being Letters which passed between some of the Company’s Servants and Indian Rulers and Notables
ISBN: 978-93-80607-68-9 • 616 pp. • 2013 • HB • ₹ 1950 • $ 119.95 • £ 79.95
Archives of Empire: From the East India Company to the Suez Canal*

edited by Barbara Harlow

(1948–2017) was the Louann and Larry Temple Centennial Professor of English at the University of Texas, Austin, USA

Mia Carter

University Distinguished Teaching Associate Professor of English and University of Texas System Regents’ at the University of Texas, Austin, USA

Tracing the beginnings of the British colonial enterprise in South Asia and the Middle East, From the Company to the Canal brings together key texts from the era of the privately owned British East India Company through the crises that led to the company’s takeover by the Crown in 1858. It ends with the momentous opening of the Suez Canal in 1869. Archives of Empire provides a powerfully revealing documentary history of nineteenth-century British imperialism from the Indian subcontinent to the Suez Canal. Barbara Harlow and Mia Carter have selected a diverse range of texts that track the debates over imperialism in the ranks of the military, the corridors of political power, the halls of royal geographic and missionary societies, the boardrooms of trading companies, the editorial offices of major newspapers, and far-flung parts of the empire itself.

Literature as History
From Early to Contemporary Times

edited by Chhanda Chatterjee

Professor of History, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

This volume puts forth an idea of unusual convergence between literature and history. It begins by showing how literary material—since the Sangam period of Tamil literary Renaissance in the first millennium up to the very recent globally acclaimed Indo-Anglian literature—has reflected the twists and turns of history. Sometimes it highlights people’s lives in their everyday contentment and misery; sometimes it is the Sufiana tariqa of syncretic spiritualism, tassawuf; and sometimes it is the literary symbolism of nature trying to represent the nation. In this eclectic collection of essays, one on Rabindranath Tagore’s seminal play The Red Oleanders documents the world’s great enthusiasm for the promised liberation of the weak and the oppressed from the shackles of industrial capitalism, while another on Tagore’s Letters from Russia explains the subsequent disillusionment and retreat from the first flush of hope and expectation. The three concluding essays in the volume, on Indo-Anglian literature and women’s writing, signal a new phase of history where the Indian diaspora completed ‘the conquest of English’ and caused history to come full circle.

*For sale only in South Asia
Through Town and Jungle
Fourteen Thousand Miles A-Wheel among the Temples and People of the Indian Plain
William Hunter Workman
Fellow, Royal Geographical Society
and Fanny Bullock Workman
Fellow, Royal Scottish Geographical Society
This book is a remarkable account of an English couple’s cycle tour of the Indian subcontinent in the first decade of the twentieth century. Reprinted from holdings of the National Archives of India, it recalls the Workmans’ travels from Tuticorin in then Madras Presidency to Swat Valley in present-day Pakistan. It is a rich and rare record of the Indian subcontinent under British Raj, and contains detailed accounts of architectural and sculptural remains of various styles over millennia of subcontinental history.

Village, Town and Jungle Life in India
A.C. Newcombe
Civil Engineer from 1874 to 1902 with Public Works Department, Government of India
This book provides a glimpse of colonial India during the so-called high noon of the Raj. Reprinted from holdings of the National Archives of India, it is a series of reminiscences and anecdotes of a Civil Engineer between 1874 and 1902. It covers his impressions of and experiences in places as far apart as Punjab and Hyderabad, including his understanding of the customs, languages, religions, and belief-systems of the varied peoples of the Indian subcontinent.
Print Culture: Sir Syed’s Aligarh Institute Gazette, 1866–1897

Asghar Abbas
Former Professor of Urdu, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

This book begins with a brief account of the life and achievements of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and goes on to examine the role of the Scientific Society—which remained active from 1864 to 1884—in highlighting the need for social, educational, and political reforms in the Indian subcontinent. The Aligarh Institute Gazette was an organ of this Society and was popular throughout the subcontinent for its encouragement of scientific temperament amongst the peoples of India. An important feature of this Gazette were the editorials penned by Sir Syed himself on social and educational reforms. This book is an important contribution to the understanding of Urdu journalism and throws light on Sir Syed’s ideas and character.

‘Overall, this is a wonderful book that is organizationally articulate, theoretically lucid and empirically rigorous. It should be an essential reading for the scholars engaged in the field.’

—M.A. JAUHAR, Indian Historical Review
The Mahabharata
Meera Uberoi

‘What is in the Bharata is everywhere and what is not is nowhere’, states The Mahabharata which deals not only with the power struggle between the princes of two clans but also with a variety of branches of learning. Woven into the main theme are lengthy dissertations and treatises on philosophy, ethics, morality, statecraft and metaphysics. The sages who wrote the epic had an almost uncanny understanding of human nature and have depicted it with unemotional clarity. This abridgement, based on Kisari Mohan Ganguli’s translation of the Mahabharata, is told in lucid English, using modern idioms, yet wherever possible the metaphors, similes and allegories of the original have been retained.

ISBN: 978-93-5290-275-0 • 386 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 295

Reimagining Nations and Rethinking Nature
Contemporary Eco-Political Controversies in India and Australia
Divya Anand
Head, Educational Consultancy Boston, USA

India and Australia as nation state emerge from the shared lineage of being part of the British Empire, which has characterized the nature of their respective journeys as modern nation states. Juxtaposing case studies from India and Australia reveals that although both locations differ in their particular historical and social contexts, both contend with similar challenges and compulsions, characteristic of modernity.

Employing a multi-scalar and interdisciplinary approach, this work examines issues of nature, nation and development within the context of modernity. While India and Australia have radically different historical imaginations, their paths now increasingly intersect, so that the task of making sense of their very different social imaginaries becomes vital to reimagining the dynamics between nations and nature. This book contributes towards trying to understand the ways in which nations are constantly imagined and find new ways of thinking about nature.

296 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1195
• $59.95 • £47.95
Ecocriticism and Environment
Rethinking Literature and Culture
edited by
Debashree Dattaray
Assistant Professor in Comparative Literature and Deputy Coordinator, Centre for Canadian Studies
Jadavpur University, Kolkata
Sarita Sharma
Assistant Professor of Sanskrit, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book focuses on the interface of sustainability, ecology and the environment as reflected in literature and culture. This eclectic collection of essays examines how writers have, across the twentieth century and in the new millennium, addressed ecological crises and environmental challenges that cut across national, cultural, sociopolitical and linguistic borders. The essays in this volume, by scholars and activists across the globe, address the diverse ways in which environments are imagined, produced, and articulated in diverse contexts and mediums and the consequent changes in humanistic discourses in the context of global climatic changes. They also critically examine how literature and culture, across the limits, frames and dimensions of time and direction, address and explore environmental concerns.

Ecocriticism and Environmental Praxis
edited by Shivani Jha
Assistant Professor, Department of English
Bharati College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume takes into consideration texts with pronounced bioethical and biophilic awareness. The effort herein is directed towards erasing the binary opposition between Nature and Culture in favour of a more holistic and anti-schismatic existence. The growing field of ecocriticism includes environmental studies, post-modern geography, neurobiology and many others; all leading to the common aim of sensitizing humans to environmental health and the survival of the nonhuman world, in the spirit of environmental justice. Accordingly, the essays herein add to existing discourse on the subject by bringing all three aspects of ecocriticism—the critical paradigm of ecocriticism, its need and application—in one volume.
Literary Culture and Translation
New Aspects of Comparative Literature
edited by
Dorothy M. Figueira
Distinguished Research Professor, Department of Comparative Literature
Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, University of Georgia
Chandra Mohan
General Secretary, Comparative Literature Association of India
This volume makes significant and fresh contributions to fields of comparative literature and translation which are assuming increasing importance and relevance in the realm of literary and cultural studies. Divided into four interrelated parts, it presents twenty-one seminal essays—written by distinguished scholars—with new aspects on comparative literature starting with the Sanskrit tradition and coming up to modern theoretical concerns, such as epistemological issues involved in cross-cultural comparative work and symbiosis of comparative literature and world literature.
**Autobiography, Travel and Postnational Identity**  
**Gandhi, Nehru and Iqbal**

Javed Majeed  
Professor of English and Comparative Literature, King’s College, London, UK

This book shows that the ‘travelling autobiographies’ of Gandhi, Nehru, and Iqbal differed from earlier traditions of nineteenth-century Indian and colonial travel writing by expressing ideas of selfhood outside overarching notions of nation or nationhood. Developing this line of enquiry into ties between the self, travel and anti-colonial lifewriting, the book examines Gandhi’s stage fright and shyness as part of a larger gender politics and discusses the politics of translation and truthfulness in his reading of the *Gita*. The stylistic devices used by Nehru in his writings to evoke his distinctive sense of self in relation to travel are explored as part of his resistance to narrow national identities, and Iqbal’s poetry is reinterpreted as a form of travelling autobiography which reconceives Islam in relation to Western modernity.

‘This is a refreshingly different book where the analyses of the writings of these three great men in depth show their political self-empowerment through realisation of selfhood.’

—K.R.A. Narasiah, *The Hindu*

336 pp. • 2014 • HB • ₹ 1350

*For sale only in South Asia*

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**Trailokyanath Mukhopadhayay’s Kankabati**

translated by Nandini Bhattacharya  
Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Central University of Jammu  
Jammu & Kashmir

This volume is the latest English language translation of Trailokyanath Mukhopadhay’s story about Kankabati, a little girl in nineteenth-century Bengal’s Kusumghati. It is textured with annotations, and with graphics that accompanied the original edition. Publicized originally as a modern fairy tale, this story tells of Kankabati’s dreams of a series of adventures in bizarre places and situations. She visits an underwater kingdom of fishes; delves into dense forests and mysterious caves where ghouls like Nakeshwari reside; and ventures out into the skies astride a khokkosh carrier to the domain of a sick moon and his quarrelsome family. The narrative also dwells on Kankabati’s and Khetu’s love for each other in face of death, dishonour and all earthly enticements. While *Kankabati* is truly riveting as a fantasy, with meaningless quarrels, endless plotting, serio-comic villains, and unexpected wellsprings of generosity it is also enjoyable as a graphic description of village life in fin-de-siècle Bengal.

ISBN: 978-93-84092-03-0  
224 pp. • 2016 • HB • ₹ 1495

• $ 64.95 • £ 42.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
**At the Crossroads of Culture and Literature**

Edited by Suchorita Chattopadhyay
Professor, Centre for Canadian Studies, Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University, Kolkata

Debashree Dattaray
Assistant Professor, Centre for Canadian Studies, Department of Comparative Literature
Jadavpur University, Kolkata

This volume offers a detailed and accessible socio-cultural and literary study of the material and symbolic life of indigenous communities and the South Asian diaspora in North America and India. The essays herein explore the manner in which contemporary indigenous and diasporic writers negotiate the ethical, political and personal affiliations of their identities and subjectivities. Including contributions on literature, philosophy, history, language, life-writing, international relations, gender, and new media, this volume focuses on both literary texts and other forms of cultural representation and, thus, revisits the ways in which diverse aspects of indigeneity and diaspora have been inscribed in imaginative, autobiographical, and critical texts.

‘At the Crossroads of Culture and Literature published by Primus Books can be a great boon to scholars of Canada Studies as well as Diaspora Studies.’

—Annapurna Palit, Sahitya: Journal of the Comparative Literature Association of India

**Tagore: Beyond His Language**

Edited by Imre Bangha
Associate Professor, Department of Hindi, University of Oxford, UK

This volume revisits the sites of Tagore's eminence and asks to what extent he was a 'living text' in the century that witnessed him as a global intellectual. Word, image, song, and text were Tagore's tools of communication, as also his extraordinary presence in a sartorial garb of his own design: he was, effectively, a global figure transcending boundaries of languages, time and space. Accordingly, the essays herein investigate how Tagore's writings and art are linked to the metalinguistic domains of the psychological, medical and mythical; how he was received in various cultures outside India; how his art was determined by individual circumstances and global aspirations; and how he acted as an inspiration to his contemporaries and subsequent generations, including modern Indian writers and artists.
Understanding the Novel
A Theoretical Overview
Albeena Shakil
Assistant Professor, Department of English, O.P. Jindal Global Law School, Sonipat, Haryana

This book reiterates that the novel remains a relevant and pertinent concept and that any reckoning with the form has to integrally involve its character as a flexible and incorporative genre. It revisits and collates theoretical debates over the generic fundamentals of the novel: the rise of the novel, its changing relation to realism, its ups and downs within the literary canon, its constant rejuvenation as a ‘novel’ or new form and successive pronouncements of its ‘death’, as well as the broad contours of generic incorporations in the course of its development. It also examines some aspects of the novel in India: the early preference for melodrama and sensation over realism; the novel’s late popularity in south India; the dominance of the short story over the novel in Urdu; and the unease with the globalized Indian-English novel.

‘Albeena Shakil’s book is a fine exploration of many positions on the rise and development of the novel . . . essentially an ambitious survey of a vast and varied scholarship on the novel form and thoroughly interrogates the nexus between the rise and development of the novel, and the emergence of the middle class in Europe. The book successfully provides a competent overview of much that one needs to know about the novel, its growth, politics and its critics.’

—BHOOMIKA MEILING, Economic and Political Weekly
Gender, Space and Creative Imagination
The Poetics and Politics of Women’s Writing in India

Rekha
Professor of English, DCR University of Science and Technology

This book is about contemporary women’s writing in India and its experiential, ideological, and representational topography. It offers a nuanced critique of the gender-space dialectics that underline and often engage the attention of women writers in this country. By critically examining select works of Krishna Sobti, Mahasweta Devi, Kamal Desai, Ambai, and Githa Hariharan, this book puts in perspective the vibrant heterogeneity of their creative corpus and its attendant concerns. It reads afresh these narratives as empowering aesthetic and discursive endeavours that consciously remap women’s gendered reality, helps to unravel Indian women writing’s aesthetics of creation, critique and conditioning, and puts into perspective its activist shift from representation to self-presentation.

‘The book is certainly commendable in its broad scope and the depth of some of its literary analysis. . . .’

—TRINA NILEENA BANERJEE, The Book Review

Chronicles of Time and Chance

Raymond Francis Isar
Formerly with the Indian Foreign Service, and the erstwhile Indian Civil Service

This book questions the myths, action models, and growing corruption of the new Indian ruling class after Independence. Far more than simply autobiographical, these selections from the memoirs of a former ICS officer offer a fascinating cultural and social history of the subcontinent, notably of the Indian-Christian community of the Punjab in the first half of the twentieth century. They explore the conditions in which conversions were made and delineate entanglements between ideas and imaginings of a freshly Westernized lower middle class and the culture of the colonizers. They recount how, as a young District Officer, the author confronted the cultural challenges of rural postings in the extreme south; the implications of being a fledgling Guardian; and his experience of the bloodletting of 1947 in New Delhi. The concluding chapters capture the political manoeuvrings of the last Nehru years as well as the prime ministerial life and times of Lal Bahadur Shastri, his still undervalued successor.

‘This volume of over 260 pages, while being essentially autobiographical, narrates the political and social history of India during the most important period. Raymond Francis Isar, as a civil servant having served on either side of Independence, had a ringside view of the establishment that ruled the country and the cabal that emerged in the political scenario at critical times and changed the fate of the country.’

—K.R.A. NARASIAH, The Hindu
Essays on The Arabian Nights
edited by Rizwanur Rahman
Professor of Arabic, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Syed Akhtar Husain
Professor of Persian, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This volume revisits translations of The Arabian Nights and also reassesses its impact on world literature. Essays in this volume discuss Tamil, Russian, Sanskrit, Urdu, Japanese, Malayalam, English, Turkish, and Malaysian versions of these stories: dealing with human foibles, fallacies, infidelities and desires, these stories capture varied layers of human existence, and the essays in this volume locate this classic in its socio-cultural context. They also take into account the discourse on Sufism found in these stories, and explore its impact on literary studies and Asian Dialogue.

Epithalamiums
An Anthology of Marriage Poems From Chaucer to the Modern Age
edited and annotated by Masoodul Hasan
Former Professor of English, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
Syed Naqi Husain Jafri
Former Professor of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

This volume offers a comprehensive selection of epithalamic poetry from the fourteenth to the twentieth centuries. Many existing anthologies provide ready, expansive insights into specific forms of literature, but the genre of nuptial poetry is singularly under-represented. The present anthology aims to compensate for this, and apart from its wide coverage also presents, for the first time, an epithalamic extract from Chaucer, and hitherto uncollected pieces from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, all put together in one volume. For the first time, also, specimens of spousal poetry from four different countries—England, the USA, Australia, and India—are gathered together. Significant changes in poetic taste and fashion, along with changing cultural nuances and matrimonial customs, can be traced in the poems chosen here. Finally, the ‘Introduction’ to the volume, in a fresh perspective, sets up comparisons with the Oriental traditions—Sanskrit, Hebrew, Arabic and Chinese—of nuptial verse along with their Greek and Latin versions which are the original models for the English epithalamiums.
A Voyage to Modernism
Syed Ahmed Khan
translated and edited by Mushirul Hasan
Former Vice Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
Nishat Zaidi
Professor of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

This book is an accessible translation of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan’s accounts of his travels, enriched by editorial interventions and supported by rare archival photographs. Set apart from his later endeavours like Tahzibul Akhlaq and Asar-al Sanadid, these impressions of his travels mattered to all those who knew anything about his standing in public life and his stature as an enlightened reformer in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Even though his portrait of England is sometimes facile, these accounts open the door to new questions, particularly because this was the period when relations between Europeans and Indians were at the centre of many debates. This English translation, the first ever to be undertaken in full, makes these accounts accessible to those who have no knowledge of Urdu.

 Essays on Literature, History & Society
Syed Naqi Husain Jafri
Former Professor of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

This book examines a range of themes, from the ghazal as a form of non-conformist poetry to Hispano-Arabic strains in English poetry, the role of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan in the Urdu-Hindi controversy, as well as a contemporary critique of madrasa education in the late Mughal period. It is also an important complement and corrective to much of current writing insofar there is a concern for topics beyond the realm of the humanities, thus indicating the need for a broader consensus and a broader view of history and society, and the manner in which literature, language, and education bear upon each other.

’It is quite likely that some of these essays, particularly those on the Troubadours and, or Shakespeare, may prove to be trendsetters, and deepen interest in them.’

—MASOODUL HASAN, Aligarh Muslim University
Women and Development
Self, Society and Empowerment
edited by Posh Charak
Former Professor of English, University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir
Chandra Mohan
Adviser on International Higher Education to Central University of Gujarat, Gujarat

This volume explores notions of development as they relate to women and representations of women in society and literature across the world. Multidisciplinary in their approach, the essays herein examine subjects such as women’s writing, dialectics of self and society, and empowerment to trace women’s negotiation for space. To this end, this volume makes a significant contribution to women’s studies. Divided into four sections, it provides a rich diversity of viewpoints in aspects of women’s empowerment and representation, gender discrimination and the role of women in ancient and modern workplaces. They also provide insights into important areas of women’s education, legal rights, and subaltern (re)configurations in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

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310 pp. • 2012 • HB • ₹ 995
• $ 69.95 • £ 46.95

Hemla Aggrawal • Aparna Basu • Jameela Begum • Subhash Chandra • Posh Charak
• Garima Gupta • Jasbir Jain • Taranum Nasar Khan • Nidhi Kotwal • Navdeep Kour • Malashri Lal • Huma Masood • Chandra Mohan • Shaily Mudgal • Arti Nanavati • Anika Narula • Devika Khanna Narula • Sucheta Pathania • Geetanjali A. Rana • B.P. Singh Sehgal • Darini Rajasingham Senanayake • Monika Sethi
• Kanika Sharma • Kavita A. Sharma • Padma Srinivasan • Malathi Subramanian
• Meenakshi Thakur • Manorama Trikha • Coomi S. Vevaina • Sana Zia
Indian Commodity Derivative Market: Operation and Performance
Devajit Mahanta
Former Vice Principal, Asian Institute of Management and Technology, Guwahati
This book provides a detailed analysis of commodity derivatives which were traditionally developed for risk management purposes and are now growing in popularity as an investment tool. Derivative is a financial instrument whose value is derived from another asset called the underlying. Raw products are traded in commodity derivative markets. These commodities are traded on regulated commodity exchanges, in which they are bought and sold in standardized contracts. This book critically examines the demarcation between the commodity and the security market, and puts in perspective the need for integration of the two markets, which would enable both markets to benefit from economies of scale and also from the synergy generated between them.

Cross-Cultural Management: Practice and Research
edited by Neelu Rohmetra
Director, International Centre for Cross-Cultural Research and Human Resource 
University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir
Anil Gupta
Assistant Professor, The Business School, University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir
This volume focuses on issues such as competencies, communication, tacit knowledge, entrepreneurial attitudes across cultures, multicultural work teams, and models of organizational learning and ‘crossvergence’. In a day and age wherein the need to appreciate cross-cultural perspectives and orientations is increasingly seen as indispensable and wherein globalization and emerging markets have added to the challenges of working in a multicultural environment, it is necessary to be aware of these challenges and the willingness to view them positively. Presented in the form of empirical research contributed by scholars from emerging economies such as India, China, Pakistan, South Africa, and Taiwan, this volume will appeal to researchers, academicians, and practitioners of behaviour and culture management.
Strategic Development Policies and Impact Studies of Sustainable Rural and Community-based Tourism

edited by Parikshat Singh Manhas
Professor of Business Studies, University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir

Deepak Raj Gupta
Head of School of Tourism, Central University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir

Anil Gupta
Assistant Professor, The Business School, University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir

This volume will broaden the prospects of various levels of the tourism industry that are developed or developing at local, regional, national, and international levels. The case studies specially selected for this volume discuss facets of sustainability, ecology, peace, and community involvement with tourism, and provide valuable insights to scholars, academicians, researchers, and tourism practitioners. Community-based tourism is considered an important component of a broad-based plan to improve rural economies. Community-based tourism development is also recognized as a form of locally situated development that utilizes tourism to create economic, social, and cultural benefits within a community. This process also develops through increased community involvement in decision-making and sustainable development of both natural and cultural resources, and the essays herein will be beneficial to the development of a vibrant and dynamic industry.
Contemporary Trends in Tourism and Hospitality Management
edited by Ashok Aima
Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir
Vinay Chauhan
Associate Professor, The Business School, University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir
Jaya Bhasin
Associate Professor, Department of Human Resource Management & OB, Central University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir

This volume presents an integrated approach to tourism development, focusing on sustainability and authenticity of tourism experiences as effective responses to changes in tourism patterns and relationship matrix, as underpinned by the complex linkages fostered by multiple stakeholders. It discusses issues related to contemporary practices in tourism in order to develop strategic tools to mitigate the challenges faced by stakeholders in planning, implementing innovative programmes, and in sustaining holistic tourism development. Accordingly, the essays in this volume highlight areas of contemporary relevance in tourism and thereby develop an effective framework to provide a holistic idea of dimensions pertaining to its promotion and development.

Applied Case Studies in Marketing
S. Shajahan
Dean in Indian Institute of Management, Shillong

This book is a prime example of the new content that is needed in marketing curriculum, introducing young MBAs to new material as well as different ways of viewing the traditional content. In order to expose students to the practical aspects of making tactical and strategic decisions during market turbulence, six case studies have been discussed in the book. These are: spreading mobile culture through 3G revolution; rivalry off the air: saga of Kingfisher and Jet Airways; the great Indian retail story under test; the heat of recession and destocking with reference to HUL; building DTH PC segment: portfolio for Creative Solutions Limited; and Nokia connects the world. Accompanied by a CD, this book aims to provide a crisp, clear, easy-to-understand view of the methods, processes, tools, and techniques used in product and sales marketing.

‘Applied Case Studies in Marketing is an excellent work. This was a much-needed book. The treatment of the cases given in this book is very useful for MBA students . . .’

—HARISH CHAUDHRY, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
India and the Silk Road
Exploring Current Opportunities
edited by Nasir Raza Khan
Officiating Director, India-Arab Cultural Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

*India and the Silk Road: Exploring Current Opportunities* is based on the historical as well as contemporary relevance of the Silk Road. This volume comprises essays by a number of contributors who have dealt with varied aspects of the reality of this historical road in a new geopolitical context, with the potential of shared prosperity among the states connected with this route. The new Silk Road of the twenty-first century covers almost all modes of communication, infrastructure and transportation, including road network, rail and oil and gas pipelines.

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Connecting Nations
Politico-Cultural Mapping of India and South East Asia
edited by
Achintya Kumar Dutta
Professor of History, University of Burdwan, West Bengal

Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury
Fellow and Coordinator of the research project ‘Proximity to Connectivity’ at the Observer Research Foundation, Kolkata Chapter, under the Neighbourhood Regional Studies Initiative

An important aspect of India’s foreign policy from the 1990s has been its attempt to consolidate its ties of friendship and mutual understanding with its East and South East Asian neighbours. India’s Act East Policy has initiated a new positive approach towards South East Asia through its roots which can be traced to India’s past history and tradition. While it began primarily with religious interaction which lead to the spread of Buddhism in the far-flung areas of South East Asia, economic and cultural connections followed soon after. Against this backdrop, the present volume analyses various facets of India’s connectivity with the South East Asian countries, including its linkages with the north-eastern states of India; a rediscovery of Indian imprinted culture, mainly Buddhism and other religions in the South East Asian region and beyond; the use of the Indian diaspora for economic development; and the implementation of various agreements signed by India with the South East Asian countries. This volume is an interesting combination of the analytical method of historical linkages between India and South East Asia with critical observations of the contemporary dynamics of international politics.

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Democracy in India
Current Debates and Emerging Challenges

edited by
Lancy Lobo
Director, Centre for Culture and Development, Vadodara

Jayesh Shah
Research Associate, Centre for Culture and Development, Vadodara

This volume deliberates on various dimensions of the challenges confronting parliamentary democracy in India, and provides a platform for debates emanating from the depths of society, new critiques of the manner in which democracy has functioned, and the strengths and weaknesses of Indian democracy. It deals with the theory and practice of democratic governance, the role of the judiciary in strengthening the legislative and executive functions of the state, the role of the media as the fourth estate, the rise of social movements and civil society, the critical role of economic development in sustaining democracy, and the role of democracy in containing ethnic conflicts. It also includes two essays on democracy at the grassroots analysing electoral behaviour and the gender perspective, and presents alternatives that have been offered by civil society activists, academicians, and researchers, who together form an intellectual comity.

The Crisis of 1974
Railway Strike and the Rank and File

Ranabir Samaddar
Distinguished Chair, Calcutta Research Group, Kolkata

This book on the Indian Railway Strike of 1974 looks at the history, the role of the rank and file in the strike, and the fate of the strike itself. Even as one of the most distinctive aspects of the strike was the autonomy of the rank and file, the significance of the struggle had much to do with the nature of the time. The country was in the midst of a general political crisis, sections of the peasantry were in revolt, and there were expressions of solidarity from the industrial working class. However, the strike leadership was not resolute and decisive, and failed the rank and file. In the absence of a political vanguard, the uprising was left without a determined subject. The railway men did not transform India, but established for the first time in the political history of post-Independence India the autonomy of the political practice of masses. Suddenly, the strike had opened up a vision whose infinite nature unnerved both the party or order and the parties of constitutional opposition.
State Politics in India

edited by

Himanshu Roy
Associate Professor of Political Science, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College
University of Delhi, New Delhi

M.P. Singh
Former Professor of Political Science, University of Delhi, New Delhi

A.P.S. Chouhan
Professor of Political Science, Jiwaji University, Gwalior

This volume discusses different aspects of politics in 27 states and 2 Union Territories with legislative assemblies. It analyses different social structures; levels of economic development; land holding patterns; party systems; voting behaviour; and political culture, governance and politics of each state. The essays herein are distinctive in their focus on internal dynamics of these states, dynamics which are influenced by the size of their population, demography, territory and topography, economy, and the power structure of different castes and communities. Commonalities across boundaries at both micro and macro levels are also taken into account. These include expansion and intensification of capitalist social relations into innermost areas; breakdown of old structures and social mores; emergence of civil society; development of administrative transparency; and growth of alternative party systems and linkages of each state/region with the nation and global capital.
India and Central Asia: Geopolitics, Economy and Culture
edited by Nasir Raza Khan
Associate Professor, India-Arab Cultural Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

This volume explores India’s relations with Central Asian states—Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan—from various perspectives. Trade and cultural relations have flourished between the people of India and Central Asia, particularly along the Silk Route, since ancient times. However, with the partition of the Indian subcontinent and the consequent hostility between India and Pakistan, and the emergence of Communist China, India’s direct link to the Central Asian region was cut off. Today, the Central Asian countries and India can collaborate in sharing natural resources like minerals, and the transmission of oil and gas, in which Central Asia abounds, leading to a shared security and prosperity, and cultural exchanges. Accordingly, given the great socio-economic and cultural potential of this linkage, this volume makes a case for the revival of the connectivity between India and these Central Asian states.

The Politics of Ethnicity in India, Nepal and China
edited by Marine Carrin
Director, Centre d’Anthropologie Sociale, Toulouse, France
Pralay Kanungo
Professor of Political Science, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Gérard Toffin
Director, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris

This volume critically reflects on the social, cultural and political processes that have shaped various ethnolinguistic minorities of India, Nepal and China since the 1950s. In India, the authorities have created smaller states on the basis of language, culture, and in some cases economic backwardness. In Nepal, ethnic minorities include economically and culturally diverse groups scattered over the country. Inspired by the Indian experiment, the political elite in Nepal is now seeking to institutionalize procedures to fully integrate the adivasis/janajatis as citizens. While India and Nepal largely recognize the emergence of these ethnic minorities as political actors, the Chinese state, ignoring the political demands of its minorities, is focussing on their economic development and their modernization.

‘The compilation is a must-read for scholars working on ethnic policies in South Asia.’
—MARKUS SCHLEITER, South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies
Democracy and the Crisis of Inequality

Zoya Hasan
Former Professor of Political Science, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This book analyses how from the early 1990s politics in India began to undergo a fundamental transformation. Ethnic politics occupied centre stage, often prompting violent conflict and major political changes. Some of the essays herein focus on changes relating to representation, redistribution, social justice, secularism, and the changing nature of the State in the wake of economic liberalization and globalization. Key issues discussed are: the policies of group differentiated rights; caste-class politics; regional assertions; women’s rights and minority politics and their impact on the pursuit of equality. Political change and the debates surrounding these categories and concerns, thus, provide a context for understanding the conflicts and tensions—between party politics and democracy, state and society, and democracy and development—that have shaped the transformation of the economy, polity, and society in India in the last few decades.

‘Zoya Hasan’s Democracy and the Crisis of Inequality is an academic tour de force which guides the reader through three eventful decades of Indian politics between the early 1980s and 2012.’

—SUBRATA K. MITRA, South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies

Federalizing India in the Age of Globalization

M.P. Singh
Director at Centre for Multilevel Federalism, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi

Rekha Saxena
Professor of Political Science, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book conveys the major new direction of change in the Indian political system today. There has been a gradual political decentring of a predominantly parliamentary system of the first four decades after independence into a new federalizing and globalizing India since the early 1990s. The early stirrings of federalization were indeed evident in the territorial reorganization of the states along linguistic lines in response to popular movements in the 1950s and 1960s. However, the most comprehensive wave of federalization that has gripped politics and governance in India has surfaced since the early 1990s. The indicators and impact of political federalization are evident in the new grammar of politics pervading the working of governmental institutions—the legislative, exclusive, and judicial branches of governments as well as the union, state, and local governments. The political factors that have accelerated the process of federalization is the transformation of the party system, with regional parties coming to play a decisive balancing role in Indian politics and globalization.

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
India, Central Asia and the World Powers

edited by Nasir Raza Khan
Associate Professor, India-Arab Cultural Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

This volume offers a fresh insights onto India-Central Asia relations and a deeper understanding of the developing political and economic scenario of the region. Extending research on these subjects, the essays in this volume examine the role of major powers in the region against the backdrop of globalization, disintegration of the Soviet Union, and the emergence of the US as a pre-eminent power. It is within the arena of an emerging ‘New Great Game’ that India must translate its historical, cultural, and civilizational ties with Central Asia into a vibrant and mutually beneficial economic partnership extending not only to trade in goods and services but also bilateral and multilateral investments, scientific collaboration, and commercialization of new technologies. Exploring these issues, this volume foregrounds India’s aspirations and its potential to be a player in the unfolding ‘Great Game’ on an equal footing with other major players like the US, Russia, and China.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-63-4 • 156 pp. • 2013 • HB • ₹ 695 • $ 49.95 • £ 32.95

Religion, Caste & Politics in India*

Christophe Jaffrelot
Director, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris

This book makes a detailed study of the functioning of India’s democracy on the one hand, and the way India relates to the world on the other. It explores the manner in which dimensions of secularism and democracy, non-alignment, and state intervention in the economy have been transformed with the course of time, especially since 1980s-90s. It examines India’s political culture, an arena where caste and religion, including Hindu nationalism and lower caste politics, play a major role in determining the course of electoral politics. The liberalization of the economy has resulted in growth but not necessarily development, and in discussing the ways in which India relates to the world this volume also takes a close look at India’s ties with the US, Russia, and Europe so as to analyse its status as an emerging world power.

‘[This volume] brings together a collection in English of more than 30 of Jaffrelot’s many articles and contributions to edited volumes on different aspects of Indian politics. My judgement is that this kind of volume would be a welcome addition to the literature on modern Indian politics.’

—JOHN ZAVOS, University of Manchester

ISBN: 978-93-80607-04-7 • 834 pp. • 2010 • HB • ₹ 2250
* UK and US rights sold
Reimagining Nations and Rethinking Nature
Contemporary Eco-Political Controversies in India and Australia

Divya Anand
Head, Educational Consultancy Boston, USA

India and Australia as nation state emerge from the shared lineage of being part of the British Empire, which has characterized the nature of their respective journeys as modern nation states. Juxtaposing case studies from India and Australia reveals that although both locations differ in their particular historical and social contexts, both contend with similar challenges and compulsions, characteristic of modernity.

Employing a multi-scalar and interdisciplinary approach, this work examines issues of nature, nation and development within the context of modernity. While India and Australia have radically different historical imaginations, their paths now increasingly intersect, so that the task of making sense of their very different social imaginaries becomes vital to reimagining the dynamics between nations and nature. This book contributes towards trying to understand the ways in which nations are constantly imagined and find new ways of thinking about nature.

Caste and Life Narratives

This collection of twelve essays foregrounds the conjunction of the social phenomenon called ‘caste’ with the genre of representation called ‘life narratives’. Caste and Life Narratives covers a variety of modes of representing ‘actual lives’, in whole or in fragments—from autobiographies, and interviews to Facebook posts, biopics, visual representations, and most tragically, a suicide note. It uses the notion of ‘Critical Caste Studies’, which is vitally animated by Dalit Studies, but is not coterminous with it. While acknowledging the unique status of Dalit and Dalitbahujan perspectives, it argues that caste is not the lived reality of Dalits alone and, accordingly, a critical study of caste cannot be solely their burden.

Drawing from postcolonial, Dalit and Critical Caste Studies, this syncretic collection of essays offers a unique theoretical and methodological perspectives, provoking new ways of entering into the burgeoning study of caste.
Visual Histories of South Asia
edited by
Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes
Visiting Lecturer in Digital and New Media Anthropology at the Division of Social Anthropology,
University of Cambridge, UK
Marcus Banks
Professor of Visual Anthropology at the University of Oxford, UK

Is one of the first comprehensive contributions to the rapidly developing cross disciplinary scholarship that connects visual studies with South Asian historiography. The key purpose of the book is to introduce scholars and students of South Asian and Indian history to the first in-depth evaluation of visual research methods as a valid research framework for new historical studies. The volume identifies and evaluates current developments in visual sociology and digital anthropology relevant to the study of contemporary South Asian constructions of personal and national identities. Owing to its wide-ranging theoretical methodology, from concepts of visual perception to media semiotics, *Visual Histories of South Asia* covers a rich thematic agenda with contributions ranging from ethnographic research to gender studies, fine arts analyses, theoretical and methodological questions, economic structures, international politics and contemporary cultural patterns. Owing to its wide-ranging theoretical methodology, from concepts of visual perception to media semiotics, in charting the theoretical and historical advances in visual and historical studies dedicated to South Asia, and by addressing issues of private and national memory within regional, national, and contemporary South Asian iconography, from the mid-seventeenth century to the early twenty-first century, and the thirteen contributions selected for this volume are of immediate relevance to visual theorists and historians, sociologists and cultural anthropologists, as well as to students and scholars of South Asian history and culture.

‘This is a remarkable, genuinely interdisciplinary collection, and both a marvellously rich addition to the study of the life of visual images in South Asia, and a highly sophisticated contribution to debates of the interdisciplinary study of visual culture.’

—PROFESSOR JAMES LAIDLAW
William Wyse Professor of Social Anthropology
Head of Division, Social Anthropology
Fellow, King's College, University of Cambridge
Living & Dying
Meanings in Maithili Folklore

Dev Nath Pathak
Assistant Professor of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi

A hermeneutic engagement with Maithili folk songs allows this book to hinge upon the notions of living and dying in the contemporary world despite the admission that medicine, insurance, market, and media may condition human experiences. Amidst the binaries of union and separation, rigid religion and fluid faith, popular and folk, modernity and tradition, central to this book is the pluralism of cultural script(s) and their philosophical musings on living and dying, folk philosophy, cultural subversion as well as reconciliation. Predominantly sung by women, the folksongs of Mithila are woven around calendar of events, rites of the passage, and everyday life situations. The cultural scape of sound and sight thus conjures a fusion of epistemology and ontology, knowledge and existential being, the classical-Sanskritic-textual and the folksubaltern-oral. Straddling the particular context of Maithili folksongs and the generic aspects of folk world view, steering across Hinduism, tradition and modernity, and folklore in the age of mechanical reproduction, this book contributes to the sociology and social anthropology of, inter alia, folklore, religion, gender and mythology. Moreover, this makes for a contribution into sociology and social anthropology of death in South Asia.

Another South Asia!

edited by
Dev Nath Pathak
Assistant Professor of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi.

In a critical and creative engagement with this question, Another South Asia! attempts to explore novel possibilities beyond the stratagem of nation states. Amidst the shrinking utopias in the various disciplinary discourses due to the predominance of cartographic reason, the essays in this book propose a new lease to the utopian imagination of the region. Grounded in history, civilization, culture, and people across boundaries, located in the domain of post-disciplinary enquiries, this book enables a dialogue among the Sociologists and Social Anthropologists, students and scholars of International Relations, Literary and Performance studies, Art History, Diaspora studies, Historical and Civilizational studies and South Asian studies to name a few.

‘The essays in the volume draw upon myriad sources such as mythology, oral and written traditions, aesthetics, life histories, politics and history to search for alternative imagination of the region.’

—ANKITA MOOKHERJEE, Centre for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Essays on Suicide and Self-Immolation

edited by
A.M. Shah
Former Professor of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Lancy Lobo
Director, Centre for Culture and Development, Vadodara

This book is a collection of papers on suicide and self-immolation, reprinted from the almost forgotten *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay*, during 1886–1936. The book carries a Foreword by Professor Ashis Nandy on death and self in culture. Part I includes nineteen papers, analysing statistics of suicides committed in Bombay (now Mumbai) from 1886 to 1907, classified by religion, gender, age, month, date, cause and means of suicide, etc. Part II includes seven general essays dealing with topics like suicide in old age, in ancient India, and also, self-immolation.

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₹ 1995 • $ 59.95 • £ 47.95

Mumbai: Socio-Cultural Perspectives—Contributions of Ethnic Groups and Communities

edited by
Dr (Sister) Anila Verghese
Director/Principal of Sophia Polytechnic, Mumbai

Swarupa Kamat
Head and Assistant Professor, Department of History, Sophia College for Women, Mumbai

Rashna Poncha
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Sophia College for Women, Mumbai

Mumbai, the city of dreams, has always been a city of migrants. People moved here from near and far, by land and sea, their dreams wrapped in optimism and hope. The seven islands that became the erstwhile Bombay welcomed them all. This book, however, focuses on the history of the many communities that contributed to its wealth, both culturally and financially.

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• $ 49.95 • £ 36.95
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• 260 pp. • 2018 • PB • ₹ 345
• $ 26.95 • £ 19.95

Nalika Braganza • Archana Calangutcar • David Cardoz • Frank Conlon • Fleur D’Souza • Kurush Dalal • Divya Das • M.D. David • Madhuri Dhariwal • Dhvani Doshi • Rajan Jayakar • Diya Anna John • Manjiri Kamat • Sameera Khan • Devika Kher • Sifra Samuel Lentin • Sweta Narsale • Ria Patnaik • Rashna Poncha • Mangala Purandare • Sanjay Ranade • Shaleen Sharan
Identities and Assertions
Dalit Women’s Narratives

K. Suneetha Rani
Professor, Centre for Women’s Studies, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

This book analyses Dalit women’s narratives through an examination of debates around questions of identity of Dalit women. It focuses on the construction of self through narratives, and maps the historical developments and contexts in which Dalit women’s narratives were recorded and analysed. From discussions on methodology to questions of Dalit feminist ideology to political power and family, companionship and sexuality, this book attempts to recapitulate the history of the Dalit movement and literature that has already been documented. It also includes a deliberation on the Dalit movement and Dalit literature in Telugu-speaking regions.

Indian Emigrants to Sugar Colonies
A Study through Calcutta Port, 1842–1900

edited by Sutapa Das Dhar
Research Fellow, Socio-Economic Research Institute, Kolkata
Chandralekha Basu Ghosh
Research Fellow, Socio-Economic Research Institute, Kolkata

Indian Emigrants to Sugar Colonies examines the relationship between the two phases of migration during the nineteenth century that made Calcutta Port the centre of overseas emigration from specific areas of India. It also delves into the reasons that made the migrants settle near the place of embarkation at the end of the century. Starting with an analysis of the causes of large-scale emigration from parts of northern and eastern India and ending with reasons behind changes in the direction of such population movements, this volume presents a new framework for writing migration history, intermingled with industrial expansion in British India during the nineteenth century. It is, thus, a combination of both external as well internal migration histories, enhanced with a cost-benefit analysis of this migration process and its consequences.
Pathways of Creative Research
Towards a Festival of Dialogues

Edited by Ananta Kumar Giri
Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai

Foreword by James L. Peacock

This volume offers alternative pathways of creative research that strive to understand the work of the non-dual in self, culture, society and the world. The essays herein are drawn from sociology, anthropology, philosophy, literature, development studies, cultural studies and religious studies. They reflect on our field of thinking, practice and collaborative imagination, raising vital and deep questions about theory and practice and exploring an ontological epistemology of participation as a new pathway of research.

Cultivating Pathways of Creative Research
New Horizons of Transformative Practice and Collaborative Imagination

Edited by Ananta Kumar Giri
Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai

_Cultivating Pathways of Creative Research: New Horizons of Transformative Practice and Collaborative Imagination_ strives to cultivate new pathways of research and engagement in social sciences and humanities where cultivation is linked to cross-fertilization of creative theorizing and transformative practice, appropriate self-formation and collaborative imagination, experimental creativity and world transformation. With a foreword and an afterword, the book brings together thirty creative thinkers of our world from diverse backgrounds who share with us their vision and practice of cultivating pathways of creative research. They help us go beyond formalism of method and cultivate new pathways of research in social sciences and humanities, especially in sociology, anthropology, education, art and literature. The volume, second in the trilogy of Creative Research, which follows _Pathways of Creative Research: Towards a Festival of Dialogues_ and is followed by _Research as Realization: Science, Spirituality and Harmony_ is not only a pioneering contribution to the world research but also to rethinking and regenerating self, culture, society and the human condition. This book speaks to a wide readership and concern in transdisciplinary cross-currents of the academy and to the strivings and aspirations of seeking souls all across our fragile and meditative humanity.
Research as Realization
Science, Spirituality and Harmony
edited by Ananta Kumar Giri
Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai
Can research contribute to the realization of reality as well as its potential? Can science and spirituality dance together to reveal the hidden and awaiting harmony in life, and manifest it in self, culture, society and the world? Research as Realization: Science, Spirituality and Harmony explores these neglected and repressed questions of modernity and presents trans-modern possibilities and neo-human futures based upon multiple traditions of humanity—European, Indian, Latin American, Islamic, and others. It encourages wholeness in this world of fragmentation and invites the reader to realize the poetic and spiritual dimension of reality where realization is not so much an end but a process. The book brings together a diverse range of creative thinkers and offers a festival of dialogues and co-realizations in the fragile world of the present. Third in the trilogy of Creative Research, together with the earlier two volumes, Pathways of Creative Research: Towards a Festival of Dialogues and Cultivating Pathways of Creative Research: New Horizons of Transformative Practice and Collaborative Imagination, this is not only a pioneering but also a monumental effort in rethinking and regenerating research, life and the human condition.

Contesting Nationalisms
Hinduism, Secularism and Untouchability in Colonial Punjab, 1880-1930
Vikas Pathak
Currently Deputy Political Editor with The Hindu in New Delhi
Indian nationalism has been a contested space over the last century. Claims and counter-claims have been advanced regarding its nature for long now. This book argues that there are multiple visions of Indian nationalism, each seeking hegemony over national discourse, and that divergences regarding the cultural-ideological contours of the idea of India are central to the contest over what Indian nationalism means.
Plunging the Ocean
Courts, Castes, and Courtesans in the Kathāsaritsāgara

Tara Sheemar Malhan
Associate Professor, Department of History
Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book engages with the voluminous content of the Kathāsaritsāgara, a text meant for courtly entertainment. It locates various points of its retelling, weaving gender as the discursive mesh with themes such as caste, class, occupations, control and flow of resources or wealth, religious practices, sexuality and power structures. In their creation and negotiation with the past, the narratives in the Kathāsaritsāgara crucially demonstrate the importance of ‘social space’, the organization of space itself, and the reflection of social relations of production and reproduction. The structures of power that create systems of knowledge are essentially projected as ominously omnipresent in this ‘Ocean of Stories’, and this book comments on these in light of the folk antecedents and monarchical elite appropriation of the kathās.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-86-4 • 344 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 59.95 • £ 49.95

Transfer of Knowledge and Children’s Agency
Reconstructing the Paradigm of Socialization

edited by Marine Carrin
Director, Centre d’Anthropologie Sociale, Toulouse, France

Harald Tambs-Lyche
Professor Emeritus of Ethnology, University of Picardie, Jules Verne, France

Dominique Blanc
Social Anthropologist, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Toulouse, France

This volume is a transcultural study of knowledge transmission, a process which is constantly reinterpreted and reinvented by children and youth. The essays in this volume deal with a wide variety of socialization contexts—schools and youth culture, apprenticeship, ideals of youth and childhood—from India, China, South-East Asia, and Europe. They also include examples from indigenous peoples, from particular occupational groups in ‘traditional’ societies as well as youth in ‘modern’ society. While transmission of knowledge is a complex process where children and young people take an active part in reshaping and reformulating the cultural content of the society in which they live, this agency of children and youth remains linked to what is handed down from their elders. The volume aims to provide a corrective to this approach and belief system.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-63-5 • 206 pp. • 2016 • HB • ₹ 1495 • $ 64.95 • £ 42.95
**What Happened to the Bhadralok**

Parimal Ghosh  
Professor of South and South-East Asian Studies, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

This book examines changes in several cultural markers of the Bengali *bhadralok* in the post-independence period and seeks to understand what they convey about present-day Bengali society. It argues that the *bhadralok* of the 1950s and 1960s had inherited a left-liberal view of politics and culture, the fruition of which was the leftist upsurge in West Bengal towards the closure of the 1960s. The decisive defeat of the left in recent years appears to have turned the *bhadralok* inward and made them more pragmatic. The dream of a comprehensive transformation of society, through constitutional means or otherwise, seems to have given way to a more down-to-earth approach in both their politics, and their everyday life. This change is evident not only in their cultural behaviour, whether it is their theatre or passion for football, but also in the way they live their lives in their neighbourhood or para, even their choice of detective stories.

*What Happened to the* Bhadralok suggests that the arrival of new consumers of culture, drawn from the rural middle class, and the unorganized working-class and small business people from the city further accentuated this process: whether this has led to a proper democratization of our society is, however, a separate question.

**Impaired Bodies, Gendered Lives**  
**Everyday Realities of Disabled Women**

Nandini Ghosh  
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata

This book explores the intersections of gender and disability. Situating disabled women in their local contexts and using an ethnographic approach, it provides a review of empirical literature on disabled women, both globally and in India. It seeks, hence, to illustrate how globally gendered structures influence practices of gender and ability in specific communities. The lives of disabled women remain entrenched in gendered regimes within families, communities, and public spaces, though the agency demonstrated by these women in defining themselves as women and negotiating gendered spaces is remarkable. Keeping this in mind, this book steers a balance between a sound academic understanding of the issues of gender and disability and the involved care of a feminist disability activist.
Pratyaha
Everyday Lifeworlds Dilemmas, Contestations and Negotiations
edited by Prasanta Ray
Professor Emeritus, Presidency University, Kolkata
Nandini Ghosh
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata

This volume explores a variety of everyday intimacies and estrangements in different institutional settings in the everyday lifeworlds of, mainly, the contemporary urban Indian middle class across Islamic, Christian and Hindu frames of living. It employs a wide range of analytical models like narrative analysis, deconstructions of autobiographies, novels and children’s stories, use of index numbers, ethnography, and interpretation of myths. It focusses on the dilemmas, contestations and negotiations between the self and the other, the ‘normal’ and the ‘unusual’, the sacral and the secular, and the explicit and the enigmatic in our everyday lives.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-40-6 • 342 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 1650 • $ 74.95 • £ 49.95

Say to the Sun, “Don’t Rise,” and to the Moon, “Don’t Set”
Two Oral Narratives from the Countryside of Maharashtra*
edited and translated by Anne Feldhaus
Professor of Religious Studies, Arizona State University, USA
with Ramdas Atkar and Rajaram Jagade

This book presents translations of two lively and well-crafted examples of the ovī, a genre typical of the oral literature of Marathi-speaking Dhangar shepherds. These two ovīs narrate the stories of Biroba and Dhuloba, two of the most important gods of the Dhangars. Each of the ovīs tells an elaborate story of the birth of the god—a miraculous and complicated process in both cases—and of the struggles he went through in order to find and win his bride. Moreover, an extensive Introduction provides a literary analysis of the ovīs and discusses what they reveal about the cosmology, geography, society, administrative structures and economy of the Dhangars’ world, as well as their views on pastoralists and women.

‘The authors have exhaustively reviewed the nature and material culture that figures in the ovīs.’

—SHRADDA KUMBHOJKAR, Economic and Political Weekly
Beyond the Private World
Indian Women in the Public Sphere
edited by Subrata Bagchi
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science at Kidderpore College
University of Calcutta, Kolkata

This volume explores the status of Indian women through the ages in the framework of the private-public dichotomy reflected in their lives. Keeping in mind the Habermasian concept of ‘public sphere’ as a reference point, yet mindful of the incongruity between Eurocentric ideas and Indian reality, the essays in this volume appraise the position of Indian women in the pre-modern period with reference to tradition. They also provide glimpses of various social movements and struggles to overcome patriarchy as well as the nationalist/democratic movements in colonial and post-colonial India that filtered into the ‘private sphere’ and transformed it. In all, this volume stresses that the trajectory of Indian women’s participation in the public sphere is profoundly influenced by tensions of differential gender relations within social groups of caste, class, religion, community, and tribe.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-02-4 • 380 pp. • 2014 • HB • ₹ 1395 • $ 69.95 • £ 46.95

Dangerous Marginality
Rethinking Impurity and Power
Priyadarshini Vijaisri
Associate Professor, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi

This book focuses on village festivals invoking Matangi, an outcaste clan goddess in Andhra Pradesh, to explore the ambiguous category of outcaste priest and priestess, whose intriguing presence appears in fleeting images in colonial archives and missiological accounts. These striking personae challenge the assumptions predominant in discourses on caste, making it apparent that the constraints in engaging with such seemingly inscrutable sites lies not only in the paucity of sources but also about the dread that comes with the loss of secure ideologies. The compelling evidence of this ritual space suggests the need to move beyond the frame of pathos that has come to define not only the past of outcastes but also their very being. Based on field data and historical sources, this book offers a framework to critically examine the ways in which outcastes shape caste culture in definitive ways even as their presence signifies a deeper tension in historical processes.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-22-2 • 304 pp. • 2014 • HB • ₹ 1195 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
The Song of the Loom
Vijaya Ramaswamy
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This book is a narrative from below, mediated through the author’s interaction with south Indian weaving communities for over two decades. The author stayed with weavers, participated in their cultural and religious festivals and listened to their many songs, which related to all facets of their lives—their struggles on the loom, their despair with the younger generation which is forsaking a traditional way of life, and their desperate clinging to their traditions and their memories. This book, then, is as much about a retelling of folk narratives and the recording of loom songs as about the nitty-gritty of the survival of a leisurely craft which is struggling to stay afloat at a time when speed driven technology is the prime mover in the major commercial domain of textiles, and saleability and competitive pricing have become the decisive factors. It endeavours to connect concerns of the weavers with the role of NGOs and government established weaver service centres and, thus, provides valuable feedback to votaries of the handloom industry.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-46-7 • 154 pp. + 28 plates (16 colour + 12 b/w) • 2013 • HB • ₹ 795 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95

Disciplined Natives
Race, Freedom and Confinement in Colonial India
Satadru Sen
Professor of South Asian History, City University of New York, USA

This volume examines three interrelated aspects of the history of British India: race, the disciplining institution, and attempts by the colonized to imagine states of freedom. The essays herein deal with sites as diverse as the prison, the family, the classroom, the playing field and children’s literature. They confront the ideological, social and political ramifications of the fact that even as metropolitan prisons and schools shifted their attention from the body of the inmate to the confined ‘soul’, colonial disciplinary institutions ensured that race was firmly attached to the body and its habits. Situated within work on gender, domesticity and the state, they also engage the historiography that has sought to underline the challenges of reconciling Michel Foucault and Edward Said, i.e. studying the making of norms in a world of deviance and difference. They ask whether the liberating possibilities of the racialized-and-embodied ‘native’ self were confined to inversions and rearrangements of given normative hierarchies, or if we can occasionally glimpse radical departures and alternative configurations of power.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-31-3 • 368 pp. • 2012 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 69.95 • £ 46.95
Desi Dreams: Indian Immigrant Women Build Lives Across Two Worlds
Ashidhara Das
Online Adjunct Instructor, Ashford University, California, USA
This book focuses on the construction of self and identity by Indian immigrant professional and semi-professional women who live and work in the US. Some of the major issues that this ethnographic study discusses are: what are the selves and identities of professional Indian women? How is the continuity of selves and identities accomplished when these women find themselves constantly shuttling between the starkly different expectations of American society and workplace on one hand, and the Indian immigrant home and community on the other? The focus in this anthropological fieldwork is on Indian immigrants in the San Francisco Bay Area. The quintessential American success story of these immigrant women conceals the psychic costs of uneasy Americanization, long-drawn-out gender battles, and incessant cross-cultural journeys of selves and identities, and these are some of the concerns which this book addresses.

‘Ashidhara’s work tries to lend content and meaning to one such flow of human experience, namely those of the migrant Indian professional women in America. Recapturing the lives of these women, the author also pleads for their cause by unfolding the dilemmas of their life-experience and locating it within the debates on diasporic identities.’

—SUPARNA GOOPTU, The Sunday Statesman

Indian Diaspora in the Caribbean
History, Culture and Identity
edited by Rattan Lal Hangloo
Vice Chancellor, University of Allahabad, Allahabad
This volume explores the history of Indian emigration to the Caribbean, which is one of the most significant events in the history of Indian indentured migration that took place to different parts of the world in the second half of the nineteenth century. These people faced many hardships in the Caribbean during the initial stages of their migration, though now they have become one of the most successful immigrant ethnic groups in the Caribbean. The essays herein dwell upon the retention of the Indian ethos by the immigrants, their notions of religio-cultural transformation, identity reconstruction, political participation and transformations, as well as resistance to enslavement and other oppressions. They examine the mobility and contribution of women and attempt to provide significant insights into the lives of Indian Muslims in the Caribbean.

‘The book will be of immense value to students of diaspora studies, historians and anthropologists as it encompasses significant cultural transformations over a long and turbulent period of history.’

—SAGNIK DATTA, Frontline

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Why Unitary Social Science?*
Ramkrishna Mukherjee
Former Professor of Indian Studies, Humboldt University, Germany

This book makes a case for a comprehensive appraisal of social reality. Tracing the visionary and transformative paths of reality from subjective to objective points of view, it argues that it is the division of social sciences into discrete disciplines that thwarts the emergence of an objective science of society. Social science is seen here as unitary, with specializations emerging from a single base but proliferating as knowledge advances as a unified social science rather than as a multitude of social science disciplines.

‘Ramkrishna Mukherjee has made a strong case, with his usual insights and clarity, for a unitary social science. This is a book to be taken very seriously by the world’s social scientists.’
—IMMANUEL WALLERSTEIN, Yale University

ISBN: 978-93-80607-27-6 • 142 pp. • 2012 • HB • ₹ 695
* For sale only in South Asia

Traces of Empire
India, America and Postcolonial Cultures: Essays and Criticism
Satadru Sen
Professor of South Asian History, City University of New York, USA

The essays in this volume examine the interwoven strands of empire and resistance in not just the contexts of India and the United States, but also in other parts of the world, such as Germany and Israel-Palestine. They highlight not only the particular histories of cultures of power and desire, but also the convergences of forms of power and desire originating in different historical settings. What, for instance, links the culture of schoolchildren in the Indian hinterland with the isolation of small-town America? What does the fact that Indian crowds stare openly at strangers have to do with police violence and race relations on the other side of the world? What might happen if Günter Grass and Rabindranath Tagore encountered Nirad Chaudhuri and Gandhi in the ‘global’ space of an airport transit lounge? Can the ‘PJ’—the Indian concept of the ‘poor joke’—be considered a response to the decidedly unfunny violence of empire? These questions have no easy answers, but the complexities and contradictions of the answers are what make the problems worth exploring, shedding light on the novelty as well as the familiarity of the post-September-Eleven world.

ISBN: 978-93-80607-95-5 • 270 pp. • 2014 • HB • ₹ 995 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95
**Enslaved Innocence: Child Labour in South Asia**

edited by Shakti Kak  
Professor of Jawaharlal Nehru Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi  
Biswaamoy Pati  
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume explores the historical, economic, and social factors surrounding the issue of child labour. The essays herein attempt to highlight the structural factors in capitalist societies that have made such exploitation possible, and to place the issue of child labour in theoretical framework relating to capitalist modes of production and need for the generation of surplus for capital accumulation. The persistence of child labour in an era of high growth and high unemployment levels amongst adult men and women points to an economic system based heavily on exploitative labour relations. It is within this context that the present volume takes into consideration changing global economic conditions and focuses on issues and strategies for eradication of child labour.

‘In the context of the enactment of the “Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009” the present volume is significant as it takes a view that combating child labour can happen only when every child is in school.’

—SHANTHA SINHA, *The Book Review*

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**The Measure of Time in the Appraisal of Social Reality***

Ramkrishna Mukherjee  
Former Professor of Indian Studies, Humboldt University, Germany

This book is an explosive exposé of what went wrong in Indian developmental planning. Focusing on land, caste, and gender issues, and advocating a place-time-people based research agenda, it is a scathing critique of how the nexus between politics and academic neo-colonialism has subverted the cause of genuine development in India.
Invoking Ambedkar
Contributions • Receptions • Legacies
edited by Biswamoy Pati
Former Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume brings together a wide variety of scholarly ideas of and on B.R. Ambedkar: the way ‘Aryans’ are perceived in Dalit historical thinking; seeing the problem of Dalit liberation through the lenses of Adam Smith; the election of the Constituent Assembly (1946) with which Ambedkar was intimately involved, and which scripted India’s Constitution; the approach of Gandhi and Ambedkar to the process of planning and India’s economic development; and Ambedkar’s attitude to Marx and Buddha, as well as Dalit Christianity. It also includes a comparative study of Ambedkar and some of his contemporaries like Charan Singh and Ram Manohar Lohia in Uttar Pradesh.

‘The book can be recommended to scholars, policymakers, Dalit activists or those interested in human rights issues.’
—JOHANNES BELTZ, South Asia: A Journal of South Asian Studies

ISBN: 978-93-80607-90-0 • 184 pp. • 2014 • HB • ₹ 795 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95

Modernity and Changing Social Fabric of Punjab and Haryana
edited by Yogesh Snehi
Teaches history at the School of Liberal Studies, Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD)

Lallan S. Baghel
Teaches philosophy at the Department of Philosophy, Panjab University, Chandigarh

This eclectic collection of essays is embedded in both the past and present of the region’s complex interface with modernity. It is pertinent to note that despite the postmodernist critiques of the abstract notion of the term modern, modernity continues to be relevant for an understanding of contemporary social processes. Apart from theoretical debates, ‘modernity’ as a process and value system as well as a contrast to ‘tradition’ offers multiple interpretative possibilities which are deeply manifested in the everyday experience of the self and community. While acknowledging both enchantment and disenchantment with modernity, this volume explores the opportunities, contingencies and contestations of the process.

Spatializing modernity, therefore, takes the concept to the arena of experience and practice, thereby bringing it closer to the script of the everyday: the contradictory and at times polemical positioning of access and denial, institutional and individual, urban and rural, trader/moneylender and peasant/zamindar, Jat and Dalit (in context of landownership and access to wealth), and erotic/gender (urban) and ideal (rural). These and other similar themes involve self-positioning and Othering. Modern, modernity and modernization are, therefore, competing, contradictory and overlapping concepts that get situated around the narratives of power, prestige, entitlement and access.
Thuggee

Banditry and the British in Early Nineteenth-Century India*

Kim A. Wagner
Senior Lecturer of British Imperial History, Queen Mary University of London, UK

This book constitutes the first in-depth examination of thuggee as a type of banditry which emerged in a specific socio-economic and geographic context. Thuggee did not constitute a caste-like identity, and was a means of obtaining a livelihood reverted to by all strata of Indian society in certain areas. As such it constituted a highly institutionalized social practice related to issues of patronage and retainership, identity and legitimacy, and was defined by the appropriation of high status rituals and martial ethos. The history of ‘thugs’ need no longer be limited to the study of their representations, and this book reconstructs and historicizes thuggee as a social phenomenon—as less than the sacrificial cult constructed by the British, yet more than the colonial phantasmagoria counter-posed by post-colonial scholars.

‘In this study Kim Wagner by and large goes along with the present consensus, though he has put forth a nuanced thesis, carefully weighing the available evidence.’

—AMAR FAROOQUI, The Book Review

Niyoga: Alternative Mechanism to Lineage Perpetuation in Early India
A Socio-Historical Enquiry

Smita Sahgal
Associate Professor of History, Lady Shri Ram College for Women
University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book attempts to explore the institution of niyoga in early India, examining its genesis and trajectory through the temporal and spatial canvas, for though the focus remains on the early period, the fluctuations are best studied over a larger span of time. The early texts refer to niyoga as āpaddharma, a practice to be resorted to only in times of exigency. Niyoga allowed a married woman to cohabit with a designated male if her husband was infertile or had died without leaving an heir. Niyoga, therefore, emerged as an alternative to lineage perpetuation with due normative sanction. The institution had its beginnings in a pastoral set-up, but with changes in social formations, it also underwent many variations. As state societies gave way to regional polities, and as property issues became increasingly important, normative traditions evolved and mutated, and patriarchies changed their stance on the socio-sexual regulation of both men and women. With the passage of time, the institution of niyoga became marginalized within the legal framework, and yet, as this study shows, the practice continues to be espoused at local levels up to the modern era.
ENGLISH

Translation: Principles and Practice

Poonam Trivedi
Former Associate Professor, Department of English, Indraprastha College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Tasneem Shahnaaz
Associate Professor, Department of English, Sri Aurobindo College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Shivika Mathur
Former Assistant Professor, Department of English, Indraprastha College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume has been designed as an introduction to the history, theory, and practice of Translation Studies for undergraduate students of B.A. (Hons.) English, B.A., and B.Com. at the University of Delhi for Ability Enhancement Elective Course under CBCS programme. It combines the functions of both, a textbook and a workbook, in one. It begins with a brief history of translation in the West and in India and goes on to discuss types of translation and terms and concepts used in Translation Studies. It also includes a chapter on equivalence, the key issue in translation. Two chapters are devoted to the use of translation in mass communication and commerce and to machine translation and the processes of oral interpretation respectively. The last chapter is on the complexities of gender and translation.

Language Through Literature

Ranjana Kaul
Associate Professor, Department of English, College of Vocational Studies, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Brati Biswas
Associate Professor, Department of English, Dyal Singh College (Evening), University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume is one of the recommended texts for the Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course under the CBCS Programme. It aims to develop language skills of undergraduate learners through specifically designed projects that encourage them to look beyond the text and explore issues of multiculturalism, globalization, diaspora, partition, caste and tribe locations, identity and politics. Using literature as a medium to enhance language skills, it encourages them to engage with diverse socio-political and literary issues of our times. The selections herein are wide ranging and explore the diversity of Indian culture; the exercises too are innovative and will encourage individual as well as group activity to improve language proficiency. Taken together, these will help students with even basic language skills to further develop communication skills as well as acquire critical acumen.
Collage: A Textbook of English Literature and Language

Board of Editors at University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir

This volume is a composite textbook for undergraduate students, designed to suit the requirements of second year students enrolled for Semesters III and IV of the B.A., B.Sc., B.Com. and B.C.A. courses at the University of Jammu. It is a collection of a wide variety of literary texts including essays, poems, and short stories which are drawn from different social and cultural contexts. The writers featured here include Joseph Addison, William Blake, George Bernard Shaw, Mulk Raj Anand, and R.K. Laxman. This textbook also caters to the language needs of students by allowing them to develop and enhance their linguistic and grammatical skills, whilst improving their reading, writing and speaking skills.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-72-7 • 218 pp. • 2015 • PB • ₹ 110

Resonances: An Anthology of Prose and Poetry

Lasitha B.V.
Associate Professor, Department of English, Sree Narayana College, Kannur University, Kerala

This volume of well-organized selections encapsulate the history of man’s quest for knowledge and progress. The authors selected herein have journeyed deep into their past to find people who gave them gifts that would last forever: the gifts of freedom, dignity and self-identity. These include the struggles of Ayyankali, the powerful impact of Sanskrit on world religions and cultures, the potential cultural debates that could be triggered by ideologically innocuous games, the struggles of Afro-Americans and aboriginal people to realize their dreams, Tagore’s vision for India, generational conflicts, and the complexities of modern life. Through reflective essays, short non-fiction and poetry, this textbook invites students to enrich their reading experience and refine their vocabulary.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-08-6 • 128 pp. • 2014 • PB • ₹ 75

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
A Concise History of English Literature & Language

K. Radha Kumari
Guest Faculty for English in Government Law College, Thiruvananthapuram

This book is designed specially as a Core text for the First Degree Programmes under the CBCS system in B.A. English Literature and B.A. Communicative English, University of Kerala. It provides a need-based and student-friendly perspective on the history of English literature and a brief development of the language over the ages. This handy and useful textbook will help students understand, for example, how people lived during various ages in Britain, and the social and political organizations that evolved—as well as the literature that emerged—from these conditions. It also provides an introduction to the study of the growth and development of the English language. Supported by detailed references and numerous quotations from representative works of literary importance and a timeline enumerating the major events that highlight the social and literary history of England, the book examines the representative literary works that have left an indelible mark over the years not only on British but also on world literature.

Indian Writing in English
An Anthology of Prose and Poetry Selections

edited by Anjana Neira Dev
Associate Professor, Department of English, Gargi College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Amrita Bhalla
Associate Professor, Department of English, Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This volume covers the syllabus for Discipline Course 1, Semester 1 for students of English under the erstwhile Four Year Undergraduate Programme of the University of Delhi. Beginning with a poem of H.L.V. Derozio and closing with a short story by Aravind Adiga, it also includes readings by noted commentators on the development of Indian writing in English. It carries comprehensive introductions to the history of the development of Indian Literature in English spanning over one hundred years, as also extensive headnotes to introduce individual poetry and prose selections. The texts and the authors chosen represent various geographical and cultural variations in terms of caste, class, linguistic background, and domicile. The writers featured in this text are: H.L.V. Derozio, Nissim Ezekiel, Kamala Das, Robin S. Ngangom, Mulk Raj Anand, Salman Rushdie, Rohinton Mistry, Aravind Adiga, Raja Rao, Meenakshi Mukherjee and Bruce King.
HISTORY

Studying History

John C.B. Webster
Taught history at Baring Union Christian College and Guru Nanak Dev University in the Punjab, as well as the United Theological College in Bangalore

History is a dynamic, challenging, and ever-broadening field of study. This book, practical in its orientation, seeks to introduce the reader to the basic skills and procedures which lie at the heart of historical inquiry and method. It begins by setting the study of history within the context of Indian higher education, and then of its own evolution as an academic discipline. It then deals with the tasks involved in ‘doing history’: raising questions pertaining to history; analysing primary and secondary sources, followed by noting, interpreting, organizing, and presenting one’s findings. This way of ‘doing history’ can also be applied to the teaching of history and allows the reader to see the value of studying history. There is also a check-list for students that would aid them in writing their history theses. A special feature of this book is that it draws all of its illustrative material from Indian history while taking the reader through the basic steps in the process of historical investigation and research.

Textbook of Indian History and Culture

Sailendra Nath Sen
Former Professor of History, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

Textbook of Indian History and Culture has been designed for undergraduate students as well as those preparing for the Civil Services Examinations, at both central and state levels. It is a daunting task to write a book of this kind when dynamic changes have occurred in the last three decades in the historiography of modern India, including the advent of subaltern studies that has changed our perspective completely. This user-friendly textbook attempts to weave the known facts of history with the unknown and thus foster a spirit of enquiry among its young readers. Apart from political history, due emphasis has been laid on socio-economic changes, administrative innovations, cultural ferments and the trials and tribulations of nationalist movements. Due importance has also been given to the post-independence era that led to the emergence of a new India, vibrant with a fresh lease of life. This study of Indian History and Culture has been designed for both students and general readers. This book puts emphasis on the main currents of Indian history in all its facets: political, social, economic and cultural aspects.
A History of Humanity

Marvin Bram
Professor Emeritus of History at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York, USA

A History of Humanity completes the remarkable story of the worldwide human community by including the unique insights of symbolic history alongside careful accounts of political, economic, and cultural events. While political, economic, and cultural matters give us an ‘outer history’, the illumination of humanity’s extraordinary symbol-making activities gives us our ‘inner history’. These two orientations to history together permit fully rounded characterizations of human life before the advent of civilization and of the subsequent civilizations of the Middle East, South Asia, East Asia, and the West. Because of its dual orientation to the human career, A History of Humanity also makes it possible to understand world history not only descriptively but prescriptively, encouraging participation in the creation of an increasingly humane planetary future.

An Advanced History of Modern India

Sailendra Nath Sen
Former Professor of History, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

This book has been designed for undergraduate students as well as those preparing for the Civil Services Examinations at both the central and state levels. It attempts to weave known facts of history with the unknown, and apart from political history places due emphasis on the socio-economic changes, administrative innovations, cultural ferments, and the trials and tribulations of nationalist movements. It also refers to the post-independence era, is adequately illustrated with maps, and contains a detailed chronology, biographical notes on distinguished personalities, a list of Congress sessions, names of Presidents and Prime Ministers of independent India, and has an exhaustive bibliography.
Exploring Early India
Up to c. AD 1300 (Third Edition)
Ranabir Chakravarti
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
This book presents an overview of the protracted past of the subcontinent from earliest times to c. AD 1300. It traces principal features of the political, socio-economic and cultural history (including religious life and art activities) of the subcontinent by accommodating salient researches in early Indian history. A major feature of this book is its analysis of changes in socio-economic, political and cultural life beyond dynastic shifts. It familiarizes readers with current issues, debates and trends in early Indian historiography, and tries to acquaint readers with diverse types of primary sources (field archaeological, epigraphic, numismatic, textual—both normative and descriptive—and art-historical materials) which offer multiple images and perspectives of the period under discussion. In addition to an exhaustive bibliography that will encourage interested readers to further studies, this third edition of this book also offers several illustrations and maps.

A Textbook of Medieval Indian History
Sailendra Nath Sen
Former Professor of History, University of Calcutta, Kolkata
This book studies aspects of the political history of medieval India and examines the socio-economic changes, administrative innovations, and cultural ferments during this period with special reference to literature, religion, and art and architecture. Handsomely illustrated, it covers Indian history from the eighth to eighteenth century and analyses the development of Indian society and culture that led to the development of the medieval mindset. In doing so, it locates the historiographical debates surrounding such an analysis and provides a useful introduction to such topics as the coming of the Turks, the establishment of the Delhi Sultanate, the rise of Vijayanagara and Bahamani kingdoms, the rule of the Mughals, the progress of Maratha power and the advent of the Europeans.
A History of the Modern World: An Outline

Ranjan Chakrabarti
Vice Chancellor, Vidyasagar University, West Bengal

This book acts as an introductory text and handy reference tool that provides a well-rounded historical account of the processes of modern world history, including industrialization, overseas expansion, democracy and socialism, the impact of nationalism, and the linkages between war and revolution. It focuses on the complicated pattern of shifts and continuities in modern world history and, consequently, seeks to understand the world that we live in today. One of the primary objectives of this book is to understand how revolutions, wars, dictatorships and empires have led to long-term experiments with nationalism, democracy, liberalism, human rights, socialism, sustainable development, and global peace.
POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

State Politics in India

edited by
Himanshu Roy
Associate Professor of Political Science, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College
University of Delhi, New Delhi

M.P. Singh
Former Professor of Political Science, University of Delhi, New Delhi

A.P.S. Chouhan
Professor of Political Science, Jiwaji University, Gwalior

This volume discusses different aspects of politics in 27 states and 2 Union Territories with legislative assemblies. It analyses different social structures; levels of economic development; land holding patterns; party systems; voting behaviour; and political culture, governance and politics of each state. The essays herein are distinctive in their focus on internal dynamics of these states, dynamics which are influenced by the size of their population, demography, territory and topography, economy, and the power structure of different castes and communities. Commonalities across boundaries at both micro and macro levels are also taken into account. These include expansion and intensification of capitalist social relations into innermost areas; breakdown of old structures and social mores; emergence of civil society; development of administrative transperancy; and growth of alternative party systems and linkages of each state/region with the nation and global capital.
**In Pursuit of Playfulness**  
_The Girl-Child/Woman and Nineteenth-Century India*_  
Ruby Lal  
Professor, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Atlanta

In this engaging and eloquent history, Ruby Lal traces the becoming of nineteenth-century Indian women through a critique of narratives of linear transition from girlhood to womanhood. In the north Indian patriarchal environment, women’s lives were dominated by the expectations of the male universal, articulated most clearly in household chores and domestic duties. The author argues that girls and women in the early nineteenth century experienced freedom, eroticism, adventurousness and playfulness, even within restrictive circumstances.

Although women in the colonial world of the later nineteenth century remained agential figures, their activities came to be constrained by more firmly entrenched domestic norms. Lal skillfully marks the subtle and complex alterations in the multifaceted female subject in a variety of nineteenth-century discourses, elaborated in four different sites—forest, school, household and rooftops.

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**Looking Within Looking Without**  
_Exploring Households in the Subcontinent Through Time_  
_Essays in Memory of Nandita Prasad Sahai*_  
edited by Kumkum Roy  
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This volume includes discussions based on archaeology, visual representations, the Sanskrit epics, medical literature, early Tamil texts, compositions drawn from a variety of religious traditions, official documents including court records, and inscriptions. Chronologically, it ranges from the early historic to the early modern period. Spatially, the regions explored include the Gangetic Valley, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, Bengal, and Rajasthan. The essays herein envisage the household as a site of production, consumption and distribution, and as one where cultural meanings are constituted, communicated, and contested. Running through these essays is a focus on the everyday, on the ways in which gender, class, caste, and community identities evolve through and revolve around the household.

‘. . . the real weight of this volume lies in the interrogation of powerful normative discourses that have sought to name, normativize and interdict the minutiae of everyday relationships in the household.’

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–RASHMI PANT, _The Book Review_
Beyond the Woman Question  
Reconstructing Gendered Identities in Early India

Snigdha Singh  
Associate Professor of History, Miranda House, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Shatarupa Bhattacharya  
Associate Professor of History, Lady Shri Ram College of Women, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Shwetanshu Bhushan  
Associate Professor of History, Lady Shri Ram College of Women, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Tara Sheemar  
Associate Professor of History, Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

with an Introduction by

Kumkum Roy  
Professor of History at the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Beyond the Woman Question both revisits and interrogates some of the central tenets of the ‘woman question’ as it emerged in colonial India and shaped (and continues to shape) subsequent historiography. These include issues of women’s access to resources, ritual ‘rights’, and locations within the family, primarily relating to an unmarked category of upper-caste/class women. In terms of chronology, the essays range from the mid-first millennium BCE to the turn of the first/second millennium CE. Spatially, they deal with regions as diverse as Kashmir, and parts of north and central India. Using a wide range of sources—inscriptive and visual as well as normative and narrative texts—this book contends that gender identities were not monolithic, even as elite women seem to be the most visible/accessible. The issues explored include participation in gift exchanges and their economic, social, political and cultural significance; the construction of gender identities through rituals; and the representation of gender relations in literary traditions. Collectively, the volume contributes to the growing body of historical research on gender relations in early India.
Insights and Interventions
Essays in Honour of Uma Chakravarti
edited by Kumkum Roy
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This volume is a tribute to Uma Chakravarti’s energy, commitment and perseverance in pursuing her ideas and dreams from those of her students and friends who have been inspired by her politics and praxis. It asks if it is possible to extend interventions from the classroom to the community, if a more integrated vision and praxis is possible without falling into the trap of uniformity. Delving into texts ranging from the Rigveda to contemporary Dalit literature, and using diverse analytical strategies to understand present-day situations and experiences, the essays herein address issues of caste, nationalism, gendered identities, communalization, socio-political relationships in all their complexities, and the modes of transmission of ancient texts, and attempt, hence, to bridge the worlds of academics and activism.

‘On the whole, the essays in the book under review make for an informative and useful read for researchers in the field of South Asian history and feminism. It is recommended for teaching in courses under the rubric of Women and Hinduism and Feminist history.’

—SUSHUMNA KANNAN, Newsletter of the International Institute for Asian Studies

In the Name of the Goddess
The Durga Pujas of Contemporary Kolkata
Tapati Guha-Thakurta
Former Director, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata

This book unravels the anatomy of the newly-conjured ‘art’ event of Kolkata’s Durga Pujas by tracking the new production processes, the mounting trends of publicity and sponsorship as well as the practices of mass spectatorship that make for the transformed visual culture of the festival. The book’s central concern lies in conceptualizing a contemporary and artistic history of this urban festival. It examines the diversity of images and practices—from the consumerist spectacle and the bonanza of awards to the efflorescence of public installations and art and craft productions—that unfurl in this season ‘in the name of the goddess’. While profiling Durga Pujas as Kolkata’s biggest public art event, the book also addresses the ambivalence of the designations of ‘art’ and ‘artist’ in this field of production and viewership. The new artistic nomenclature of the festival, it is shown, is not easily secured, and has to struggle to assert itself within the body of the religious event and the ephemeral mass spectacle.

‘Beautiful the book certainly is—shaped, sized, priced, and in looks as it is like a coffee table book—with glossy pages, a wonderfully designed dust jacket, and almost five hundred full-colour photographs, and yet it is not your usual coffee table book: it is a massively researched academic work . . .’

—SUGATA BHADURI, The Book Review

ISBN: 978-93-80607-22-1
200 pp. • 2011 • HB • ₹ 795
• $ 59.95 • £ 39.95

408 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 5500
$ 229.95 • £ 151.95
Children of the Goddess
Devotion and Female Priesthood in Bengal

Marine Carrin
Director of Research Emeritus (CNRS) at the Centre d’Anthropologie Sociale, Toulouse, France

The women featured in this book live on the frontier between the tribal and the low-caste society in Bengal, and turn to religion in order to forge a new identity. The book provides a window to a little-known world where social marginality, subaltern assertion, the politics of gender, and the contestation between tribal religion and Hinduism merge to produce a unique perspective on popular Hinduism.

• 300 pp. • 2017 • HB •
₹ 1195 • $ 64.95 • £ 52.95

Literature, Culture and History in Mughal North India, 1550–1800

Sandhya Sharma
Associate Professor, Department of History, Vivekanand College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book studies Mughal Indian polity and dynamics of family, kinship, and caste through Riti Kal literature. It is the first detailed study of the so-called vernaculars, in this case Braja poetry, as source material, so far neglected by both the literati and the historians in context of Mughal north India. The literature, in the form of drama and Braja bhasha poetry, provides evidence of regional diversities and varied patterns of historical developments in medieval north India as well as a dynamism in the political and socio-cultural spheres in pre-modern India. A detailed analysis of Riti Kal poetry reveals that the region, in spite of conflicts and contestations for power, did acknowledge the Mughals as the undisputed rulers of Hind, the future India. Further, while poets continued to advocate the conventional role of women in family and society, they also depicted, with sympathy and understanding, the individuality, liberty and sexuality of the fairer sex.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-72-3 • 264 pp. + 16 colour plates • 2018 • PB • ₹ 725 • $ 44.95 • £ 36.95

‘The book can also be placed alongside, and in counterpoint to, scholarship on the changing tenor of Indo-Persian aesthetic cultures in the Mughal period (as in the work of Sunil Sharma and Muzaffar Alam). Sharma’s study is an indispensable contribution, pointing to new and revelatory considerations of a highly formalized literature vitally engaged in history.’

—SUTOPA DASGUPTA, The Journal of Asian Studies

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice
Gender, Space and Creative Imagination
The Poetics and Politics of Women’s Writing in India

Rekha
Professor of English, DCR University of Science and Technology

This book is about contemporary women’s writing in India and its experiential, ideological, and representational topography. It offers a nuanced critique of the gender-space dialectics that underlie and often engage the attention of women writers in this country. By critically examining select works of Krishna Sobti, Mahasweta Devi, Kamal Desai, Ambai, and Githa Hariharan, this book puts in perspective the vibrant heterogeneity of their creative corpus and its attendant concerns. It reads afresh these narratives as empowering aesthetic and discursive endeavours that consciously remap women’s gendered reality, helps to unravel Indian women writing’s aesthetics of creation, critique and conditioning, and puts into perspective its activist shift from re-presentation to self-presentation.

‘The book is certainly commendable in its broad scope and the depth of some of its literary analysis. . . .’

—Trina Nileena Banerjee, The Book Review

ISBN: 978-93-84082-44-4 • 234 pp. • 2015 • HB • ₹ 1050 • $ 54.95 • £ 36.95

Gender Inequality, Popular Culture and Resistance in Bankura District

Sujit Kumar Chattopadhyay
Former Associate Professor, Department of Political Science,
Bankura Zilla Saradamani Mahila Mahavidyapith, West Bengal

This book examines the connections and interrelationships at play between gender inequality, popular culture and resistance on the basis of case studies conducted in the district of Bankura, an area well known for its tradition and variety of popular culture. In contemporary India, gender-based prejudice is perhaps the most pervasive form of inequality, arguably more so in the rural society of Bengal, where the deep rooted and complex forms of gender inequality are largely reproduced and legitimized in popular culture. Accordingly, this book argues that if the exercise of power inherently involves resistance, then gendered power is countered by some aspects of popular culture in favour of a more equitable relationship between men and women. The text also examines resistance to the ideological forms of gender bias and inequality depicted in popular culture such as folk songs, riddles, rhymes, and proverbs operative in the rural society of Bankura, and explores the intimate connection between popular culture and the everyday life of the general population.

‘. . . this book is a scholarly contribution to our ever increasing corpus on fast disappearing folk cultures and gender inequality.’

—Jessy K. Philip, The Book Review

ISBN: 978-93-84082-15-4 • 258 pp. • 2016 • HB • ₹ 1495 • $ 64.95 • £ 42.95
**Women and Development**

**Self, Society and Empowerment**

edited by Posh Charak  
Former Professor of English, University of Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir

Chandra Mohan  
Adviser on International Higher Education to Central University of Gujarat, Gujarat

This volume explores notions of development as they relate to women and representations of women in society and literature across the world. Multidisciplinary in their approach, the essays herein examine subjects such as women’s writing, dialectics of self and society, and empowerment to trace women’s negotiation for space. To this end, this volume makes a significant contribution to women’s studies. Divided into four sections, it provides a rich diversity of viewpoints in aspects of women’s empowerment and representation, gender discrimination and the role of women in ancient and modern workplaces. They also provide insights into important areas of women’s education, legal rights, and subaltern (re)configurations in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

**Class, Power and Consciousness in Indian Cinema and Television**

Anirudh Deshpande  
Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi

This book offers a historical understanding of the Indian Audio-Visual media. It asserts that media is essential to the bourgeois domination of a system in which democracy normally does not work for the poor. Hence, in narrating the history of Indian cinema it simultaneously examines the histories of the Indian nation portrayed in this cinema. It is a well-known fact that cinema, and its cousin television, comprise a media which is central to the self-perception of contemporary Indians. Indeed, it would not be wrong to say that the visual representations of social realities in this media shape popular mentality in a country with an old, influential and thriving film industry. In sum, being Indian today is often expressed in the idiom popularized by Hindi cinema and television, and these idioms are what this book comments on.
The Actress in the Public Theatres of Calcutta

Sarvani Gooptu
Associate Professor, Department of History at Calcutta Girls’ College, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

This book tells the story of a bold new generation of women who, for the first time in the history of Bengali theatre, performed in the public theatres of Calcutta. Women managed to break into the exclusively male-dominated terrain of amateur and private Bengali theatre only in 1873, when actresses made their appearance on stage for the first time. This book traces the journey of these women who not only dared to be part of these Calcutta-based theatre groups but also put their life and soul into this world. It also examines their relationship with their male mentors and patrons, and considers whether their attempts to break their shackles and to speak with an independent voice was successful.

‘…a rich pool of resources for researchers and theatre enthusiasts in search of the roots of theatrical practice in Calcutta. It provides useful material through which the intimate histories of women can be written and addresses questions around the agency and the struggle of women in the public theatre.’

—SARAH RAHMAN NIAZI, The Book Review

Real and Imagined Widows
Gender Relations in Colonial North India

Jyoti Atwal
Associate Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

This book explores the politico-cultural imagination that formed the subtext of the reformist, nationalist and women’s discourses on widowhood from the colonial period to the 1950s. It examines legislative debates on the relationship between sexuality, morality, property rights and widowhood, and explores the world of literate widows of the early twentieth century. It also traces the manner in which the complex connection between the nineteenth-century idea of widowhood and the concept of the anti-colonial Mother India of the 1920s transformed the notion of the ideal Hindu widow into a metaphor for a struggling/recovering nation in post-colonial India. This metaphor further evolved in independent India under Nehruvian socialism, where, uniquely combined with Gandhian moral reformism, it produced renewed and reformed cultural codes for widows in particular and for Indian women in general.
Impaired Bodies, Gendered Lives
Everyday Realities of Disabled Women

Nandini Ghosh
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata

This book explores the intersections of gender and disability. Situating disabled women in their local contexts and using an ethnographic approach, it provides a review of empirical literature on disabled women, both globally and in India. It seeks, hence, to illustrate how globally gendered structures influence practices of gender and ability in specific communities. The lives of disabled women remain entrenched in gendered regimes within families, communities, and public spaces, though the agency demonstrated by these women in defining themselves as women and negotiating gendered spaces is remarkable. Keeping this in mind, this book steers a balance between a sound academic understanding of the issues of gender and disability and the involved care of a feminist disability activist.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-50-5 • 172 pp. • 2016 • HB • ₹ 1350 • $59.95 • £ 39.95

Dangerous Marginality
Rethinking Impurity and Power

Priyadarshini Vijaisri
Associate Professor, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi

This book focuses on village festivals invoking Matangi, an outcaste clan goddess in Andhra Pradesh, to explore the ambiguous category of outcaste priest and priestess, whose intriguing presence appears in fleeting images in colonial archives and missological accounts. These striking personae challenge the assumptions predominant in discourses on caste, making it apparent that the constraints in engaging with such seemingly inscrutable sites lies not only in the paucity of sources but also about the dread that comes with the loss of secure ideologies. The compelling evidence of this ritual space suggests the need to move beyond the frame of pathos that has come to define not only the past of outcastes but also their very being. Based on field data and historical sources, this book offers a framework to critically examine the ways in which outcastes shape caste culture in definitive ways even as their presence signifies a deeper tension in historical processes.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-22-2 • 304 pp. • 2014 • HB • ₹ 1195 • $ 59.95 • £ 39.95
Identities and Assertions
Dalit Women’s Narratives
K. Suneetha Rani
Professor, Centre for Women’s Studies, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

This book analyses Dalit women’s narratives through an examination of debates around questions of identity of Dalit women. It focuses on the construction of self through narratives, and maps the historical developments and contexts in which Dalit women’s narratives were recorded and analysed. From discussions on methodology to questions of Dalit feminist ideology to political power and family, companionship and sexuality, this book attempts to recapitulate the history of the Dalit movement and literature that has already been documented. It also includes a deliberation on the Dalit movement and Dalit literature in Telugu-speaking regions.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-33-4 • 156 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 950 • $ 44.95 • £ 36.95

The Moving Space: Women in Dance
edited by
Urmimala Sarkar Munsi
Associate Professor, Theatre and Performance Studies, School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Aishika Chakraborty
Associate Professor and former Director of the School of Women’s Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

Aimed at addressing the lacunae in academic publications on women dancers in India, The Moving Space highlights the idea of the ‘space’ created, occupied and negotiated by women in Indian dance. It initiates a conversation between dance scholarship and women’s studies, and brings together scholars from a multidisciplinary background, emphasizing that research and practice have roots in both these specific areas. This book takes dance as a critical starting point, and endeavours to create an inclusive discourse around the female dancer and the historic, gendered and contested ‘space(s)’ that accommodate or are created by her. This collection of essays contextualizes women dancers from diverse historical and social milieu—from temple to courtyard, from silver screen to dance bars and from national to regional stages—within the larger rubric of dance studies, and brings out stories of survival, struggle, empowerment, subjugation and subversion.

ISBN: 978-93-86552-50-1 • 288 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 1395 • $ 64.95 • £ 52.95
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