

THE BAHMANĪ SŪFĪS

Their Spiritual, Intellectual and Sociopolitical Role in Medieval Deccan, AD 1300 to 1538

Author: Mohammed Suleman Siddiqi

ISBN: 978-93-5687-056-7

Year: 2023

Pages: 440

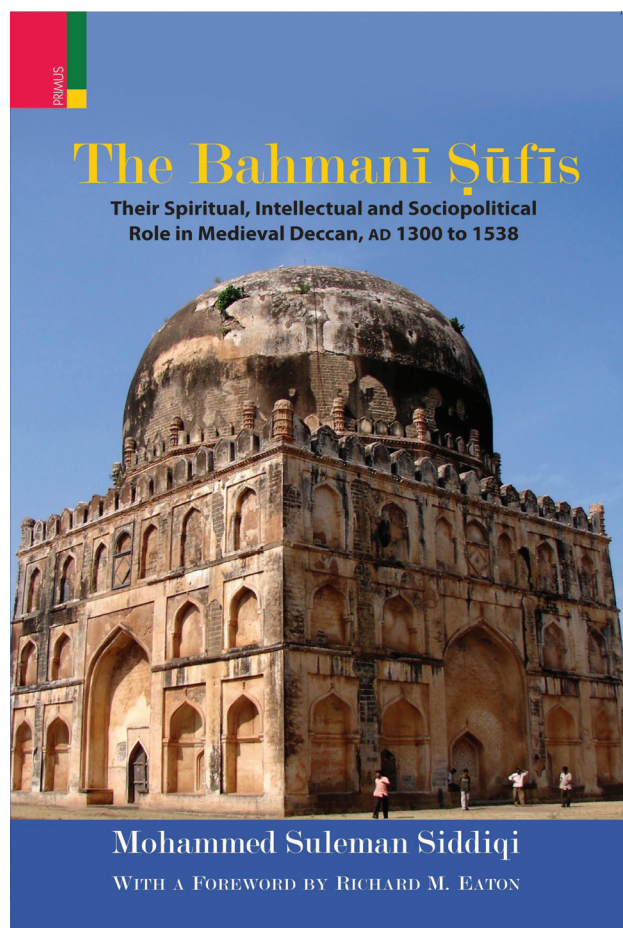
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Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo



THE BOOK

The Bahmanī Sūfīs explores the spiritual, intellectual and socio-political role of the Chishtis, the Junaydis and the Qadiris in the Deccan during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Documenting the presence of Junaydi Sufis at Daulatabad, this work challenges a long-held assumption that the Chishtis were the earliest to have migrated to Daulatabad and helped the Tughluq administration in the consolidation of Islam.

The volume discusses the evolving relationship between the Sufis and the Bahmani sultans, examining the transition that took place between the Gulbarga and Bidar phases due to the arrival and settlement of non-*mulki* Sufis from Iraq and Iran. It then goes on to explore the change in the ethnic structure of the Bahmani society at Bidar and the role of non-*mulkis*; the dominant position of the Sufis at Gulbarga and their subservience to the ruling classes at Bidar; and the decline among the descendants of the Sufi families of Gulbarga and Bidar. This volume presents, for the first time, a number of rare, unseen documents from the fifteenth–seventeenth centuries from the personal collection of the Sufi families of the Deccan, including a roadmap drawn by Gisudaraz for the wayfarer.

THE AUTHOR

Mohammed Suleman Siddiqi is former Vice-Chancellor of Osmania University (2005–8); founding registrar of Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad (1998–2004); and Head of the Department of Islamic Studies at Osmania (1989–97).

READERSHIP

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of History of Deccan, Medieval Indian History, Islamic History, Sufism and Theology.



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BIOLOGICAL APOCALYPSE

Species Extinction in the Anthropocene

Editor: Pronami Bhattacharyya

ISBN: 978-93-5687-865-5

Year: 2023

Pages: 342

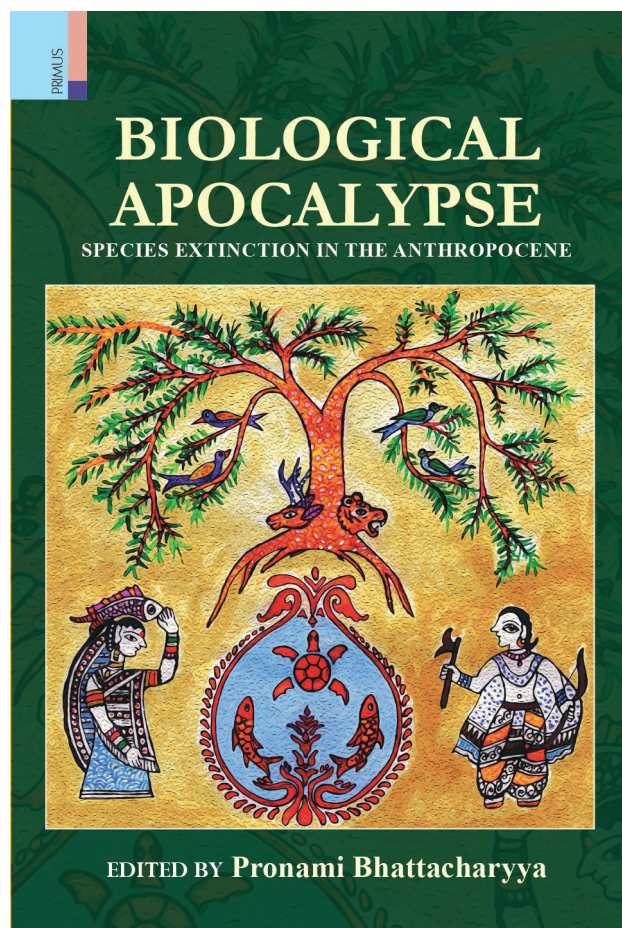
Price: ₹1395/-

Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo



THE BOOK

The natural world is a web of elaborate, delicately balanced connections; even the smallest intervention can affect an entire ecosystem, leading to irreversible changes in the environment. For humankind to have an ontological understanding of how we are an intricate part of this equilibrium, it is important for us to realize that the disappearance of even a microscopic species in a remote corner of the earth can have catastrophic consequences. ***Biological Apocalypse: Species Extinction in the Anthropocene*** highlights our planet's ingress to the Sixth Mass Extinction—a period conceptualized as the Anthropocene. Bringing together seventeen of the most susceptible non-human species falling into the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) categories of Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable, and Near Threatened, this volume inspires appreciation about the natural world, highlights the concept of species extinction caused by humankind, and examines how in the march towards 'progress', we have overlooked the rights of other species to flourish alongside us.

EDITOR

Pronami Bhattacharyya is Assistant Professor of English at Royal Global University, Assam. She is also the editor-coordinator of *TUI: A Journal of Tribal Life and Culture* (Tribal Research and Cultural Institute, Govt. of Tripura) and an executive committee member of the Assam (Boreilli) Angling and Conservation Association.

READERSHIP

This book will of interest to scholars and students of Environmental Studies, Anthropocene, Biological Studies, Environmental History, Studies of Species and Extinction and Conservation.

CITY OF FAÇADES

Archaeology, History, and Urbanism in Velha Goa

Author: Brian C. Wilson

ISBN: 978-93-5572-632-2

Year: 2022

Pages: 358

Price: ₹1595*, \$59.95, £52.95

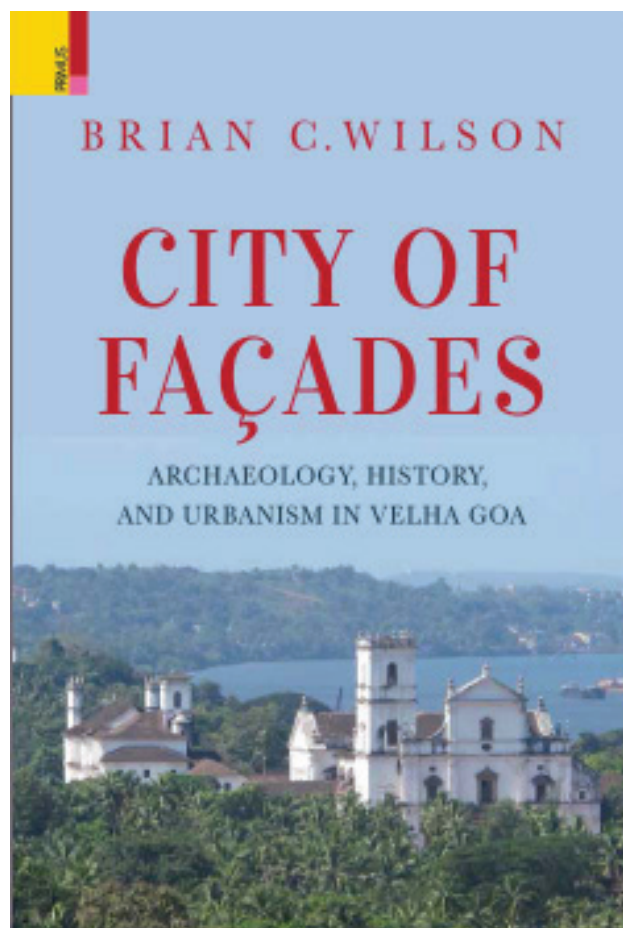
Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo

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THE BOOK

City of Façades: Archaeology, History, and Urbanism in Velha Goa revisits early modern colonial urbanisms through an archaeological project conducted in 2012 at the Portuguese colonial site of Velha Goa, India. Histories written about the city's growth and decline from 1510 to the current day are unavoidably structured by elite, top-down understandings of social processes, owing principally to the limits of the colonial archives themselves. As a result, quotidian material transformations, essential to urban processes, remain largely unconsidered. The archaeological data explored in this volume allows us to reflect on these transformations and how they shaped colonial life, both during and after Portuguese rule. By unravelling the biases about the existing descriptions of Goa and its hinterland, analyses of the archaeological data argue that the dominant historical narratives characterizing it as the 'Rome of the East' substantiate a vision of the city that erases other social groups and cultures.

THE AUTHOR

Brian C. Wilson is a historical anthropologist and archaeologist with a PhD from the University of Chicago. He has participated in survey and excavation projects in India, Oman, and the American Midwest, South and South-west. His work demonstrates how South Asian colonial urbanisms are inextricable from their constitutive human-environment interactions.

READERSHIP

Scholars of Urban History, Social History, Archaeology will find this book interesting and it will also be of interest for the general readers focused on urbanism in South Asia.

CONNECTED PLACES

Region, Pilgrimage, and Geographical Imagination in India *(Second edition)*

Author: Anne Feldhaus

ISBN: 978-93-5572-196-9

Year: 2023

Pages: 422

Price: ₹1795*, \$69.95, £59.95

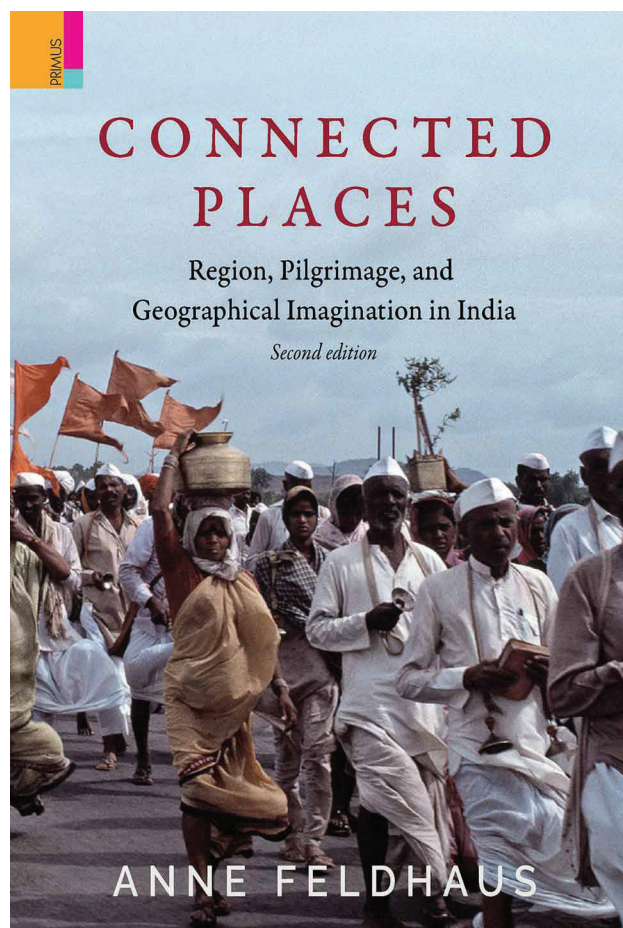
Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo

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THE BOOK

Connected Places is a study in the religious geography of India. It explores ways in which people live in and understand their worlds. In the book, Anne Feldhaus examines a variety of religious ideas, images, and rituals that give people a sense of the coherence and meaning of a particular region. She demonstrates how a multitude of intersecting, overlapping, yet in some ways disconnected regions can co-exist in one part of India. The book focuses on Maharashtra, the Marathi-speaking region of western India that is home to 125 million people. Using rich examples from this state, Feldhaus explores how people in Maharashtra orient themselves to the world, how they connect places to one another, and how they understand themselves in relation to the regions they inhabit. The book draws upon Feldhaus' decades of experience visiting holy places, attending religious festivals, and interacting with story-tellers, pilgrims, and priests, as well as her careful reading of travellogues and religious texts in Sanskrit and Marathi. This revised edition includes new material from medieval Marathi bhakti literature not found in the original.

THE AUTHOR

Anne Feldhaus is Professor Emerita of Religious Studies at Arizona State University. In 2022 she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and she served as President of the Association for Asian Studies in 2018–19. Over the past five decades, she has lived in India at regular intervals, adding up to more than a dozen years. She is fluent in Marathi and has traveled extensively in Maharashtra.

READERSHIP

This book will be of interest to South Asianists specializing in History of Maharashtra, Marathi Language, Marathi Bhakti Literature, Social Anthropology and Social History.



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DELHI AND ITS ENVIRONS BEFORE 1857

**The Account of Ramji Das,
Sarishtadar**

**Translated and Annotated by
Shama Mitra Chenoy**

ISBN: 978-93-5852-021-7

Year: 2023

Pages: 224

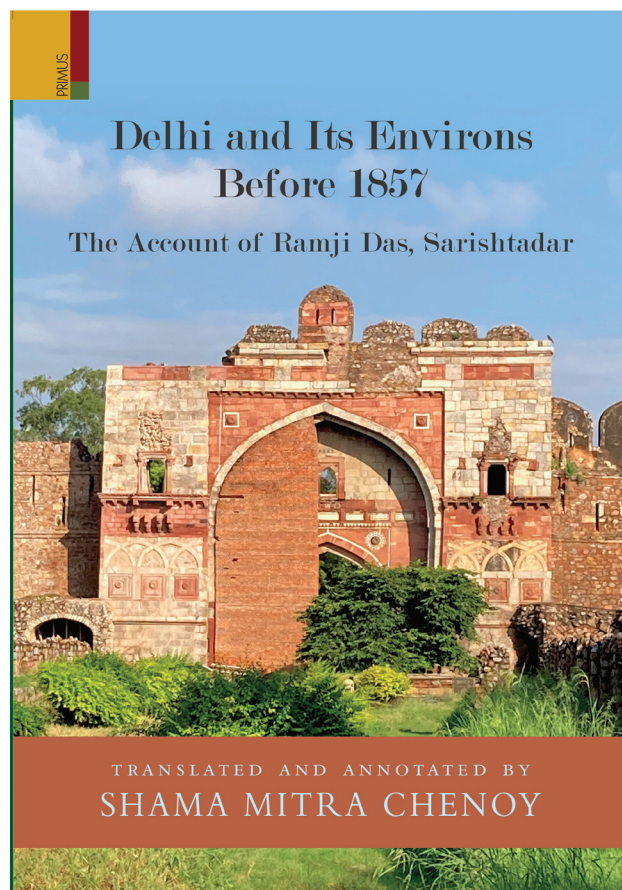
Price: 1295/-

Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo



THE BOOK

Ramji Das' *Zikr-e Umurat-e Am Zila-e Dehli*, an account of Delhi and its surroundings, is as unique as the city in which it was written, just before the momentous events of 1857 which completely changed this space. ***Delhi and Its Environs Before 1857: The Account of Ramji Das, Sarishtadar*** provides a rare description of the city—the *alam mein intikhab*—where even Lord Indra chose to alight, and this work commands a distinctive place amongst the Persian and Urdu works recorded between the mid-eighteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Can history be written through structures? Yes! thought Ramji Das, the newly retired deputy sarishtadar, a great admirer of Saiyid Ahmad Khan and his work, who engaged in a dialogue with the past through the material edifices of Delhi and its neighbourhood. In other words, Ramji Das could not just adhere to the prevalent nineteenth-century ecumene by carrying out a survey of structures, but went beyond this to discuss popular cultures, the administrative divisions and the revenue jurisdiction of Delhi. His account included a knowledgeable scrutiny of water bodies and dams that also defined the undulating topography of the city's geographical regions, the fiscal tight-fistedness of the department of the Collectorate headed by English officials and made a note of some unregistered places of interest. In this annotated translation of the text, Shama Mitra Chenoy brings forth a work about the way Delhi once was.

THE AUTHOR

Shama Mitra Chenoy is Professor of History at Shivaji College, University of Delhi. She is the author of *Shahjahanabad: A City of Delhi, 1638–1857* (1998); *Shahjahanabad, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries: Symphony, Identities, Plurality* (2004) and has edited, translated and annotated *Delhi in Transition, 1821 and Beyond: Mirza Sangin Beg's Sair ul-Manazil* (2018).

READERSHIP

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Modern Indian History, 18th Century in Indian History, Urbanism, History of Delhi and History of Art and Architecture.



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EARLY NORTH BENGAL From Puṇḍravardhana to Varendra, c.400 BCE–1150 CE

Author: Ranjusri Ghosh

ISBN: 978-93-5572-531-8

Year: 2023

Pages: 477

Price: ₹3150*, \$129.95, £99.95

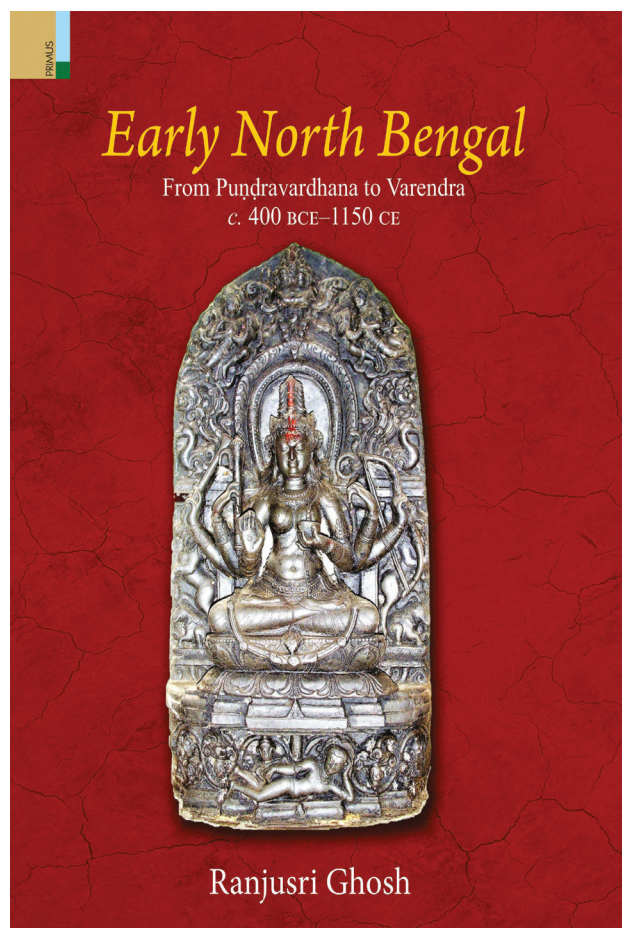
Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Demy 4to

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THE BOOK

Early North Bengal: From Puṇḍravardhana to Varendra, c.400 BCE–1150 CE reconstructs the history of a land named Puṇḍravardhana, an eponym of Puṇḍra, a group of people who resided in the northern part of Bengal. Situated to the east of the Ganga and directly connected with the Tista on the north, the Puṇḍras could communicate with their western, northern and eastern neighbours through riverine routes. The book covers a long time period connecting several turns in the temporal and cultural history of the region with varying outcomes. The advancing stages of archaeological excavations and material remains reveal adaptive processes between the local bodies and organized administrative machinery of varied denominations, synthesis of ideas and concepts, rise of local deities, local aspirations, social formations and monetization. The early medieval period marked a phase of excellence in cultural life and heralded some significant changes in society. It remained eventful and interspersed with some struggles to capture political power.

THE AUTHOR

Ranjusri Ghosh has dedicated the majority of her time to the field of historical research, while being affiliated with several organizations such as the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Indian Council of Historical Research in New Delhi among others, as a post-doctoral Fellow.

READERSHIP

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of History of Bengal, Ancient Indian History and Archaeology and Epigraphy.

INDIA'S HISTORY, INDIA'S RAJ Essays in Historical Understanding

Author: Robert Eric Frykenberg

ISBN: 978-93-91144-44-9

Year: 2023

Pages: 743

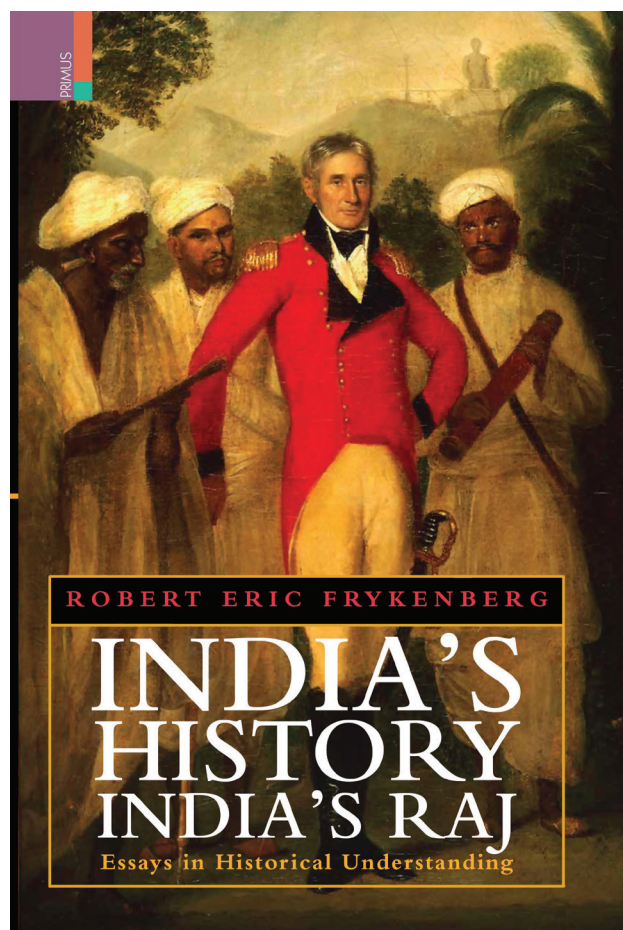
Price: ₹1995/-

Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo



THE BOOK

India's History, India's Raj: Essays in Historical Understanding highlights the myriad facets in the story of how Indians themselves participated in the construction not only of the Indian Raj but of Indian history. Due to distortions, omissions, or ideological bias, much of this story remains unbalanced or simply misunderstood. Never before in history has the whole 'continent' of geographic India, surrounded by mountain ranges to the north and oceans to the south, been unified under a single political system. That is—until modern times. However long each monarch reigned, neither lasted their entire length of the political system over which they ruled. Maurya Empire began with Chandragupta and lasted beyond Ashoka; and Mughal rule began with Babur and Humayun and lasted beyond Aurangzeb. Yet, some micro-systems, such as villages, defied this trend and continued to flourish. How and why was this so? Within the pages of this volume are essays that, in one way or another, and from one perspective or another, seek to address this central question. Whatever the size or durability of a given political system, and however much rulers from outside India might have had a hand in its development, each political system was mainly the product of Indian manpower, Indian money, and Indian methods. The resulting structures were invariably a hybrid of cultures precariously melded together to achieve something larger. So much so that an amalgamated Indian-English (or 'Indish') language, and an 'Anglo-Indian' to 'Indo-British' culture spread over the entire subcontinent, and is still active and alive today, as are thick layers of blended Sanskrit and Persianate cultures that pervade and persist across almost all of the Indian subcontinent.

THE AUTHOR

Robert Eric Frykenberg is Emeritus Professor of History at South Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

READERSHIP

This book will meet the demands of historians specialising in Historiography, History of South India, History of Medieval Deccan, Christianity in India, Political and Social History of the Deccan.



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JAWAHARLAL NEHRU A Communicator and Democratic Leader

Author: A.K. DAMODARAN

Foreword by Rudrangshu Mukherjee

ISBN: 978-93-5572-523-3

Year: 2023

Pages: 397

Price: ₹1450*, \$59.95, £49.95

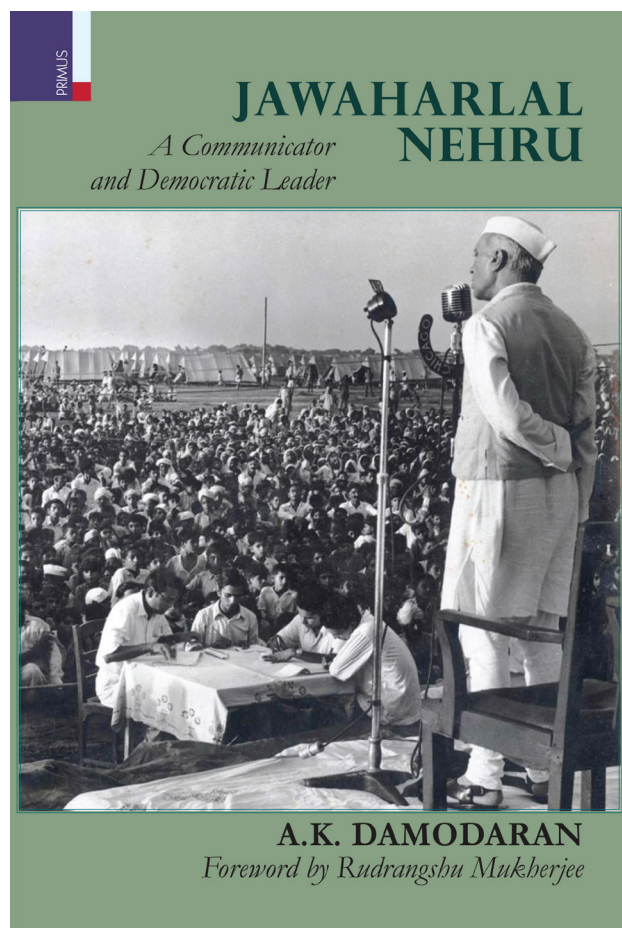
Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo

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THE BOOK

Jawaharlal Nehru: A Communicator and Democratic Leader explores multiple facets of Nehru's experiments in communication as a speaker, writer and formulator of policy as a part of the Congress. In all this, we find, he is affectionately influenced by Gandhi; but, he remains himself, in his style, his attitude to socialism and secularism, his excitement about science and his urge to communicate his own anguish at the tragic divisions of the modern era as well as his hopes of a better world to the younger generation in his country. Simultaneously he discovers within himself a remarkable capacity to convey all this and much more through the written word—articles, dispatches, addresses and, most of all, books.

With a Foreword by Rudrangshu Mukherjee for this reissue, this book addresses a dimension of the personality of the first prime minister of India which still does not receive adequate attention. How a shy, if not inarticulate, public speaker became the destiny of the millions is an exciting story. In studying Nehru as an effective communicator, other facets of his interaction with people—his peers, his critics and his friends all over the world necessarily come into the ambit of this work; most important of all is relationship with Gandhi. This book therefore, ventures beyond communication to narrate the whole story of his evolution as a political activist, later to be crowned with success as a major statesman of the twentieth century.

THE AUTHOR

A.K. Damodaran (1921–2012) studied at the universities of Madras and Lucknow. He took part in the Quit India movement and was imprisoned in Cochin state from 1942 to 1943. A member of the Indian Foreign Service (1953–80), he served as India's ambassador to Sweden and Italy. He also taught English literature in various colleges in the University of Delhi and international relations at Jawaharlal Nehru University. He was co-editor of *Indian Foreign Policy: The Indira Gandhi Years* and three collections of V.K. Krishna Menon's speeches at the United Nations.

READERSHIP

Scholars of Political History, Modern Indian History, Sociology etc. will find this book relevant for their contemporary research focused on Indian Politics and South Asia.

MALIGNED MAVERICK

Michael Madhusudan Datta

Life, Letters and Literature

Author: Nandan Dasgupta

ISBN: 978-93-5852-382-9

Year: 2024

Pages: 345

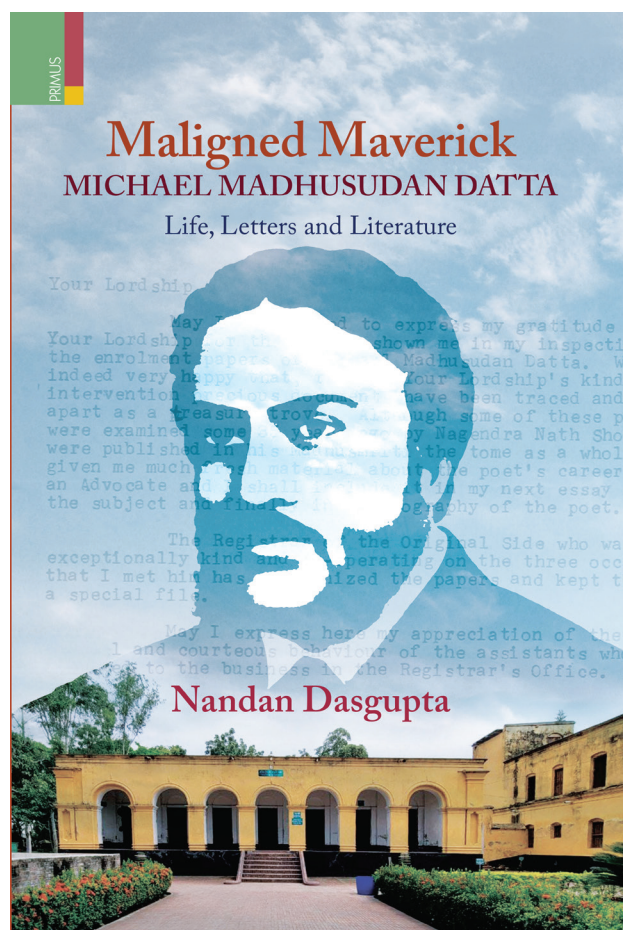
Price: ₹1750/-

Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo



THE BOOK

The playwright and poet, Michael Madhusudan Datta is easily one of the most important and controversial literary figures of nineteenth-century South Asia—characterized by radical socio cultural transformation. Despite countless discussions by commentators and biographers he remains an enigma among the literary giants who straddled nineteenth-century Bengal. By demystifying Datta's conversion to Christianity and by debunking myths of disinheritance, the alleged 'desertion' of his wife, misogyny, womanizing, alcoholism, and British sycophancy, *Maligned Maverick* re-examines the life and work of the pioneer of modern Bangla literature. This book delves into unexplored areas of his writings and quotes profusely from poems, plays, letters and articles, including Michael's journalistic writings and his best-known controversial English prose piece *The Anglo-Saxon and the Hindu*, providing new insights into the mind of the maverick genius.

Analysis of the role of another towering personality of those times, the social reformer Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, also leads to some intriguing propositions. This book, the only biography available in English, discusses Michael's varied encounters and the resultant range of reactions towards the British Empire. His aspirations in a colonial context and his disillusionment with it make for an interesting subject of investigation and in-depth study.

THE AUTHOR

Nandan Dasgupta is a Delhi-based attorney-at-law, and has edited bilingual (English and Bengali) literary magazines for over a decade.

READERSHIP

This book will be of interest to scholars and students interested in Michael Madhusudan Dutt, Literature, Bengali Literature, History of Bengali Literature and Modern Bengal.



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REVISITING HINDAVĪ SUFI ROMANCES

Late Fourteenth to Early Sixteenth Centuries

Author: Madhu Trivedi

ISBN: 978-93-5852-059-0

Year: 2024

Pages: 360

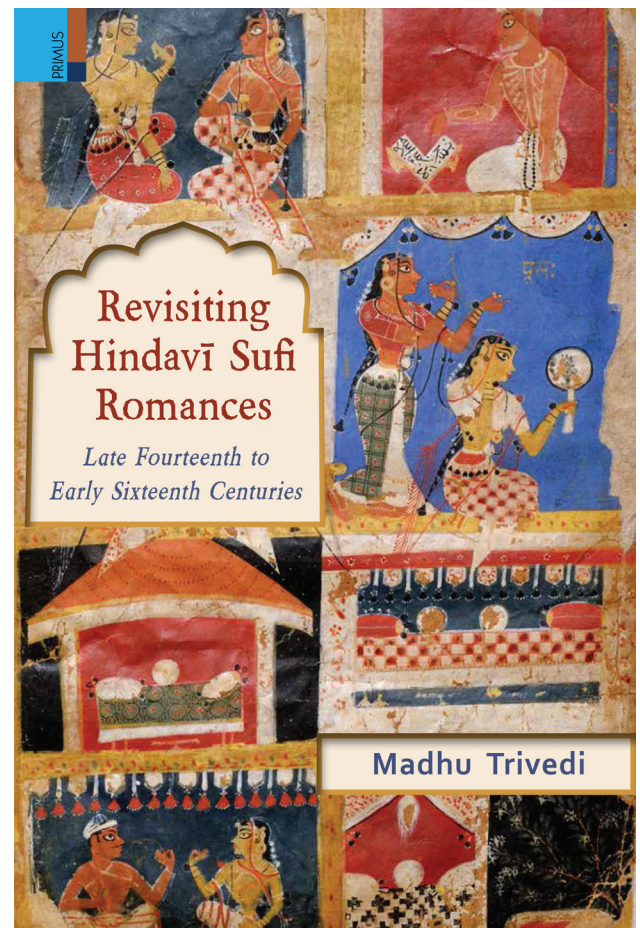
Price: ₹1495/-

Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo



THE BOOK

Revisiting Hindavī Sufi Romances is an in-depth exploration of the various facets of north Indian society and culture displayed in four Hindavī Sufi *premākhyān* or romances—*Chāndāyan*, *Mirgāvatī*, *Padmāvat*, and *Madhumālātī*—written during the late fourteenth to mid-sixteenth centuries. These narratives are of immense value for the study of this period as they provide crucial information on gender relations, the literary milieu, visual and performing arts, sartorial styles, cuisines, as well as the economy. Besides providing a kaleidoscopic view of the period, these narratives also highlight the perspectives of synthesis of the period they were created in. The romances bring out the syncretic ethos of the north Indian composite culture of their period and reflect traits of assimilation with indigenous socio-religious customs.

Significantly, these narratives show the emergence of a common literary culture, demonstrating the synthesis of diverse elements of indigenous folk and literary traditions and oral epic renditions. These were appropriated into a literary genre of Islamic origin, which followed indigenous verse forms, employed Indian aesthetics and stylistic concepts, and was presented in a locally comprehensive dialect. The Hindavī Sufi romances are indeed a rich source for delineating the cultural history of their period.

THE AUTHOR

Madhu Trivedi retired as Associate Professor, Department of History, School of Open Learning, University of Delhi. She has written extensively on medieval north Indian art and culture, especially on gender, literary culture, and performing arts.

READERSHIP

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Sufi Literature, Sufism, Cultural History and Medieval Indian History. All major universities and colleges teaching these subjects should be our primary focus area.

THE OBSERVANT OWL

Hutom's Vignettes of Nineteenth-century Calcutta (Second edition)

Translated by Swarup Roy

ISBN: 978-93-5852-029-3

Year: 2024

Pages: 338

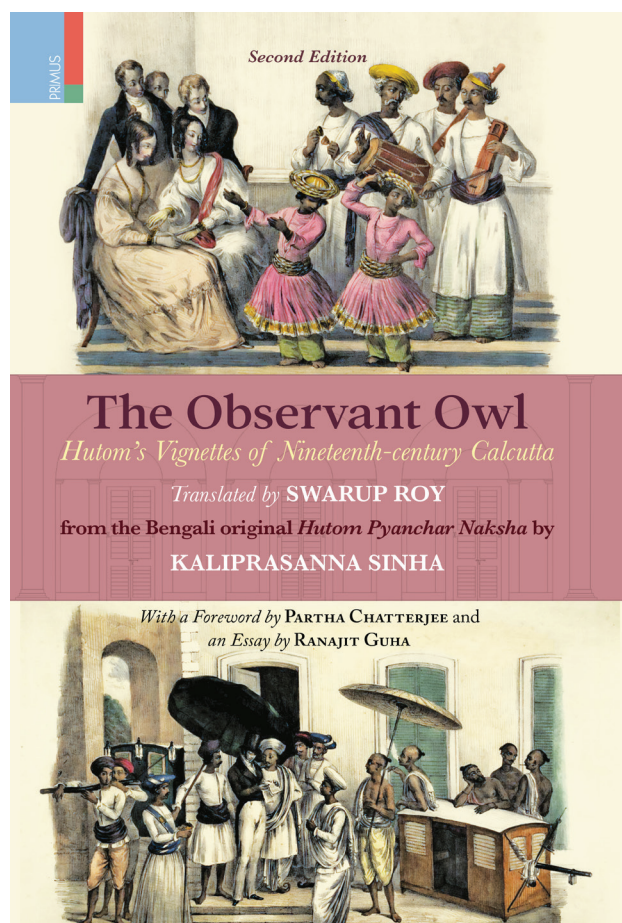
Price: ₹1095/-

Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo



THE BOOK

Hutom Pyanchar Naksha (literally, 'Sketches by Hutom the Owl'), a set of satirical portraits in Bengali about ordinary life in the nineteenth century, is so popular that it has never been out of print since its publication in 1861–2. The author of the sketches, Kaliprasanna Sinha (1840–70), ran several literary journals, founded the Bidyotsahini Sabha (Association for the Cultivation of Knowledge), established a theatre house named Bidyotsahini Theatre to promote Bengali drama, published the Bengali translation of the *Mahabharata*, and donated generously to social causes and projects of social reform.

The Observant Owl, originally published in 2008, is the first ever English translation of Kaliprasanna's work. It presents a joyously irreverent portrait of the city he lived in. The writing is so vivid that one finds within these pages a sense of walking through a nineteenth-century city as fishwives call out their wares, housewives hurry to the river for baths, thieves pick pockets, and carriages creak through slush and rotting banana peels, carting passengers high on ganja.

In this second edition, the translator has revised the text to make some minor modifications, particularly with regard to the tense and aspect of the verbs. He has also added a new Introduction and more annotations to bring to date the discussion around this fascinating text and its context.

THE TRANSLATOR

Swarup Roy is Associate Professor in English at Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandira, Belur Math, West Bengal. His areas of interest are postcolonial studies and translation studies.

READERSHIP

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Literature, Literary Studies, Translation Studies, Bengali Literature and History of Modern Bengal. All major universities and colleges teaching these subjects should be our primary focus area.

THE SHATTERED EARTH

Histories of Climate, Catastrophe and the Wilderness

Edited by Mili Ghose

ISBN: 978-93-5852-903-6

Year: 2024

Pages: 370

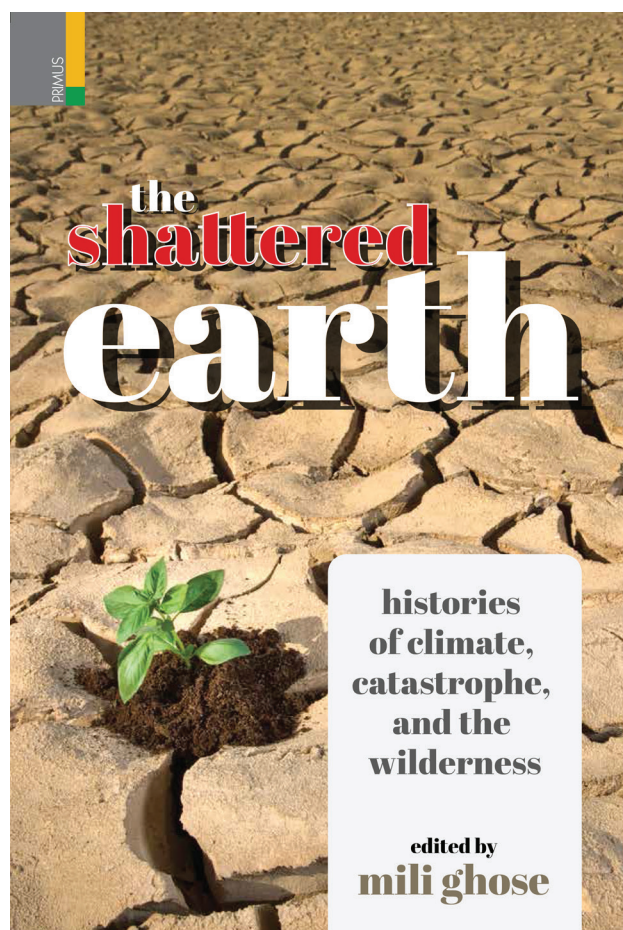
Price: ₹1750/-

Format: Hardback

Territory: Global

Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo



THE BOOK

Global climate change poses a genuine risk to the survival of the human species and raises questions regarding human existence on the planet. *The Shattered Earth* brings together the writings of scholars who investigate global and local questions related to critical environmental issues including global warming and anthropogenic climate change. If we look at the history of global climate change, we can discern the areas where humans have been responsible for disrupting the environment. Humans have already shattered the earth through their lust for power and profit, and have eliminated a number of species for the sake of industries, construction of roads, and for countless other commercial purposes which resulted in the loss of biodiversity. Examining diverse aspects in three sections, this volume deliberates on historical aspects, ecology, and the wild as well as catastrophes as markers of this climate change and its reverberations in planetary life.

THE EDITOR

Mili Ghose teaches at Jadavpur University as a guest faculty. She was a Fellow at Maulana Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata and a University Grants Commission Fellow at Jadavpur University.

READERSHIP

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Environmental History, Climatic History, Anthropocene, Colonial History, History of Modern Bengal and North-East India.