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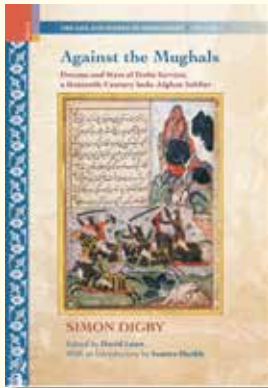
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THE LIFE AND WORKS OF SIMON DIGBY

The Life and Works of Simon Digby is intended to bring most of Simon Digby's publications, together with a large body of work left unpublished at his death, to new and wider audiences.

The series stands as testimony to his extraordinary scholarship. Publication of this series has been made possible by the Simon Digby Memorial Charity (SDMC). Registered in the Channel Island of Jersey where Digby was based, the SDMC was established to further the study of subjects that were of particular interest to Simon Digby. The SDMC has donated much of his collection to Oxford University's Ashmolean Museum and Bodleian Library, to the British Museum, and to other museums across the globe. It has funded the production of this series through a postdoctoral fellowship at SOAS University of London, aided in the publication of a volume on Digby's historical method, and continues to fund projects in fields associated with his research.

Simon Digby (1932–2010) was one of the foremost scholars on pre-Mughal India as well as a prolific writer, translator and collector.



ISBN: 978-93-6177-387-7
340 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1595
• \$ 59.95 • £ 49.95

Volume I

Against the Mughals

Dreams and Wars of Dattū Sarvānī, a Sixteenth-Century Indo-Afghan Soldier

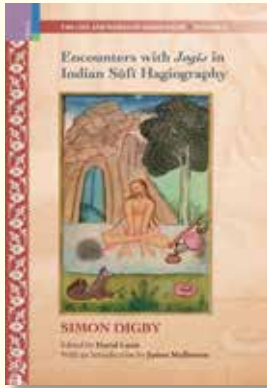
edited by

David Lunn

Was the Simon Digby Postdoctoral Fellow at SOAS (2015-18), University of London.

Against the Mughals reconstructs the life of Dattū Sarvānī, an Indo-Afghan soldier who believed in the power of dreams: to predict, warn, guide and inform. He also believed in the ability of his Sufi pīr, 'Abd al-Quddūs Gangohī, both to appear in his dreams, and to change the course of history through his spiritual power and authority.

In this first volume of 'The Life and Works of Simon Digby', the author translates the dreams of Dattū Sarvānī—a unique source for the period—and uses them to illuminate the political and social worlds of the early sixteenth century, when invasions under Bābur and Humāyūn led to the downfall of the north Indian sultanates and the establishment of the Mughal Empire. Drawing on a vast array of primary and secondary material, with meticulous close readings and a wide-ranging historical lens, Digby weaves accounts of military campaigns, Sufi devotion, and daily family life together in a rich analytical tapestry. Sultans, shaykhs and soldiers play their various roles, and the vital though oft-neglected world of pre-Mughal north India comes alive before the readers' eyes.



ISBN: 978-93-6883-046-7
328 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹1550

Volume II Encounters with *Jogīs* in Indian Sūfī Hagiography

edited by

David Lunn

Was the Simon Digby Postdoctoral Fellow at SOAS (2015-18), University of London.

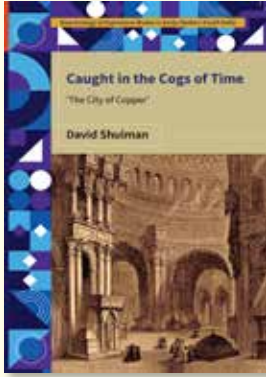
Encounters with Jogīs in Indian Sūfī Hagiography is a meticulous and magisterial analysis of myriad anecdotes from early medieval Indian Sufi literature in which Sufis and Yogis interacted with each other. These meetings—almost always contests—regularly featured magical feats of levitation, divination and transmutation. As these are recounted from the side of the Sufis—whether from their own lips or by their pious devotees—the Sufi is usually the victor. Yet, despite their partisanship, they offer invaluable insights into attitudes of mind and thought, patterns of settlement as well as of literary transmission, considerations of conflict versus accommodation, and the history of yoga itself. Evolving from a previously unpublished though widely circulated 1970 seminar paper of the same name, Digby's book-length study of the encounters recorded in Indian *malfūzāt* and *tazkiras* is essential reading for anyone interested in the history of contacts between Islam and Hinduism in the medieval environment.

Forthcoming in the Series:

- III. Sufis in the Life of Medieval India
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New Ecology of Expressive Modes in Early-Modern South India

SERIES EDITOR DAVID SHULMAN



Caught in the Cogs of Time 'The City of Copper'

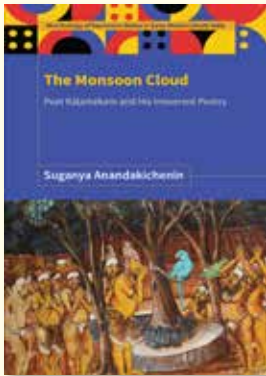
David Shulman

Professor Emeritus of South Asian Studies at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

'The City of Copper', probably the most chilling story in the Arabic *Thousand and One Nights*, tells of a mysterious city in the depths of the Libyan desert inhabited only by the dead. The story has generated many later versions, including an important nineteenth-century text in Tamil—perhaps the earliest known example of modern literary prose in this language.

Caught in the Cogs of Time offers a synthesis of the themes that run through all versions—the multiple temporalities that shape our lives and the enigmatic relation between eternity and everyday experience. It also delves into the intense debates among the Islamic philosophers of the tenth and eleventh centuries, particularly the Isma'ili thinkers, which have had an impact on the formation and afterlife of this famous story.

ISBN: 978-93-6177-484-3
176 pp. • PB • 2024 • ₹450
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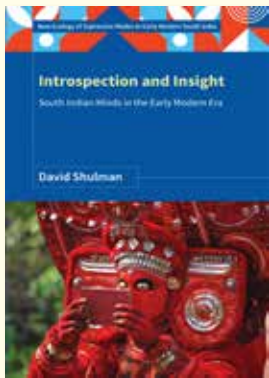
The Monsoon Cloud Poet Kālamēkam and His Irreverent Poetry

Suganya Anandakichenin

Research scholar affiliated with the Universität Hamburg (Germany), who mainly works in the field of Tamil Vaiṣṇava literature and theology.

A wordsmith, an extempore poet and a satirist, Kālamēkam (also known as Kālamēka Pulavar; fifteenth century) is widely known for his *taṇippāṭals* or 'self-contained verses', on a panoply of topics. These splendid but notoriously provocative verses were composed during a transitional phase of Tamil literature, by now in deep conversation with Sanskrit poetics and poetic language, thereby yielding an incredibly rich and innovative poetry. Kālamēkam sings of courtesans, fellow humans, of gods, of animals, praises them, derides them, and insults them, using sarcasm, dry wit, and criticism, combined with *śleṣas* and *yamakas*, *samasyās* and *nindāstutis*. *The Monsoon Cloud* seeks to introduce this brilliant poet and his timeless and influential poetry, while analysing his humour, worldview, personal values, and devotion.

ISBN: 978-93-5852-833-6
140 pp. • 2024 • PB • ₹450
• \$ 16.95 • £ 14.95



Introspection and Insight South Indian Minds in the Early Modern Era

David Shulman

Professor Emeritus of South Asian Studies at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

This is the first book of the New Ecology of Expressive Modes in Early-Modern South India (NEEM Series), edited by David Shulman. *Introspection and Insight* explores the literature, music, and graphic arts of south India between the late fifteenth and early nineteenth centuries and focuses on their theoretical and philosophical foundations as well as the distinctive features that reveal a newly emergent concept of the individual self and novel models of the mind. This is contextualized as part of a wider civilizational shift throughout the southern regions of India, involving radical changes in taste and sensibility—signifying moments of major cultural innovation. Of these, music was, perhaps, the most eloquent vehicle for personal introspection at this time.

ISBN: 978-93-5687-189-2

230 pp. • PB • 2023 • ₹450 •

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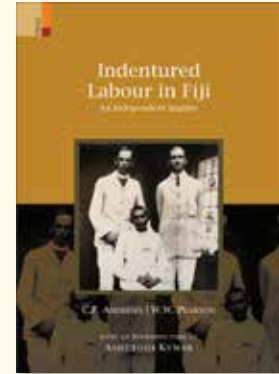
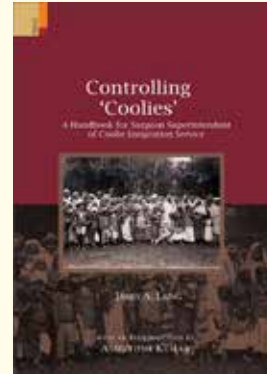
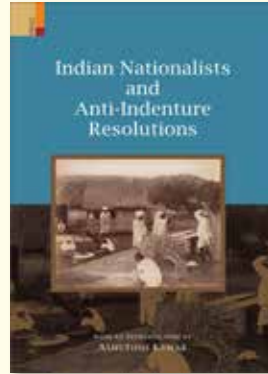
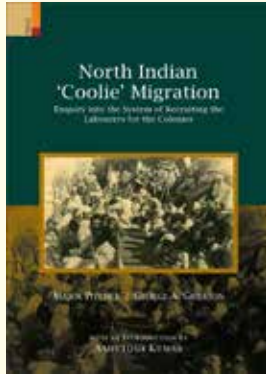
SERIES EDITOR FREDERICK M. SMITH

This series comprises annotated translations of the critical editions of the books of the *Mahābhārata*, and has been carefully put together from hundreds of manuscripts found all over India by a team of scholars at the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute. This project is a work of deep scholarship on what may be the world's longest national epic, presenting translations that are contextualized by lengthy critical Introductions and supplemented by notes.

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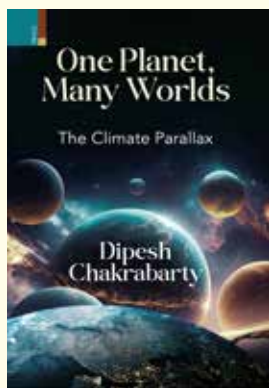
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About the Series

Primus Books is pleased to announce a new series on South Asian History titled 'Nature, Culture and Colonialism in South Asia'. The aim of this project is to publish monographs and anthologies on early modern, modern, and contemporary history that cover emerging areas of interdisciplinary research, such as environmental history, environmental humanities, history of medicine, and public health. It will also provide a platform for new perspectives on conventional areas of research, including the political, economic, social, and military history of South Asia. A significant concern of this series will be to use new methods of historical analysis to explore how nature has been culturally constructed, how culture has been shaped by nature in South Asia, and how both help us, in more ways than one, to comprehend the politics and ideologies of environmentalism and development in the colonial and postcolonial contexts. The focus of the series is the entire region of South Asia, and not simply India, as is usually the case. Proposals on regional studies on and from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and other parts of South Asia and Asia are welcome. On the whole, the books to be published under the series will not overtly display any particular historical standpoint but will be open ended. Though manuscripts with conventional methodologies of empirical history writing are welcome, proposals with interdisciplinary and original approaches are encouraged. The project will include research works of a cross-disciplinary nature with a global perspective, and the editors welcome contributions from sociology, history, political science, anthropology, film and media studies, cultural studies, and from the humanities and social sciences as a whole.

Book proposals can be sent to book.seriesproposal@gmail.com



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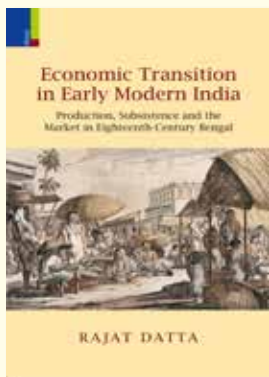
**For sale only in South Asia.*

One Planet, Many Worlds* The Climate Parallax

Dipesh Chakrabarty

Lawrence A. Kimpton Distinguished Service Professor of History, South Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago.

A historian offers a unique look at the pandemic, climate change, and the human versus non-human. Climate change represents a deep conundrum for humans. It is difficult for humans to give up the unequal and yet accelerating pursuit of a good life based on an insatiable appetite for energy sourced mainly from fossil fuel. But the same pursuit, scientists insist, damages the geobiological system that supports the existence of interrelated forms of life, including ours, on this planet. The planet, seen thus, is one. The global sway of financial and extractive capital connects humans technologically, but they remain divided along multiple axes of inequality. Their worlds are many and their politics still global rather than planetary. In the narrative presented here, Chakrabarty continues to explore the temporal and intellectual fault lines that mark the collapse of the global and the planetary in human history.



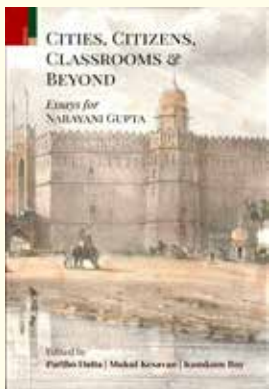
ISBN: 978-93-6177-402-7
308 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1050
• \$ 44.95 • £ 39.95

Economic Transition in Early Modern India Production, Subsistence and the Market in Eighteenth-Century Bengal

Rajat Datta (1956–2021)

Former Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

This book examines how the agrarian society of Bengal was transformed in the decades after the British conquest. While the focus is local, the arguments have a wider resonance. Datta revisits old debates, re-examines established orthodoxies, offers provocative arguments, and persuades us to rethink the history of late Mughal and early modern India. His arguments proceed at two levels. At one, he explores the working of markets: estimating bullion influx, trade fluctuations, price movements, and commodity flows. He shows how the internal trade between Bengal and other regions expanded, bazars and haats proliferated, with merchants and markets creating an interlocking network tying the towns to the countryside. At another level, Datta zooms into the rural areas to recover the lives of peasants. We see them engaged in intensive cultivation of their land with domestic labour, producing rice, lentils, mustard, mulberry and cotton, participating in an increasingly complex market network, negotiating monsoons and fluctuating harvests. Through a close study of the 1769–70 famine, Datta explores how such cataclysmic crises were produced, and what they meant to different sections of rural society. Deeply researched and engagingly written, *Economic Transition in Early Modern India* is an outstanding contribution to the history of early modern India.



ISBN: 978-93-6627-004-3
416 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹ 1295
• \$ 54.95 • £ 44.95

Cities, Citizens, Classrooms and Beyond Essays for Narayani Gupta

edited by

Partho Datta

Taught undergraduate history and now teaches music studies at the School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Mukul Kesavan

Writer based in Delhi. He taught history at Jamia Millia Islamia, along with Narayani Gupta, for many years.

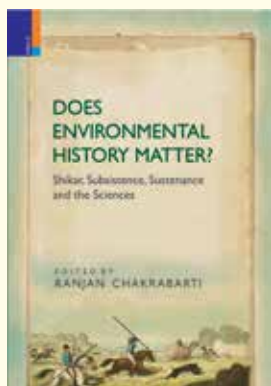
Kumkum Roy

Taught for several years in colleges and universities in Delhi, and retired from the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, in 2021.

Narayani Gupta's pioneering scholarship, concern with the fate of Delhi and campaigns to make the city a habitable space continue to inspire generations of people from diverse fields. Among her writings, *Delhi Between Two Empires* (1981) remains a classic work of urban history. One of the founders of the Conservation Society Delhi, her activism over many years has generated a new civic consciousness around monuments, heritage and shared spaces. Her work with Delhi schools has been equally significant. She has edited and authored school textbooks in Hindi and English, guidebooks to historical sites for children, and promoted innovative teaching methods.

Cities, Citizens, Classrooms and Beyond is a tribute by scholars, colleagues, students and friends which includes memoirs as well as discussions of various facets of urban history, teaching methods and pedagogy. In this volume, divided into three sections, the contributors have explored medieval Srirangam, the legacy of Agra, the *marsiya* in Delhi, the urban natures of colonial metropolises and the conservation of the Nizamuddin complex. There are essays on Patrick Geddes, the fascinating phenomenon of informal towns, early nationalist Delhi and the activities of Communists in the city. Architects, planners, historians, teachers have all reflected on Narayani Gupta's enduring legacy: the personal and humane touch she offers to all her endeavours.

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• Ratish Nanda • T.C.A. Raghavan •
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324 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1495
\$ 54.95 • £ 44.95

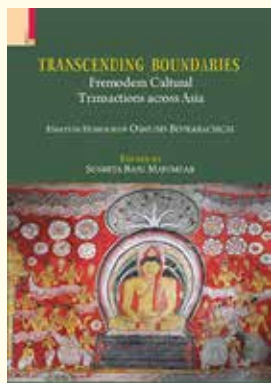
Does Environmental History Matter? Shikar, Subsistence, Sustenance and the Sciences

edited by
Ranjan Chakrabarti

Former Vice-Chancellor of Vidyasagar University and Netaji Subhas Open University. He is currently Hony. Visiting Professor at Jadavpur University and Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Royal Global University, Guwahati.

Does Environmental History Matter? explores the territory of climate history and environmentalism through its methodology and historiography, focusing on its origins and usefulness in the contemporary world as well as its multidisciplinary character. The chapters brought together in this volume examine numerous issues in the context of the ongoing global climate crisis and analyse how such disasters are caused by the complex relationship between humans and the environment.

Sudeshna Banerjee • Ranjan Chakrabarti • Kaushik Chakrabarty • Chhanda Chatterjee • Vinita Damodaran • Mili Ghose • Richard Grove • C. Rajendran • Suchibrata Sen



ISBN : 978-93-6177-059-3
863 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹6500
\$ 229.95 • £ 189.95

Transcending Boundaries Premodern Cultural Transactions across Asia: Essays in Honour of Osmund Bopearachchi

edited by
Susmita Basu Majumdar

Professor and Head of the Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture, University of Calcutta, India.

Transcending Boundaries: Premodern Cultural Transactions across Asia celebrates the scholarship of Osmund Bopearachchi, a pioneering scholar in the fields of art history and numismatics, whose work has impacted numerous other domains of history.

The chapters presented here consist of six themes related to Professor Bopearachchi's diverse interests: archaeology, material remains and archives form the first segment; the second relates to epigraphic and numismatic sources and interpretative histories; the third deals with texts and their contexts; the fourth deals with art and architecture; the fifth is on religious studies with a special focus on Buddhism; and the final section deals with varied aspects of cultural history and beyond. Through these broadly interconnected themes, the volume transcends boundaries to reflect different aspects of cultural history and the changing vignettes of society in the premodern era based on a study of empirical sources, art historical material and texts.



ISBN: 978-93-6177-507-9
328 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹1250
\$ 49.95 • £ 39.95

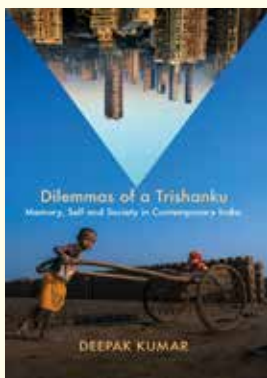
Broken Mirror Conversations with Artists and Thinkers

Chinmoy Guha

Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Calcutta and an author and translator.

As the world moves into an uncertain post-theory phase, and one can see an increasing intolerance which threatens to disrupt the painstakingly constructed language of Indian modernity, there is a profound need for conversations and dialogues that can lead to self-questioning and open up a meaningful interpretative space. These interfaces may eventually lead to reflections and a possible reconstruction of the prevailing discourse(s).

Broken Mirror captures the life-experiences, worldviews, hopes and frustrations of several leading cultural personalities who have left a deep imprint on the shaping of the Indian ethos. The individuals represented here cover a significantly wide range of authors, filmmakers, scholars, artists and critics who simultaneously represent Bengal and India. Through these interviews, Chinmoy Guha draws out the inner self of these personalities, examines their personal trajectories and worldviews in the face of the changing paradigm of cultural and knowledge discourse in the country, and traces the formation and evolution of the larger cultural milieu.



ISBN: 978-93-6177-161-3
292 pp. • PB • 2024 • ₹695
\$ 29.95 • £ 24.95

Dilemmas of a Trishanku Memory, Self, and Society in Contemporary India

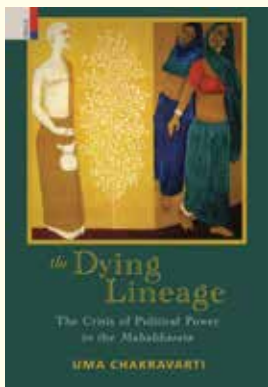
Deepak Kumar

Retired as Professor of History of Science and Education from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Dilemmas of a Trishanku presents a thought-provoking account of a society and a nation marked by its contradictions and seamlessly combines everyday social and political experiences with academic insights. The Pauranic story of a pious king called Trishanku, who probably still hangs between heaven and earth, is used as a metaphor to capture the different nuances of dilemmas which we all face in life as individuals and as citizens.

Based on both historical data and what sociologists call 'participant observation', this account dwells on the predicaments and struggles of post-Independence India. It begins with a depiction of life in a moffusil town and moves on to examine closely the issues of caste, religion, governance, corruption, education, science, culture, and lot more.

Presented with rare verve and wit, and by using the lens of both historical and personal experiences, these 'rumblings' help unfurl layers of life in contemporary India.



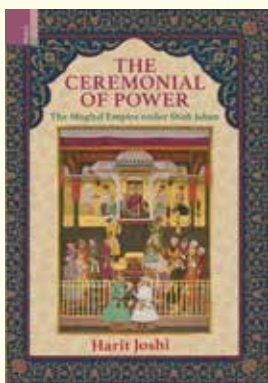
ISBN: 978-93-5852-928-9
 260 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹ 950
 \$ 39.95 • £ 34.95

The Dying Lineage The Crisis of Political Power in the *Mahabharata*

Uma Chakravarti

Taught history in Miranda House, University of Delhi from 1966 to 1998.

The Dying Lineage has at its core the crises of reproduction that underwrite Vyasa's *Mahābhārata*, a text that best exemplifies the transitional moment from kin-based chiefdoms to monarchical kingdoms in the Indo-Gangetic doab in the mid-first millennium BCE. However, lineage building and putting orderly norms of succession into place was a fraught process. The Bharata patriline stared at its imminent extinction at least once every generation, barely perpetuating itself, and always faced with anxiety over its future. This feminist reading 'peoples' this story by bringing into its frame those who are on the margins of the royal household but cannot claim kingship. Reading against the grain, the book explores the link between caste, class and gender in a varna-ordered society. It examines how all three colluded with the patriarchs (and the occasional matriarch) to ensure the survival of the lineage.



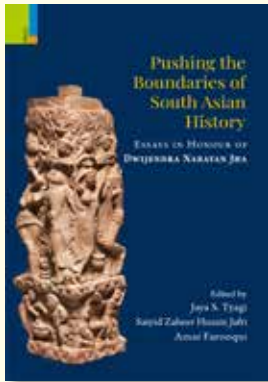
ISBN : 978-93-5852-905-0
 527 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1995
 \$ 74.95 • £ 64.95

The Ceremonial of Power The Mughal Empire under Shah Jahan

Harit Joshi

Maître de Conférences (Associate Professor) in the Department of South Asian and Himalayan Studies of the Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO) in Paris, where he has taught since 2002.

The Ceremonial of Power studies the court ceremonial during the reign of the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan (1628–58) and its use as an indispensable tool in asserting imperial authority. It examines Shah Jahan's portrayal in contemporary and later historiography through an analysis of the writings of the court chroniclers, the colonial administrator-historians, and their Indian counterparts. The volume sheds light on different features of the emperor's personality that emerge from the official discourse as well as other significant aspects of his reign: Shah Jahan's passion for architecture and the layout of his court; the emperor's relationship with his courtiers and their daily interactions; Shah Jahan's religious views and their influence on court proceedings.



ISBN: 978-93-5852-668-4
603 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹ 1650
\$ 69.95 • £ 59.95

Pushing the Boundaries of South Asian History Essays in Honour of Dwijendra Narayan Jha

edited by

Jaya Tyagi

Professor in the Department of History, University of Delhi.

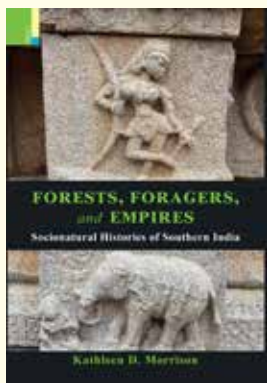
Saiyid Zaheer Husain Jafri

Formerly Professor of Medieval Indian history, Department of History, University of Delhi.

Amar Farooqui

Formerly Professor of History, University of Delhi.

Pushing the Boundaries of South Asian History is a tribute to Professor Dwijendra Narayan Jha's skill and craftsmanship as a historian. He was an outstanding scholar, who constantly reinvented himself and kept abreast of changes in historical perspectives and methodology. In this volume, a wide range of historians, whose works have made significant contributions to the understanding of South Asian history, have come together to pay homage to him through their work; in doing so they attempt to redefine the existing spatial, chronological and conceptual boundaries relating to the history of the region. The chapters herein, organized into four sections, focus on new aspects of South Asian history, drawing attention to liminal areas, filling intermittent spaces, and retrieving histories that sometimes slip through the gaps created by chronological boundaries of ancient versus early medieval, medieval vis-à-vis the modern. This demonstrates the fluid and nebulous nature of 'boundaries' and how 'connected' histories are. It also showcases the deeply entangled and intersecting layers of past societies and the new ways through which historians can attempt to retrieve the past. In doing so, this volume pushes at the boundaries of our existing knowledge of Indian history and underlines the dynamic nature of history as a discipline.



Forests, Foragers, and Empires Socionatural Histories of Southern India

Kathleen D. Morrison

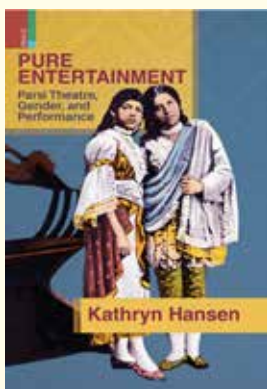
Sally and Alvin V. Shoemaker Professor of Anthropology and Lead Curator, Asian Section, at the University of Pennsylvania Museum.

Forests, Foragers, and Empires explores the complex histories of south Indian forests and foragers, focusing on historical recognitions and misrecognitions emerging from prior assumptions about human and non-human history, and about presumed fundamental characteristics of 'nature' and 'culture'. Many of these essays focus on the hunting and gathering peoples of southern India, especially as they have articulated with others throughout the Holocene. Other essays consider the larger-scale landscape histories within which these are situated, from the forests themselves to local and long-standing networks of production, trade, and power. These histories include multiple forms of agency—kings, hunters, merchants, farmers, sailors, city-dwellers, and of course plants, animals, and the forests themselves. This collection of essays aims to reinsert both forests and foragers into mainstream South Asian history, including the history of European colonial expansion and conquest, as well as those of other imperial polities.

ISBN: 978-93-5852-034-7

459 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹ 1695

• \$ 64.95 • £ 54.95



Pure Entertainment Parsi Theatre, Gender and Performance

Kathryn Hansen

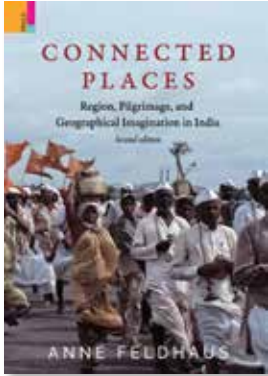
Cultural historian who has worked extensively on Indian theatre.

For over fifty years Parsi theatre was famous for the sheer pleasure it brought to audiences in colonial India. It transformed the enjoyment of drama into a modern pastime. This cosmopolitan entertainment lured crowds to urban playhouses night after night with its passionate refrains of Urdu poetry and the melodious voices of cross-dressed youths. *Pure Entertainment* traces how Parsi theatre wedded vernacular narrative and musicality to new stage technologies to create an aesthetic that appealed across classes and communities. Its performing women and female impersonators became the first media stars. It expanded the mythological, historical, and social genres, preparing the ground for the emergence of cinema. By running profitable companies, Bombay troupes travelled to ports like Madras and Rangoon, leaving behind an unmistakable legacy.

ISBN: 978-93-5852-790-2

460 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1495

• \$59.95 • £49.95



ISBN: 978-93-5572-196-9
422 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1795
*For sale only in South Asia

Connected Places Religion, Pilgrimage, and Geographical Imagination in India* Second edition

Anne Feldhaus

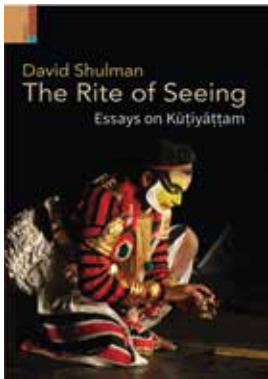
Professor Emerita of Religious Studies at Arizona State University.

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.

'Focusing on the connections between space, place and pilgrimage, this work brings together geography, history, ethnography and mathematics, in a meticulously researched and erudite work.'

—RADHIKA SESHAN, formerly at Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune

*This book is also relevant for Religious History



ISBN: 978-93-5572-037-5
240 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1295
• \$54.95 • £42.95

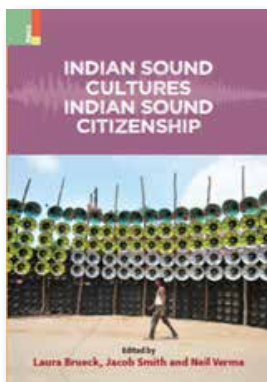
The Rite of Seeing Essays on Kūṭiyāṭṭam*

David Shulman

Professor Emeritus at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Kūṭiyāṭṭam, the only surviving live Sanskrit theatre in the world, was defined by UNESCO as 'a masterpiece of the oral and intangible heritage of humanity'. Full performances—almost always a single act taken from a multi-act Sanskrit play—range from 12 to 150 hours and display an aesthetic brilliance and dizzying complexity that are almost beyond description. *The Rite of Seeing: Essays on Kūṭiyāṭṭam* reflects the work of the Hebrew University Kūṭiyāṭṭam team and of our colleagues from Tuebingen, Paris, Groningen, and elsewhere, over many years of annual pilgrimages to Kerala to watch and study this art in action. It offers interpretations of seven classical performances in the light of the actors' traditional handbooks (Āṭṭaparakāram), the Sanskrit base text, and the artists' oral commentary that emerged naturally over the course of many days of attentive viewing. The essays are accompanied by links to extended performance moments, so the readers can see with their own eyes something of what we have seen in Mūlikkuḷam and Kiḷḷimaṅgalam. Interpretative essays of this kind have never been attempted for Kūṭiyāṭṭam.

*This book is also relevant for Cultural Studies



ISBN: 978-93-5572-070-2
 370 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1495
 *For sale only in South Asia

Indian Sound Cultures, Indian Sound Citizenship*

edited by

Laura Brueck

Associate Professor, South Asian Literature and Culture, Northwestern University

Jacob Smith

Professor, Department of Radio-Television-Film, Northwestern University.

Neil Verma

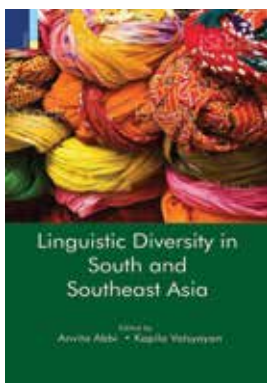
Assistant Professor, Department of Radio-Television-Film, Northwestern University.

The essays in *Indian Sound Cultures, Indian Sound Citizenship* argue that sound, from the cinema hall to the recording studio and the public festival ground, is inextricably linked to issues of citizenship, identity, and belonging in India. Together, the contributions in this volume investigate the sonic turn in the study of South Asia by understanding sound in its own social and cultural contexts, and by exploring the diverse ways in which sound has been and continues to be crucial to the ideological construction of a unifying postcolonial Indian nation-state.

'As multiple authors of the volume have argued, political discourse in the age of digital media is inconceivable without considering sonic subtexts, given the complicated negotiations between traditional and new media that go into the making of informed citizenship.'

Jayson Beaster-Jones • Alexis Bhagat • Laura Brueck • Praseeda Gopinath • Kathryn C. Hardy • Roanne L. Kantor • Peter Kvetko • Neepa Majumdar • Sriram Mohan • Madhuj Mukherjee • Aswin Punathambekar • Lauren Rosati • Jacob Smith • Pavitra Sundar • Samhita Sunya • Sejal Sutaria • Neil Verma

—SHUBHRA RAY, Zakir Husain Delhi College Evening, Delhi University, Delhi



ISBN: 978-93-91144-18-0
 372 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1495
 • \$59.95 • £44.95

Linguistic Diversity in South and Southeast Asia*

edited by

Anvita Abbi

B.B. Borkar Chair of Comparative Literature, Goa University

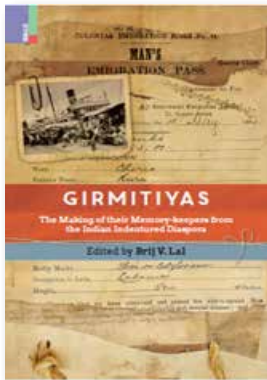
Kapila Vatsyayan

Former Chairperson, IIC-International Research Division

Linguistic Diversity in South and Southeast Asia is a collection of essays written by scholars from Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Myanmar, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, and India. It is a compendium on the depleting linguistic diversity, loss of oral cultures, erosion of indigenous knowledge systems, and the widening gap between dominant and dominated languages which has created a linguistic apartheid in this part of the world.

*This book is also relevant for Cultural Studies.

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice



ISBN: 978-93-5572-074-0
342 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1595
• \$69.95 • £54.95

Girmitiyas

The Making of Their Memory-Keeper from the Indian Indentured Diaspora*

edited by

Brij V. Lal

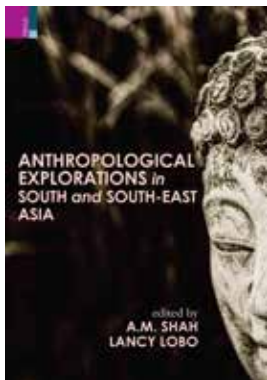
Professor Emeritus at the Australian National University and Honorary Professor at the University of Queensland

They are scattered around the globe now, descendants of girmitiyas, indentured labourers, and other subaltern groups of Indians. The journey of their forebears, from India to the tropical sugar colonies in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries was fraught, but they emerged from the debris of subalternity to lay the foundations of many a colony, from South Africa to Suriname and many places in-between. For the most part, however, they have been ignored by history books as a people without agency or humanity, unworthy of consideration. This picture has been changing in recent decades largely as the result of scholars such as those represented

in this volume. In the essays in this volume, scholars from the Indian subaltern diaspora write about their improbable journeys and serendipitous transformations in the face of great odds, of the influences that shaped their thinking and approach to the study of the past of their forebears. Fascinating, often moving stories in themselves, the essays collectively provide indispensable insights into the emergence of a field of history which their intervention has rescued from certain obscurity.

*This book is also relevant for Modern History.

Ashwin Desai • Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie • Ruben Gowricharn
• Kaplana Hiralal • Brij V. Lal
• Rajend Mesthrie • Céline Ramsamy-Giancone • Lomarsh Roopnarine • Brinsley Samaroo • Clem Seecharan • Goolam Vahed



ISBN: 978-93-90737-12-3
248 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1250
• \$54.95 • £44.95

Anthropological Explorations in East and South-East Asia

edited by

A.M. Shah

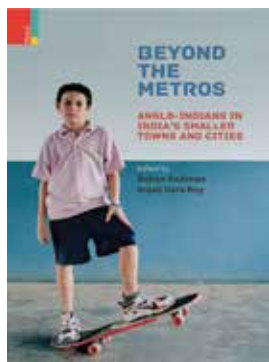
Former Professor of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi, India

Lancy Lobo

Director, Centre for Culture and Development, Vadodara, India

This volume is a collection of eighteen ethnographic essays on Anthropological Explorations in East and South-East Asia, reprinted from Journal of the Anthropological Society of Bombay, published during 1886–1936. Divided into five parts, it includes works on history, religion, tea cult, the Torii of Japan and the Torans of India; a paper that deals with the veneration of dead in China; eight papers on Tibet: on its customs, devil driving processions, book procession of Lamas, Tibetan folklore in eastern Himalayas, and the method of computing distance by means of tea-cups; a paper on Burma on the monastic institution and its Phongys; and four papers on Malaysia dealing with the tiger in Malay folklore, folk medicine, etiological folktales, Burmese and Indian folk beliefs about the man tiger and the Malay version of two ancient Indian apologues.

Carrying an epilogue by Patricia Uberoi it suggests that the history of anthropological writings in India is much older than is believed to be.



ISBN: 978-93-90737-65-9
 384 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1050
 • \$49.95 • £42.95

Beyond the Metros Anglo-Indians in India's Smaller Towns and Cities*

edited by

Robyn Andrews

Senior Lecturer in Massey University's social anthropology programme.

Anjali Gera Roy

Professor in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

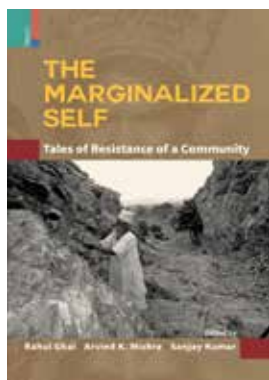
Beyond the Metros focuses on Anglo-Indians residing in a number of small towns and cities, away from the metropolitan centres of modern India, such as Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi and Chennai. It provides a socio-historical account of what it means to be an Anglo-Indian in cultural and materially varied environments, highlighting the impact on the formation of identities.

The researchers in this volume highlight the concept of diversity in the lived experiences, aspirations, memories and sense of identity within this community. They question the methodology of looking at minority communities as homogenized and ethnicized categories. The book demonstrates the importance of place as a crucial variable in the social histories of communities. In addition, it interrogates both the received scholarly wisdom as well as exoticized popular stereotypes by looking closely at Anglo- Indian lives and perceptions.

'...the book is an eye opener and a must read for the outstanding ethnographic fieldwork which the researchers have conducted to make readers aware of different historical and sociological contexts...'

—SOMDATTA MANDAL, *The Statesman*

*This book is also relevant for Sociology.



ISBN: 978-93-89933-80-2 •
 172 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1095
 • \$49.95 • £42.95

The Marginalized Self Tales of Resistance of a Community*

Rahul Ghai

Associate Professor, School of Development Studies, IIMR University, Jaipur, India

Arvind Kumar Mishra

Assistant Professor, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, JNU, New Delhi, India

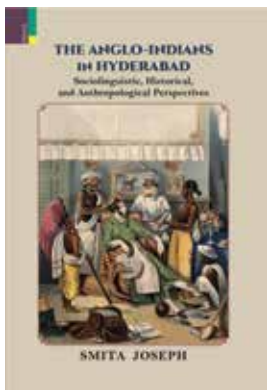
Sanjay Kumar

Researcher, development practitioner and founder of the Deshkal Society, Delhi, India

The Marginalized Self questions the century-old perception of the Musahar community as rat-eating, pig-rearing, habitually drunk, lazy and unmotivated; a perception fostered by the dominant discourse of development, and the historically prevalent hierarchical social system. This collection of essays argues that these victims of the dominant model of development acquire a different kind of power and critical consciousness due to their marginality, which helps them to examine the processes, practices, and institutions that give rise to and justify poverty, displacement, corruption, greed, competition, and violence in the name of development.

*This book is also relevant for Sociology.

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice



ISBN: 978-93-90232-57-4
• 206 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1050
• \$44.95 • £36.95

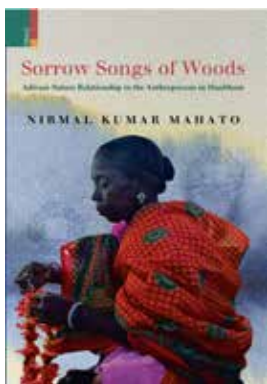
The Anglo-Indians in Hyderabad Sociolinguistic, Historical and Anthropological Perspectives*

Smita Joseph

Assistant Professor of Sociolinguistics, Department of Linguistics and Phonetics, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, India.

By discussing the use of various strategies by which Christian names have adapted according to their ecology in the Indian context, this book provides new dimensions in the field of socio-onomastics. It gives a fascinating account of how the Anglo-Indians of Hyderabad maintain their ethnic identity through the use of proper names and slang. The data on slang and names has been elicited through a combination of interviews, surveys and ethnographic methods. The relationship between ethnicity and language has been explored by comparing the usage of slang across three age groups, as well as by comparing the usage of proper names across three decades. The status of slang and names as ethnic markers has been examined through the use of statistics.

*This book is also relevant for Modern History and Sociology.



ISBN: 978-93-90022-47-2
246 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹995
• \$44.95 • £36.95

Sorrow Songs of Woods Adivasi-Nature Relationship in the Anthropocene in Manbhum

Nirmal Kumar Mahato

Professor of History, University of Gour Banga, Malda, West Bengal, India

This book focuses on the fine and complex relationship between Adivasis and Nature in Manbhum. It analyses colonial intervention in 'indigenous' societies and the politics of identity formation of Adivasis. It provides an empirically detailed and region-specific study of the ethnic version of 'ecological nationalism'. It also studies Adivasi survival strategies and resource utilization practices. From the late-nineteenth century, the recurrent famines that plagued this area as a consequence of the changes brought by colonial policies on centuries-old modes of production and environmental resource management, deprived Adivasis of nutrients, and their health declined. Adivasi medicine men ascribed causes of diseases to individuals, especially women.

*This book is also relevant for Modern History.



ISBN: 978-93-90022-28-1
 370 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1395
 • \$59.95 • £49.95

Bihar Crossing Boundaries*

edited by

Sunita Lall

Treasurer, Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI), Patna, Bihar, India

Neeraj Kumar

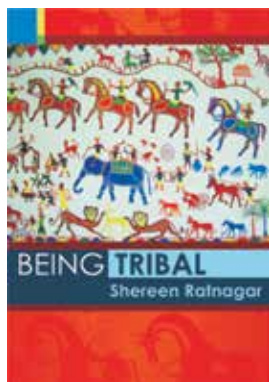
Centre for Economic Policy and Public Finance, ADRI, Patna, Bihar, India

Kathinka Sinha-Kerkhoff

Honorary Research Fellow, International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam

This book binds together essays that study Bihar's development, cultural changes, violence, governance, etc., over a long durée and across a vast region. The state's profile on these parameters has undergone change several times in the last century. These essays present some of these changes in a vivid manner and set the agenda for new research. Ethnographic, anthropological, and sociological analyses, and macroeconomic policy models have been used to analyse the changes in Bihar. Translated versions of vernacular manuscripts, unpublished letters/correspondence, and other archival accounts not exhibited so far, oral evidence, folktales, myths, and memoirs have been used to show the dynamics of the region. Sacred places, shrines, films, rural capital, agricultural mechanization technologies, paintings, and literary traditions have also been analysed. In these essays, authors cross not just geographical and temporal boundaries, but gender, class, ethnic, and cultural boundaries in different contexts to present a unique and syncretic collection of essays on Bihar.

*This book is also relevant for Cultural Studies and Sociology.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-274-3
 126 pp. • 2019 • PB • ₹ 750
 \$ 35.95 • £ 27.95

Prices are subject to revision without prior notice

Being Tribal*

Shereen Ratnagar

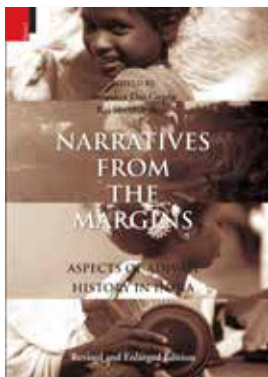
Former Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

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 amongst 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*

*This book is also relevant for Archaeology.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-527-0
338 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1195
\$69.95 • £54.95

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

edited by

Sanjukta Das Gupta

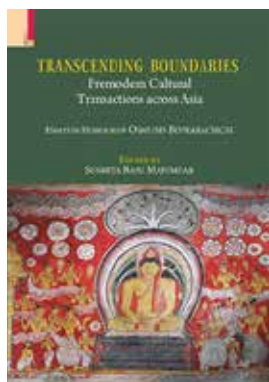
Associate Professor, Department of Oriental Studies, Sapienza University, Rome

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.

Raj Shekhar Basu • B.B. Chaudhuri • Tripti Chaudhuri • Sanjukta Das Gupta • Marco Fattori • Giorgio Milanetti • Daniel J. Rycroft • Samita Sen • Shashank Sekhar Sinha • Nandini Sundar



ISBN : 978-93-6177-059-3
 863 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹6500
 • \$ 229.95 • £ 189.95

Transcending Boundaries Premodern Cultural Transactions across Asia: Essays in Honour of Osmund Bopearachchi*

edited by

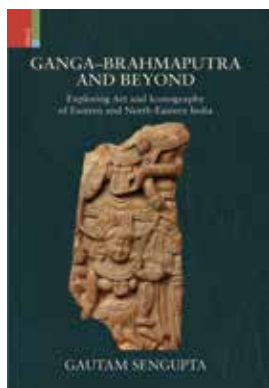
Susmita Basu Majumdar

Professor and Head of the Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture, University of Calcutta, India.

Transcending Boundaries: Premodern Cultural Transactions across Asia celebrates the scholarship of Osmund Bopearachchi, a pioneering scholar in the fields of art history and numismatics, whose work has impacted numerous other domains of history.

The chapters presented here consist of six themes related to Professor Bopearachchi's diverse interests: archaeology, material remains and archives form the first segment; the second relates to epigraphic and numismatic sources and interpretative histories; the third deals with texts and their contexts; the fourth deals with art and architecture; the fifth is on religious studies with a special focus on Buddhism; and the final section deals with varied aspects of cultural history and beyond. Through these broadly interconnected themes, the volume transcends boundaries to reflect different aspects of cultural history and the changing vignettes of society in the premodern era based on a study of empirical sources, art historical material and texts.

*This book is also relevant for Ancient History



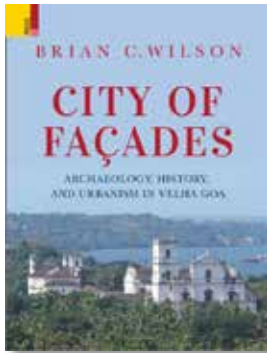
ISBN : 978-93-5687-765-8
 510 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1750
 • \$69.95 • £59.95

Ganga-Brahmaputra and Beyond Exploring Art and Iconography of Eastern and North-Eastern India

Gautam Sengupta

Former Professor, Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan.

Like the heterogeneity of the idyllic landscape of the Ganga-Brahmaputra valleys, the art historical traditions of the region manifest elements of bewildering diversity and multiplicity in form and media. Based on empirical research over four decades across eastern and north-eastern India, *Ganga-Brahmaputra and Beyond* explores these diverse creative traditions, visualized and successfully strategized by premodern śilpins or craftsmen. Spanning a chronological period from the second and first centuries BCE to the early twentieth century CE, the chapters in this volume, grouped under three themes 'Eastern India: A Journey across Time'; 'Revisiting North-East India'; and 'Interrogating Artists' Choice'—investigate newly discovered data and interrogate existing material through new questions.



ISBN : 978-93-5572-632-2
358 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1595
• \$59.95 • £52.95

City of Façades Archaeology, History, and Urbanism in Velha Goa

Brian C. Wilson

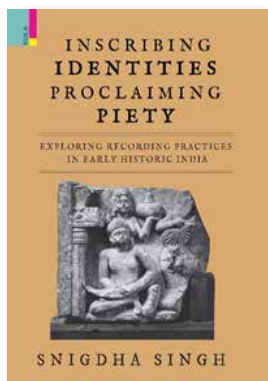
Historical anthropologist and archaeologist at the University of Chicago.

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. Historical tropes of ruination in the description of Goa from the seventeenth century onwards mask the rich and varied archaeological evidence of enduring forms of urbanisms. This book, while questioning overarching narratives of urban decline, allows for a characterization of the concealed failures of colonial urban governance and its legacies in perpetuating ideal urban forms that still influence both heritage management and urban planning in Goa today.

'This is an unusual and innovative book that captures the history of Velha Goa through the lens of archeology as method, and urbanism as the heuristic category for understanding the Portuguese city as it was designed and constructed since the 16th century.'

—LAKSHMI SUBRAMANIAN, HSS, BITS Pilani, Goa.



ISBN: 978-93-5553-290-9
502 pp. • HB • 2022 • ₹1495
• \$64.95 • £49.95

Inscribing Identities, Proclaiming Piety Exploring Recording Practices in Early Historic India*

Snigdha Singh

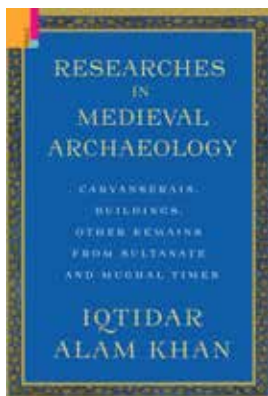
Associate Professor in the Department of History at Miranda House, University of Delhi.

Inscribing Identities, Proclaiming Piety: Exploring Recording Practices in Early Historic India focuses on votive inscriptions from the second century BCE to the second century CE found in four areas: Bharhut, Sanchi, the Western Ghats and Mathura. In Bharhut and Sanchi, votive inscriptions have been found on the architecture of the stūpas and in Mathura on statues, while they have been found in caves and tanks along the Western Ghats. Focusing on the differences between the ecclesiastic and the laity, this volume examines and highlights the gendered differences within them.

‘Snigdha Singh’s book forces us to revisit the complex social world of monks and nuns on the one hand and laymen and women on the other. The book will immensely help any reader to have a nuanced understanding of the concepts of ‘patronage’ and ‘matronage’. The tables prepared for each chapter might generate interest among young researchers for further probing.’

—SUCHANDRA GHOSH, University of Hyderabad

*This book is also relevant for Ancient History.



ISBN: 978-93-90430-70-3
190 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹995
• \$44.95 • £36.95

Researches in Medieval Archaeology Carvanserais, Buildings, Other Remains from Sultanate and Mughal Times

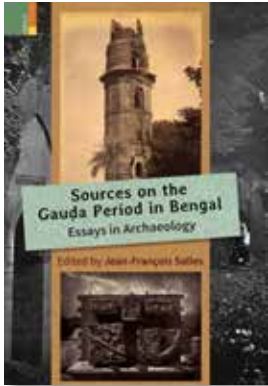
Iqtidar Alam Khan

Former Professor, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University.

The essays in this volume focus on the surviving remains in India of premodern public buildings like serais, bridges and water-works of different types as well as masonry structures meant to extract indigo or sugar from plants. Much of this evidence is significant for the study of economic history as well as war technology of the post-Turkish conquest phase. The attempt here is to present this evidence in the perspective of the evolving production technology which appears to have received an impetus with the establishment of Turkish rule. The archaeological data cited in this collection of essays indicate the presence of extensive premodern remains along the Mughal highways, many of which have not been recorded so far. These make for very promising objects of study for archaeologists as well as students of economic history interested in determining the factors responsible for India’s sluggish transition to modernity.

“...the book under review brings to light not only many hitherto unknown structural remains belonging to medieval India such as dyeing vats, dykes and makeshift capitals but also aims to dispel the notion that archaeology as a discipline is only associated with the remote past or with ‘remains dug out from under the earth.’”

—RUCHIKA SHARMA, Jawaharlal Nehru University



ISBN: 978-93-90022-84-7
266 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1095
• \$44.95 • £36.95

Sources on the Gauda Period in Bengal Essays in Archaeology*

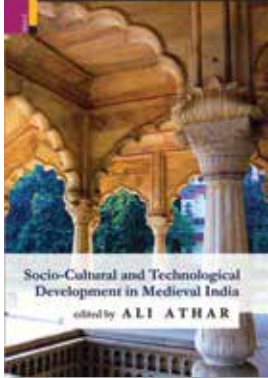
edited by

Jean-François Salles

Former Directeur de Recherche, French National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS).

The century following Śaśānka's death stands as an obscure period of the Bengal-Magadha region—matsyanyāyam—with a succession of local conflicts and a multiplicity of independent sovereignties as well as a few invasions from outside. A noticeable event is Yaśovarman's conquest of Kanauj, celebrated in the poem 'Gauḍavaho', with two lines that possibly refer to the 'slaughter' of the king of Magadha, vassal of Gauḍa. The period of darkness came to an end in c.750 with the rise of the Pālas. *Sources on the Gauda Period in Bengal: Essays in Archaeology* deals with the history and archaeology of Gauḍa, especially inscriptions, literary sources, sculptures, ceramics, and regional organizations of the period.

*This book is also relevant for Ancient History.



ISBN: 978-93-90430-08-6
240 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹995
• \$46.95 • £37.95

Socio-Cultural and Technological Development in Medieval India*

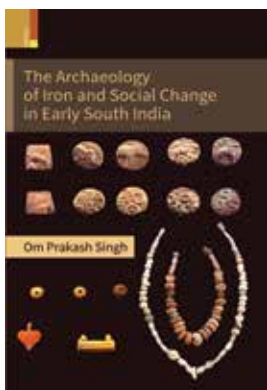
edited by

Ali Athar

Professor, Centre of Advanced Study, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India.

This volume contains well researched papers based on primary sources and archaeological explorations and presents new findings on medieval Indian administration, culture, science and technology. It also has a study of new literary sources, both Persian and Europeans, with a full section to literary sources. The section on state and administration highlights Central Asian and European influence on state craft and the army. Mysticism and its impact on medieval policy, architecture and the new genre of literature known as 'Shahr Ashob' helps in the reconstruction of the eighteenth-century history of Shahjahanabad. The chapter on science and technology studies the military technology of the Delhi Sultanate and the impact of metal technology of the later Mughal period on the state of Bikaner in the skill development of both urban and rural workers. This chapter also includes a study of water harvesting and agricultural produce. This volume covers a large canvas of medieval Indian history examining many unexplored aspects of the period.

*This book is also relevant for Architecture and Medieval History.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-463-1
 290 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 1195
 \$ 59.95 • £ 47.95

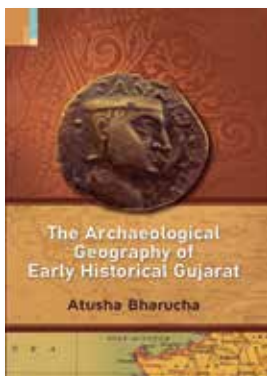
The Archaeology of Iron and Social Change in Early South India*

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 Telangana), 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.

*This book is also relevant for Ancient History.



ISBN: 978-93-90022-86-1
 256 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1050
 • \$49.95 • £39.95

The Archaeological Geography of Early Historical Gujarat*

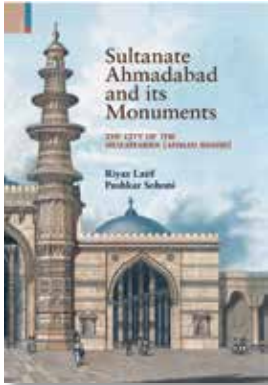
Atusha Bharucha

Independent researcher in early historical archaeology.

The early history of Gujarat has generally been limited to political history and the genealogy of the Western Kshatrapas constructed from a study of coins and inscriptions of the period. *The Archaeological Geography of Early Historical Gujarat* argues that Gujarat was the meeting point of cultures from mainland India as well as the gateway for goods from overseas and offers important information regarding Indian Ocean trade in ancient India taking place from the west coast of the peninsula. Gujarat was also the hub where the overland trade routes met, where goods from north India, the Deccan, and what is today Afghanistan, as well as areas surrounding the east of the river Indus landed.

Besides providing an account of the hinterland of the north-western coast of India, this volume also provides information on the nature of the ancient settlements of the modern state of Gujarat, and their connections with each other. The book pieces together the history of the common man. For instance, several minor inscriptions commemorating the death of people and the digging of wells throw light on the limitations in practicing agriculture faced by people then. It also looks at Gujarat as an important Buddhist centre, much like Sind, as evidenced by the brick stupas found in the state.

*This book is also relevant for Cultural Studies, Geography and Economics, Maritime History.



ISBN: 978-93-5572-448-9
 170 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹895
 • \$29.95 • £24.95

Sultanate Ahmadabad and its Monuments The City of the Muzaffarids (Ahmad Shahis)*

Riyaz Latif

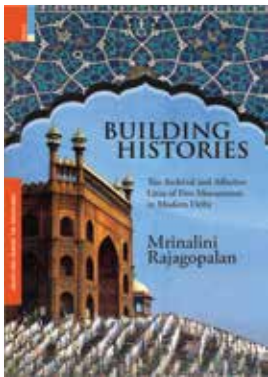
Is an architectural historian and teaches at FLAME University in Pune.

Pushkar Sohoni

Is an architectural historian and teaches at FLAME University in Pune.

A group of monuments in Ahmadabad constructed under the patronage of the Muzaffarid (Ahmad Shahi) sultanate of Gujarat stand testimony today to the composite heritage of the city. Sultanate Ahmadabad and its Monuments serves as a succinct guide to these representative monuments constructed under a sovereignty that endured for almost two centuries until its annexation into the Mughal Empire under Akbar in 1573. The Ahmad Shahi sultanate architecture merits attention on the grounds of its distinctive constructional as well as ornamental features. The innovative syncretic richness of these structures needs to be considered in light of the historical, cultural, and political exigencies of the Gujarat sultanate that bear upon the formation of this unique regional idiom within the continuum of Indo Islamic architecture. With a concise introduction to historical, cultural, and architectural currents, this book lays out helpful itineraries for visiting these refined specimens of sultanate architecture in Ahmadabad. Primarily envisioned as a guide for studious visitors, this book should be of interest also to academics and historians of Indo-Islamic architecture. Richly illustrated, it brings to light an architectural corpus which deserves a central space as well as a composite scholarly assessment within the discourse surrounding the cultural expressions of Islamic architecture in the Indian subcontinent.

*This book is also relevant for Medieval History



ISBN: 978-93-84092-88-7
 270 pp. • 2018 • HB • ₹ 1995

*For sale only in South Asia

Building Histories

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

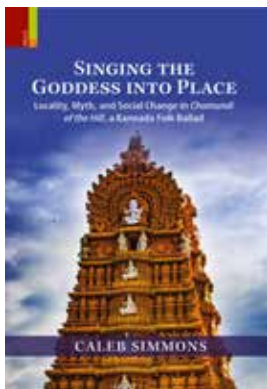
Mrinalini Rajagopalan

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



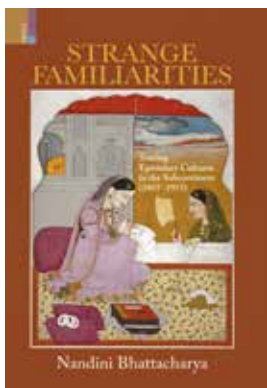
ISBN : 978-93-5852-514-4
264 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1500
*For sale only in South Asia

Singing the Goddess into Place Locality, Myth, and Social Change in Chamundi of the Hill, a Kannada Folk Ballad*

Caleb Simmons

Professor of Religious Studies, Faculty Director of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program, and Executive Director of Online Education at the University of Arizona.

Singing the Goddess into Place examines *Chamundi of the Hill*, a collection of songs that tells the stories of the gods and goddesses of the region around the city of Mysore in southern Karnataka. The ballad actively transforms the region into a land where gods and goddesses live, embedding these deities within the social worlds of their devotees and remapping southern Karnataka into sacred geography connected through networks of devotion and pilgrimage. In this in-depth study of the songs and their context, Caleb Simmons not only provides the first English-language translation of these songs but brings to light the unstudied folk perspectives on the foundational myth of Mysore and its urban history. *Singing the Goddess into Place* demonstrates how folk narratives reflect local context while also actively working to upend social inequities based on caste and ritual/devotional practices. By delving into this world, the book helps us understand how a landscape is transformed through people's relationship with it and how this relationship helps build meaning for the communities that call it home.



ISBN : 978-93-6883-430-4
340 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹1450

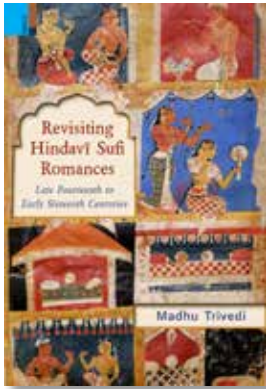
Strange Familiarities Tracing Epistolary Cultures in the Subcontinent, 1857–1915*

Nandini Bhattacharya

Professor, Department of English and Culture Studies, University of Burdwan, West Bengal.

Strange Familiarities traces epistolary traditions produced within the ethnolinguistic cultures of nineteenth-century Bengal and the North-West Provinces in colonial India. The book provides a close reading of texts and English translations of epistolary literature, selected due to their novelty and radical responses to the 'postal revolution' of the time. Through the study of epistolarities, the book also directs the reader's attention towards cultural histories, especially the conceptual complexity of the 'subcontinent'. Trained as we are to see 'the subcontinent' through a post-Partition nationalist lens, and as a composite of distinct, bordered entities, this renders us less inclined to consider subcontinental cultures in terms of their interconnected histories. The book, thus, not only serves as a reader of nineteenth and early twentieth-century epistolary texts, it also acts as an archive and provides a glimpse into aspects of cultural history.

*This book is also relevant for Literature



ISBN : 978-93-5852-059-0
360 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1495
• \$ 54.95 • £ 47.95

Revisiting Hindavī Sufi Romances Late Fourteenth to Early Sixteenth Centuries*

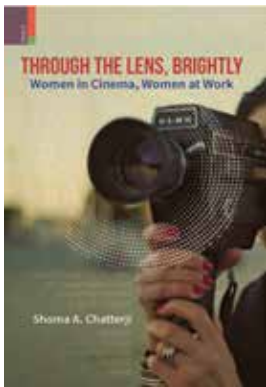
Madhu Trivedi

Retired as Associate Professor, Department of History, School of Open Learning, University of Delhi.

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*, *Mirgāvātī*, *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. The Hindavī Sufi romances are indeed a rich source for delineating the cultural history of their period.

*This book is also relevant for Medieval History



ISBN : 978-93-5572-717-6
318 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1495
• \$54.95 • £44.95

Through The Lens, Brightly Women in Cinema, Women at Work*

Shoma A. Chatterji

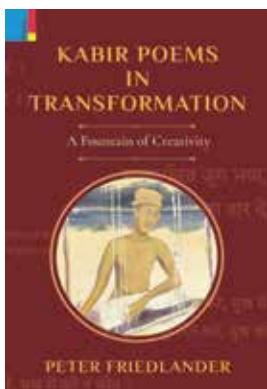
An eminent journalist, film scholar and author based in Kolkata.

Through the Lens, Brightly: Women in Cinema, Women at Work unearths how the 'working woman' has been presented in films directed by women. Most women directors are 'working women' themselves, with full-fledged careers of their own. Some of them also write scripts and edit their films. The volume attempts to locate whether these celluloid representations depict the empowerment of women because of their financial independence or if these women remain where they began—dependent, oppressed, marginalized and disempowered— despite their professional triumphs. The analyses of nine films by nine women directors raise some significant questions and throw up some answers, each as intriguing as the next.

'Through the Lens, Brightly' by Shoma A Chatterji explores the depiction of working women in films made by women over four decades in India. The book features nine films and discusses the evolution of women directors in Indian cinema, as well as the status of women in society. Chatterji analyzes each film and the careers of the directors and lead actors, highlighting the resilience and determination of the female characters. The book provides valuable insights into the representation of women in Indian cinema and is highly recommended for film enthusiasts.

—SUBHA DAS MOLLICK, *The Hindustan Times*

*This book is also relevant for Women's and Gender Studies.



Kabir Poems in Transformation A Fountain of Creativity*

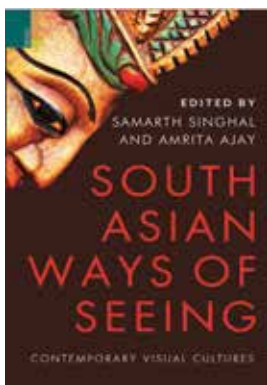
Peter Friedlander

Associate Professor of Hindi at the School of Culture, History & Language, Australian National University.

Kabir Poems in Transformation: A Fountain of Creativity explores how images of Kabir, in circulation amongst his Hindi-speaking followers at the start of the twentieth century, were transformed into versions of Kabir more acceptable to global English-speaking audiences in contemporary times. This work investigates how the creation of an image of Kabir as an ideal Indian mystic poet led to the eclipse of Kabir as the voice of the lower castes and marginalized communities in India. The argument is that rather than seeing an idealized version of his persona through the lens of any particular segment of the audience, Kabir should be studied through the multiplicity of images transmitted amongst diverse communities within India and around the world. This book focuses on the networks of contexts in which these verses were transmitted, and where such a significant transformation took place. These include Hindi print editions published 1907 onwards, Bengali anthologies by Kshitimohan Sen in 1910–11, and English translations by Rabindranath Tagore and Evelyn Underhill published as *One Hundred Verses of Kabir* in 1914.

ISBN : 978-93-5572-727-5
322 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1695
• \$64.95 • £54.95

*This book is also relevant for Literature.



South Asian Ways of Seeing Contemporary Visual Cultures

edited by

Samarth Singhal

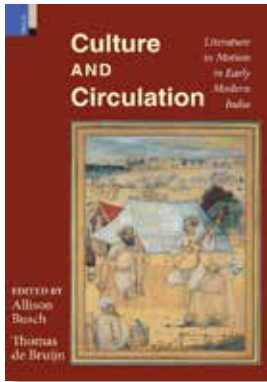
Pursuing a PhD in English literature at the University of California, Riverside.

Amrita Ajay

Assistant Professor of English literature at Maitreyi College, University of Delhi.

South Asian Ways of Seeing brings together eminent as well as new scholarly voices from across disciplines to explore South Asia from a visual standpoint, exploring multiple mediums and multiple ways of seeing, including tarot, film, graphic novels, painting, death pictures, graffiti, and installation art. With an intent to establish conversations between and across disciplines like history, sociology, literature, art history, culture and media studies, the discursivity of visual cultures in framing a South Asian imaginary is attempted. Attention to the production, circulation and consumption of visuals, which recognizes their embeddedness in material and cultural practices, is combined with an in-depth analysis of form, technique and the afterlife of less-examined media/genres. Through this wide-ranging exploration, we ask the compelling question: Is there a South Asian way of seeing?

ISBN: 978-93-90737-38-3
430 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1295
• \$54.95 • £42.95



ISBN : 978-93-5572-336-9
359 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1495
*For sale only in South Asia.

Culture and Circulation Literature in Motion in Early Modern India*

edited by
Allison Busch

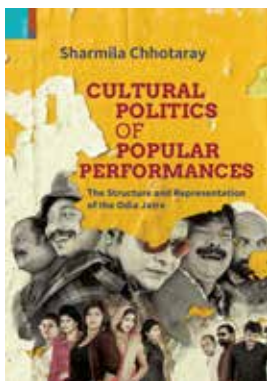
Late Associate Professor of Hindi literature in the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies at Columbia University, New York.

Thomas de Bruijn
Independent scholar

Culture and Circulation takes an innovative approach to early modern Indian literature. The authors foreground the complex hybridity of literary genres and social milieus, capturing elements that have eluded traditional literary history. In this book, jointly edited by Allison Busch and Thomas de Bruijn, Hindi authors rub shoulders with their Persian counterparts in the courts of Mughal India; the fame of Mirabai, a poetess from Rajasthan, travels to Punjab; the sayings of Kabir are found to be as difficult to pin down as the wandering holy men who transmitted them. Drawing on new archives in several Indian languages, this volume presents fresh ideas that will be of interest to scholars of Indian literature, religious studies, and early modern history. The current reprint makes this book available to a larger audience in India, where it will find a readership among those interested in the history of cultural traditions that continue to have a meaning in present-day Indian society.

*This book is also relevant for Literature.

Thomas de Bruijn • Allison Busch • John Stratton Hawley • Thibaut d'Hubert • Catharina Kiehnle • Corinne Lefèvre • Gurinder Singh Mann • Francesca Orsini • Heidi Pauwels Stefano Pellò • Robert van de Walle



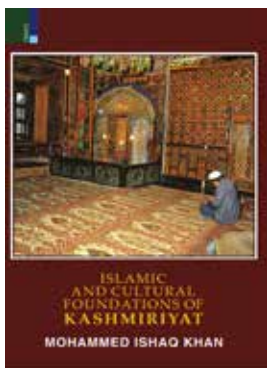
ISBN : 978-93-5572-348-2
326 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1195
• \$49.95 • £42.95

Cultural Politics of Popular Performances The Structure and Representation of the Odia Jatra

Sharmila Chhotaray
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Tripura University.

Cultural Politics of Popular Performances: The Structure and Representation of the Odia Jatra explores how, as a consequence of modernity, the hybridization of living theatre forms like jatra, allows 'authentic' folk traditions to not only survive but flourish by taking on new shapes without losing their traditional identity. The evolution of jatra from folk theatre in the premodern era to popular/mass theatre in modern Odisha has led to it attaining a dominant position in the entertainment industry. It is consumed by a large audience and is mediated by mechanisms of the capitalist market, surpassing the scale of modern Odia cinema. By responding to socio-cultural forces, it has expanded its cultural consumption, production and participation, and now caters to the entertainment needs of the masses in both urban and rural areas.

This book explores how this dominant form has revived mythological interpretations in modern, secular stories, thereby creating new spectacles in the countryside by producing a cinematic-hybrid culture in the changing social structure of modern-day Odisha.



Islamic and Cultural Foundations of Kashmiriyat

Mohammad Ishaq Khan

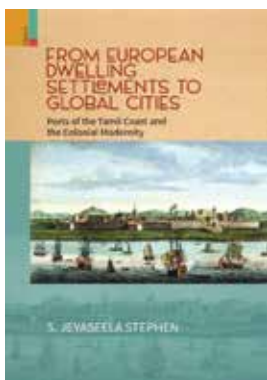
Former Professor and Head, Department of History, and Director, Centre for Kashmir Studies.

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 the result of a cultural transformation in no way at odds with Islam as a religion. Professor Khan 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 address the range of available historical sources, the relationship between Brahmanism and Islam, the role of saints and ritual in Kashmiri Islam, the Persian influence on Kashmir, and other topics. Professor Khan ends with a candid examination of his own experience as a Kashmiri living through the second half of the twentieth century.

ISBN: 978-93-90737-43-7
240 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1095
• \$49.95 • £42.95

'...his contribution in his professional sphere is superb, qualitatively as well as quantitatively...'

—MOHAMMAD SAYEED MALIK



From European Dwelling Settlements to Global Cities Ports of the Tamil Coast and the Colonial Modernity*

S. Jeyaseela Stephen

Directeur, Institut pour études Indo- Européennes.

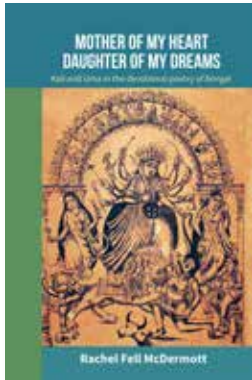
The book looks at the pattern of urbanization, planning and development of spatial culture on the Tamil coast in the early modern world and the historical processes that shaped them. It examines the establishment and growth of the towns Porto Novo, Tuticorin, Nagapattinam, Mylapore, Pulicat, Tranquebar, Cuddalore, and Madras that developed in the age of European commerce and empire, from the clustered villages around the umland, the vast hinterland and the wide expanse of maritime foreland. The study makes a comparative understanding of these cosmopolitan ports and how they superseded interior capital cities like Madurai, Thanjavur, and Tiruchirappalli.

ISBN: 978-93--90430-97-0
518 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1495
\$74.95 • £59.95

Stephen argues that the network and gateway functions connecting the several ports of the Atlantic and a multitude of trading marts in Asia enabled them to rise from European dwelling settlements to fortified commercial towns and global cities. These enclaves used information and technological changes to enhance their living conditions, employment opportunities and longevity.

This book also analyses the phenomena of urbanism and colonialism through the study of topography, cartography, demography, and Western iconography.

*This book is also relevant for Modern History



Forthcoming

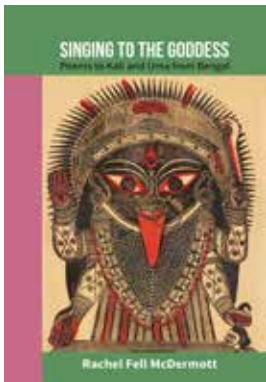
Mother of My Heart, Daughter of My Dreams Kālī and Umā in the Devotional Poetry of Bengal

Rachel Fell McDermott

Assistant Professor, Asian and Middle Eastern Culture, Barnard College, Columbia University

This book chronicles the rise and subsequent fortunes of goddess worship, or Śāktism, in the region of Bengal from the middle of the eighteenth century to the present. The primary documents are lyrics directed to the goddesses Kālī and Umā, beginning with those of the first of the Śākta lyricist-devotees, Rāmprasād Sen (c.1718–75) and Kamalākānta Bhattācārya (c.1769–1821), and continuing up through those of the gifted poet Kazi Nazrul Islam (1899–1976). Rachel Fell McDermott has used extensive research from primary historical texts as well as from secondary Bengali and English source materials. She places the advent of the Śākta lyric in its historical context and charts the vicissitudes over time of this form of goddess worship, including the nineteenth-century resurgence of Śāktism in the cause of Nationalist politics. The main theme of the book is the way in which the images of the two goddesses evolved over the centuries. Kālī is sweetened and democratized over time. Much of her fierce, wild, dangerous, and bloody character disappears, and she is increasingly seen as a compassionate and loving divine mother to her children. Umā, for her part, is gradually transformed from the gentle and remote wife of Śhiva to the adored daughter of Bengali parents, increasingly humanized and coloured with regional Bengali characteristics.

Rachel Fell McDermott's accomplished translations of the poems on which this book is based appear in *Singing to the Goddess: Poems to Kālī and Umā from Bengal* (2000).



Forthcoming

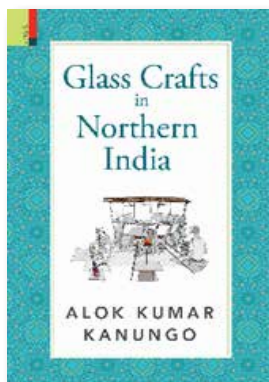
Singing to the Goddess Poems to Kālī and Umā from Bengal*

Rachel Fell McDermott

Assistant Professor, Asian and Middle Eastern Cultures, Bernard College, Columbia University

This vibrant collection presents 145 brief Bengali lyric poems dedicated to the Hindu goddesses Kali and Uma. These poems—many of which are presented here for the first time in English translation—were written from the early eighteenth century up to the contemporary period. They represent the unique Bengali tradition of goddess worship (Saktism) as it developed over this period. Included are forty poems by the most famous of all Sakta poets, Ramprasad Sen (c.1718–1775) and ten lyrics by the renowned 20th-century poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. McDermott's lucid introduction places these works in their historical context and shows how images of the goddesses evolved over the centuries. Her lively translations of these poetic lyrics evoke the passion and devotion of the followers of Kali and Uma and shed light on the history and practice of goddess worship.

* The book is also relevant for Religious History.



ISBN: 978-93-5553-264-0
 250 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹5000
 • \$169.95 • £129.95

Glass Crafts in Northern India*

Alok Kumar Kanungo

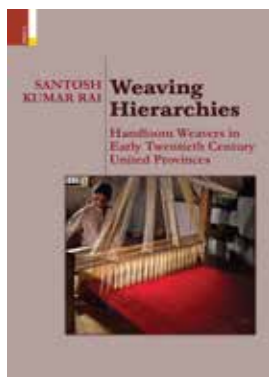
Faculty, IIT Gandhinagar and adjunct faculty, Flinders University

Glass Crafts in Northern India is not only about beads and bangles and their production cycles, but also about one of the most important glass-craft clusters of the world. The evolution of technology and skills with regard to the making of the furnace and kiln over the centuries and invention of new methods for producing variety of beads are the essence of this volume. The archaeological community has reconstructed ancient cities with glass-making and/or glass-working workshops and has formulated many hypotheses about them, thereby recording ethnographically and visually a cluster of glass cities identical to those which existed millennia ago. When read in combination with the first volume of the trilogy on Indian glass, i.e. Mapping Indo-Pacific Beads vis-à-vis Papanaidupet, one gets a clear idea of what to expect in the archaeological field if the site was engaged with the production of glass beads and bangles. The volume discusses the history and context of research on Indian glass, drawing its data from ancient literature, archives, and ethnohistorical and archaeological sources.

‘Drawing from multiple ancient literature, mythology, ethno-historical and archeological sources, Kanungo brings to life the socio-economics of the ancient cities of Northern India and their craft clusters. We get an understanding of the cultural and economic role glass played—in the lives of both makers and users.’

—LAILA TYABJI, Designer, craft activist and writer

*This book is also relevant for Modern History.



ISBN: 978-93-90737-75-8
 540 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1595
 • \$79.95 • £64.95

Weaving Hierarchies

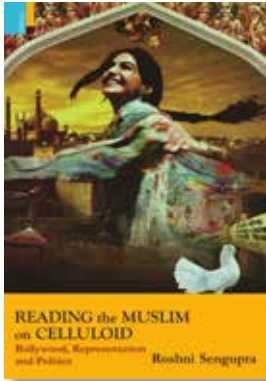
Handloom Weavers in Early Twentieth Century United Provinces*

Santosh Kumar Rai

Professor of Modern Indian History, University of Delhi

This book combines primarily historical data with extensive field research to give us new insights into the structures of artisan trades and the lives of weaving communities in the hubs of Azamgarh, Gorakhpur and Faizabad of eastern Uttar Pradesh during the first half of the twentieth century. Thus, it fills an important gap in the existing labour historiography, which has tended to focus more on ‘modern’ sites of labour such as factories, mines and plantations. The book explores the modernity/tradition dichotomy, demonstrating that some of the categorizations fundamental to these understandings are in fact profoundly misplaced. Indeed, the argument regarding processes of ‘localization’ made here is particularly promising in the sense that it does not posit localization in opposition to but in tandem with global processes. The book explores historically grounded, tension-filled categories like class, caste and community, and traces the history of the Julaha community.

*This book is also relevant for Modern History.



ISBN: 978-93-89850-87-1
340 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1250
• \$64.95 • £54.95

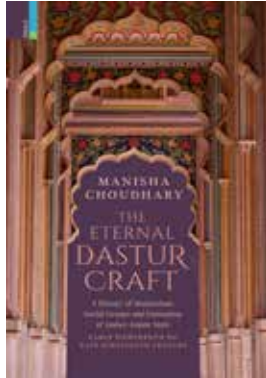
Reading the Muslim on Celluloid Bollywood, Representation and Politics

Roshni Sengupta

Visiting Professor, Institute of Middle and Far East Studies, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland.

The question of how religious and sectarian identities are represented in Bollywood has emerged as crucial and complex. The notion of the cinematic representation of identities also contains within it ideas about visualities and their impact. The contribution of Hindi cinema to such an ideological milieu is immense and it has emerged as one of the most powerful tools of propaganda.

This book aims to bring some of the cinematic narratives under the analytical lens and contextualize the representation of the Muslim in popular Hindi cinema. It also argues that a transformation in the representation of Muslims through the 1990s and 2000s culminated in the emergence of a secularized portrayal which can be perceived as problematic. Can one discern an attempt to construct a visual binary where Muslims can be categorized as 'good' and 'bad'? Does Hindi cinema perceive the Muslim through a simplified worldview of loyalty and nationalism? This book seeks to answer some of these questions.



ISBN: 978-93-90022-49-6
288 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1095
• \$43.95 • £36.95

The Eternal Dastur Craft A History of Mannerism, Social Groups and Formation of Amber-Jaipur State Early Eighteenth to Late Nineteenth Century*

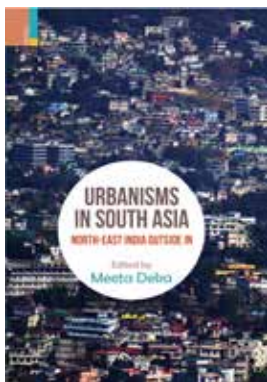
Manisha Choudhary

Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi, Delhi, India

Rituals pervaded medieval society, up and down the social strata. Royal courts were a constant arena of ritual movements. Who was positioned higher than whom, who sat where, who exchanged what with whom, whose hand turned, a gift rendered and a counter gift returned, all these are suggestive of the language of gestures and indicative of the power and delicacy of rituals.

This volume is a study of the Rajlok, Khojas of the state and the political and religious dignitaries and protocol applied to them in the court of the Jaipur State from early eighteenth to late nineteenth century. While appearing in court, the protocol laid out for different social groups depended on the status of the individuals and their castes. Interestingly, the state accommodated nearly all the sections, clans and castes in the court. Being attached to the court, political and religious groups became representative of the court and exercised political pressure.

*This book is also relevant for Medieval and Modern History.



Urbanisms in South Asia North-East India Outside-In*

edited by

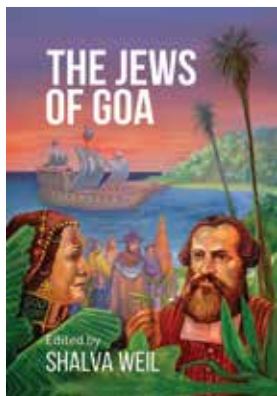
Meeta Deka

Professor, Department of History, Gauhati University, Assam, India

Urban studies or urban history has recently emerged as a compelling framework for historical inquiry as it is a potent tool for the discovery of variations in urbanism and urbanization. This volume focuses on space syntax and social identity, power and governance, environment and ecology, culture and modernity, lived experiences, and the establishment of the transnational as pivotal for understanding the process of urbanization. With chapters based on primary sources, the book offers new information on cities evolving on diverse topographies as it attempts to examine the inner dynamics of cities and beyond. As the developing countries of South Asia undergo rapid urbanization, and urbanism takes on an increasingly global perspective, this volume strives to help its readers to look 'Outside-In' through comparative, transnational or cross-cultural approaches. With an interdisciplinary approach to understanding urbanism, these essays tease out further research prospects while stimulating interest on urban studies in general.

*This book is also relevant for Modern History.

ISBN: 978-93-90022-33-5
350 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1195
• \$52.95 • £42.95



The Jews of Goa*

edited by

Shalva Weil

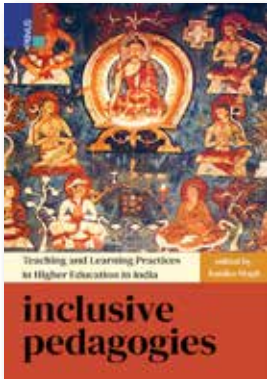
Senior Researcher, Seymour Fox School of Education,
Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

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.

*This book is also relevant for Medieval History.

ISBN: 978-93-89755-76-3
340 pp. • 2020 • HB
• ₹ 1295 • \$ 59.95 • £ 49.95

Shalva Weil • Dejanirah Couto • João Teles E. Cunha • Palmira Fontes Da Costa • Pius Malekandathil • Ana Canas D. Martins • Moisés Orfali • Myriam Silvera • José Alberto Rodrigues Da Silva Tavim



Inclusive Pedagogies **Teaching and Learning Practices in Higher Education in India**

edited by

Kanika Singh

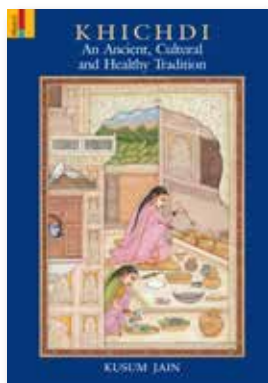
Director, Centre for Writing and Communication, Ashoka University, Haryana.

Inclusive Pedagogies: Teaching and Learning Practices in Higher Education in India emerges from the work of the Centre for Writing and Communication at Ashoka University, Sonapat. It addresses some of the most fundamental issues facing higher education in India, namely, of pedagogy and inclusion. The essays in this volume offer a range of perspectives ranging from an ideological vision for inclusive pedagogy, critically analysing policy and disciplinary discourses, to individual experiments in syllabi-making and classroom interaction. The contributors to this book are scholars trained in a variety of disciplines, sharing their experiences of engaging with the idea of 'inclusion' as teachers, scholars and administrators in young and emerging universities.

ISBN: 978-93-6177-124-8

202 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹1195

• \$ 44.95 • £ 36.95



ISBN: 978-93-5572-181-5
296 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹995

Khichdi An Ancient, Cultural and Healthy Tradition

Kusum Jain

Graduated from Delhi University, she taught at Miranda House and Lady Shri Ram College and worked with the Central Hindi Directorate. She studied Linguistics at the University of Pennsylvania, USA. A food connoisseur and a practitioner of vegetarianism, she has authored the book *Khichdi: An Ancient, Cultural and Healthy Tradition*.

This is a collection of 121 recipes made across India that celebrate the romance of rice and pulses with ghee. The commonest pulse used in khichdies all over India is moong. The use of common ingredients with variations in amount, mode of cooking, use of special utensils (heavy-bottom pot), low or medium flame, the variety of temperings, accompaniments served with it and the cultural significance make all the difference.

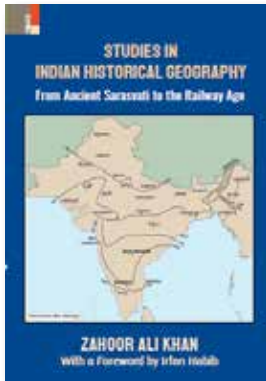
All the recipes in this collection have been kitchen-tested by the contributors and highly complimented by their friends and relatives. Hope you enjoy reading about them and trying out the recipes in your homes as well.

'Khichdi is an outstanding and meticulously-researched book that not only provides over 100 recipes of khichdi from all over country but brilliantly discusses a history that takes you back to the Vedic times and also discusses Al-Biruni's work, Qatab-ul-Hind. In Al-Biruni's view, 'Hindustan's food is about porridge consistency', meaning rice and lentil, that is basically a reference to khichdi.

Khichdi is a metaphor for life, which is symbolic of the everyday lifeworld. Our staple diet mostly includes either dal-roti or dal-rice, which is a perfect balance of all the essential nutrients. Khichdi also comprises a similar balance of healthy nutrients.

In the vein of segregation and hierarchies in classrooms, the gaps between the rich and the poor, the biggest misfortune of khichdi is that it has been segregated and has always been labelled as the 'poor man's food'. Although the poor are unaware of the science of balancing nutrients, they instinctively know what is good for their body. The other misfortune is that khichdi is often made fun of and is frequently used humorously in conversation. Khichdi is also often used idiomatically to depict confusing situation, such as its often said *kya Khichdi Paka Rahi Hai.*

—PUSHPESH PANT, formerly at Jawaharlal Nehru University



ISBN: 978-93-91144-95-1
 122 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1495
 • \$64.95 • £49.95

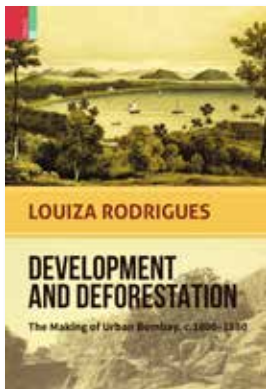
Studies in Indian Historical Geography From Ancient Sarasvati to the Railway Age

Zahoor Ali Khan

Former Cartographer, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University.

with a Foreword by Irfan Habib

Historical geography in India, so far, had mainly meant the drawing of boundaries of different states that have emerged and then disappeared over time. This is certainly an important aspect which needs attention, and some of Zahoor Ali Khan's articles in *Studies in Indian Historical Geography* deal directly with issues of this nature. But historical geography has a much wider compass, ranging from alterations in river courses to territorial variations in cultural features such as religion and language use or economic phenomena. The author has used cartographic instruments to test existing hypotheses such as the common belief relating to the river Sarasvati or to find answers to questions relating to regional alterations in prices and wages as a result of the construction of the railways. He also provides answers to such queries through maps prepared after an astonishing amount of labour, which the places shown in the maps may not fully indicate. The results are not only definitive in most cases, but open the doors to enquiry and speculation in new fields.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-342-9
 276 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 995
 \$ 49.95 • £ 39.95

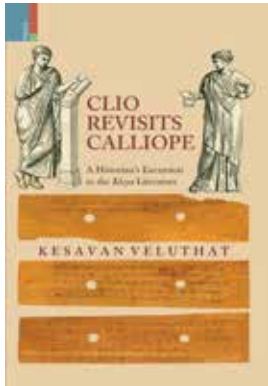
Development and Deforestation The Making of Urban Bombay, c.1800-1880*

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.

*This book is also relevant for Modern History.



ISBN: 978-93-6883-199-0
258 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹ 995

Clio Revisits Calliope* A Historian's Excursion to the *Kāvya* Literature

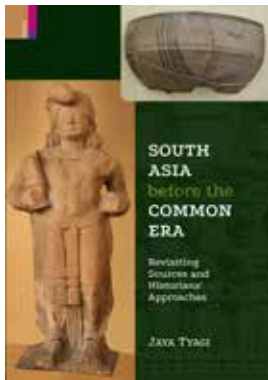
Kesavan Veluthat

Has taught history in the Universities of Calicut, Mangalore and Delhi. He has been Visiting Professor in many universities in India and abroad.

The essays included in *Clio Revisits Calliope: A Historian's Excursion to the Kāvya Literature* analyse kāvya literature in Sanskrit, bringing to bear on it a sense of history. Taken up for study are the *kāvyas* of Kālidāsa, Bhāravi and Māgha, as well as a few *praśastis*. There is also a study of the *Maṇipravāḷam* poetry from Kerala, which partakes of all features of Sanskrit *kāvyas*. The burden of argument in these essays is that even when the same theme is taken up by two texts, each has a different flavour and character and that it is the social formation which produces a literary piece that determines them.

Although not planned and written as a disciplined monograph, the essays, when read together, will bring home the point that Clio, the muse of history, and Calliope, the muse of epic poetry, are not antagonistic to one another; they complement each other. A sense of history is essential for appreciating poetry; so also, a literary sensibility is a desideratum in understanding the past.

* This book is also relevant for Literature



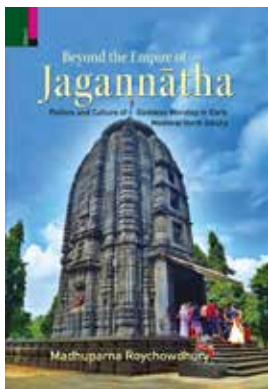
ISBN: 978-93-6177-892-6
890 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹ 2500

South Asia before the Common Era Revisiting Sources and Historians' Approaches

Jaya Tyagi

Has been teaching history in the University of Delhi for over three decades and is presently Professor in the Department of History.

South Asia before the Common Era engages with the way in which the early history of the subcontinent has been reconstructed by recent historians, using the rich and varied sources from the region. Exploring the context in which artefacts and texts have been retrieved and interpreted, it traces the trajectories of how humans in early South Asia responded to their circumstances, the interconnections of communities within and beyond the subcontinent, and the multilayered and variegated histories of the region. The book examines the difficulties involved in gleaning information from prehistoric, protohistoric and early historic material remains and texts—exploring what they reveal, what they hide, what is now lost. It shows how literary traditions survived and examines their tangled histories as well as their transmission, re-iteration and re-invention, creating their own layered narratives and hagiographies before being interpreted by modern historians.



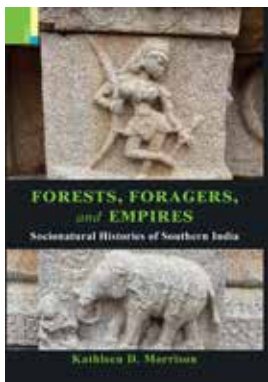
ISBN: 978-93-6627-582-6
372 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹ 1595
• \$ 59.95 • £ 49.95

Beyond the Empire of Jagannātha Politics and Culture of Goddess Worship in Early-Medieval North Odisha

Madhuparna Roychowdhury

Teaches in the Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture at the University of Calcutta.

The regional tradition of goddess worship is as important as the famous Jagannātha temple and its realm of ritual influence for the religious and cultural life of Odisha. *Beyond the Empire of Jagannātha: Politics and Culture of Goddess Worship in Early-Medieval North Odisha* studies the well-known temple of Kicakesvarī at Khiching in the modern district of Mayurbhanj in north Odisha. This was the region over which the celebrated Bhañja rulers of medieval Khijjingakoṭṭamaṇḍala ruled, with their centre of power in Khiching, during the early medieval times. The tradition of goddess worship also acted as an important catalyst in stabilizing the relationship between sub-regional rulers and the local population. Besides investigating the wider implications of sub-regional state formation, this book also analyses the fluctuating political relationship between the larger kingdoms of the coast and the local Bhañja principalities. The book brings together epigraphic, ethnographic and archival materials in an attempt to establish a connection between the history of early-medieval Bhañja rulership with developments in relatively modern times.



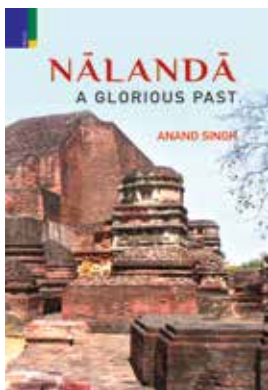
ISBN: 978-93-5852-034-7
459 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹ 1695
• \$ 64.95 • £ 54.95

Forests, Foragers, and Empires Socionatural Histories of Southern India

Kathleen D. Morrison

Sally and Alvin V. Shoemaker Professor of Anthropology and Lead Curator, Asian Section, at the University of Pennsylvania Museum.

Forests, Foragers, and Empires explores the complex histories of south Indian forests and foragers, focusing on historical recognitions and misrecognitions emerging from prior assumptions about human and non-human history, and about presumed fundamental characteristics of ‘nature’ and ‘culture’. Many of these essays focus on the hunting and gathering peoples of southern India, especially as they have articulated with others throughout the Holocene. Other essays consider the larger-scale landscape histories within which these are situated, from the forests themselves to local and long-standing networks of production, trade, and power. These histories include multiple forms of agency—kings, hunters, merchants, farmers, sailors, city-dwellers, and of course plants, animals, and the forests themselves. This collection of essays aims to reinsert both forests and foragers into mainstream South Asian history, including the history of European colonial expansion and conquest, as well as those of other imperial polities.



Nālandā A Glorious Past*

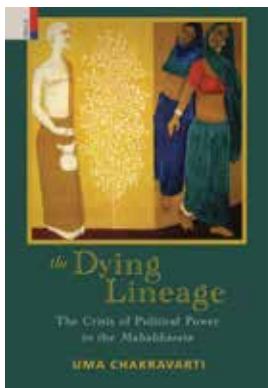
Anand Singh

Professor in the Department of Historical Studies and Archaeology, Central University of South Bihar.

This book deals extensively with various facets of Nālandā Mahāvihāra and its contribution to the vast expanse of knowledge and arts of Asia. Some of the important facets of the book are the origin and transformation of Nālandā from Vihārato Mahāvihāra, a brief sketch on Nāgārjuna, father of Nālandā scholasticism, formation of an academic culture at Nālandā, emergence of a book cult in Nālandā, worship of Tārā and the cult of Nāgas. Apart from this it also includes an analysis of financial management, water management, monastic structures, as well as Ārogyavihāra and school of medicine at this centre. Examining the maritime contacts between Jāvā-Sumātrā (Suvarṇadvīpa) and Nālandā, as well as Nālandā's connections with ancient China, this work explores the efflorescence and decline of Nālandā Mahāvihāra.

ISBN: 978-93-5852-951-7
674 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹ 2250
• \$ 89.95 • £ 74.95

* This book is also relevant for Archaeology



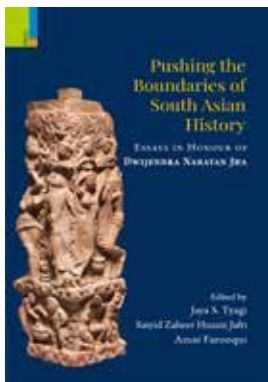
The Dying Lineage The Crisis of Political Power in the *Mahabharata*

Uma Chakravarti

Taught history in Miranda House, University of Delhi from 1966 to 1998.

The Dying Lineage has at its core the crises of reproduction that underwrite Vyasa's *Mahabharata*, a text that best exemplifies the transitional moment from kin-based chiefdoms to monarchical kingdoms in the Indo-Gangetic doab in the mid-first millennium BCE. However, lineage building and putting orderly norms of succession into place was a fraught process. The Bharata patriline stared at its imminent extinction at least once every generation, barely perpetuating itself, and always faced with anxiety over its future. This feminist reading 'peoples' this story by bringing into its frame those who are on the margins of the royal household but cannot claim kingship. Reading against the grain, the book explores the link between caste, class and gender in a varna-ordered society. It examines how all three colluded with the patriarchs (and the occasional matriarch) to ensure the survival of the lineage.

ISBN: 978-93-5852-928-9
260 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹ 950
• \$ 39.95 • £ 34.95



ISBN: 978-93-5852-668-4
603 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹ 1650
• \$ 69.95 • £ 59.95

Pushing the Boundaries of South Asian History Essays in Honour of Dwijendra Narayan Jha

edited by

Jaya Tyagi

Professor in the Department of History, University of Delhi.

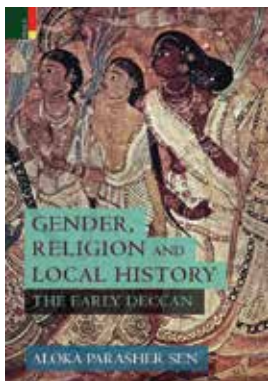
Saiyid Zaheer Husain Jafri

Formerly Professor of Medieval Indian history, Department of History, University of Delhi.

Amar Farooqui

Formerly Professor of History, University of Delhi.

Pushing the Boundaries of South Asian History is a tribute to Professor Dwijendra Narayan Jha's skill and craftsmanship as a historian. He was an outstanding scholar, who constantly reinvented himself and kept abreast of changes in historical perspectives and methodology. In this volume, a wide range of historians, whose works have made significant contributions to the understanding of South Asian history, have come together to pay homage to him through their work; in doing so they attempt to redefine the existing spatial, chronological and conceptual boundaries relating to the history of the region. The chapters herein, organized into four sections, focus on new aspects of South Asian history, drawing attention to liminal areas, filling intermittent spaces, and retrieving histories that sometimes slip through the gaps created by chronological boundaries of ancient versus early medieval, medieval vis-à-vis the modern. This demonstrates the fluid and nebulous nature of 'boundaries' and how 'connected' histories are. It also showcases the deeply entangled and intersecting layers of past societies and the new ways through which historians can attempt to retrieve the past.



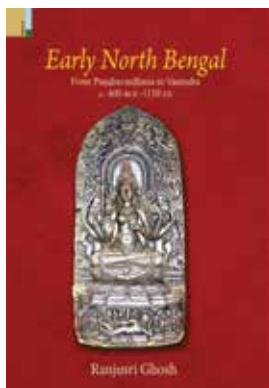
ISBN: 978-93-5572-659-9
416 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹ 1750
• \$ 69.95 • £ 59.95

Gender, Religion and Local History The Early Deccan

Aloka Parasher-Sen

Professor Emerita in the Department of Sanskrit Studies, University of Hyderabad, where she previously taught history for more than four decades.

Gender, Religion and Local History: The Early Deccan straddles two areas of research, namely the study of women in a socio-religious context and images of the feminine that emerged as objects of worship. Based on a study of inscriptions, sculptural representations and archaeological and literary sources, the research in this volume is located in different local contexts that focus on gender and ideology in order to discern the dynamics of social change. The seven chapters of the volume address diverse religious spaces—from the folk of the Lajjā Gaurīs to the temple-based Hinduism of the *nityasumaṅgali* and Chenchu Lakṣmī, from the evolution of orthodox Jaina attitudes to women's access to *sallekhanā* and to the expanding Buddhist religious milieu in the midst of vibrant *mithuna* couples. This work demonstrates that ideology in local contexts was always open to adjustments and negotiation, while concomitantly being linked to pan-Indian conceptual foundations.



ISBN: 978-93-5572-531-8
478 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹ 3150
\$ 129.95 • £ 99.95

Early North Bengal From Puṇḍravardhana to Varendra, c.400 BCE–1150 CE*

Ranjusri Ghosh

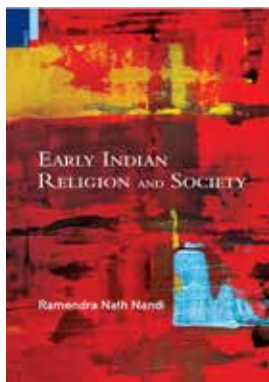
Affiliated with several organizations such as the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Indian Council of Historical Research in New Delhi.

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 the 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 intensively researched recent book *Early North Bengal from Puṇḍravardhana to Varendra c.400 BCE-1150 CE* by Ranjusri Ghosh, the topic for her PhD thesis, with a good number of very useful maps and illustrations and a meaningful jacket showing the goddess Kāmeśvarī on the front and a rural landscape painting on the back, is a precious gift to the reader.’

—KRISHNENDU RAY, University of Calcutta

*This book is also relevant for Archaeology.



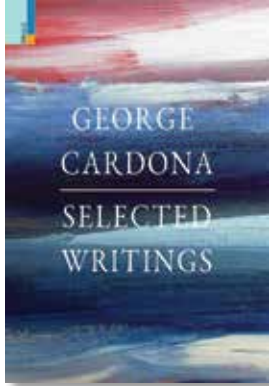
ISBN: 978-93-5572-363-5
359 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹ 1595
\$ 59.95 • £ 49.95

Early Indian Region and Society

Ramendra Nath Nandi

Former Professor of History, Patna University.

Early Indian Religion and Society examines the gradual disappearance of sacrificial liturgy in South Asia in the first millennium BCE, prompting priestly brahmanas to look towards subaltern rituals and clients, particularly sudras. The growth of urbanization intensified social tensions as well as dissent against sectarian authorities, ultimately leading to the break-up of all major religious sects. As a result, the ideology of total devotion (Bhakti) to a supreme personal lord—lauded in the Ramayana, the Mahabharata and the Bhagavad Gita—spread across the subcontinent. The Bhakti movement and the increasingly restrictive caste system prompted lower castes to aspire to a higher social status. The volume then moves into exploring how temple-centric cults became the norm in the first millennium CE. During this period, the overarching influence of tantric cults engulfed most major religious sects, encouraging the proliferation of black magic and superstition. The increasing regimentation of the caste organization prompted upward social mobility in lower segments of society. The predominance of matrilineal and matrilineal families in the peninsular region put women at par with men. The urban places flourished or declined as according the society to which these were integrated. This book examines the evidence for these important shifts and provides a comprehensive view of the early Indian social and religious context.



George Cardona Selected Writings

George Cardona

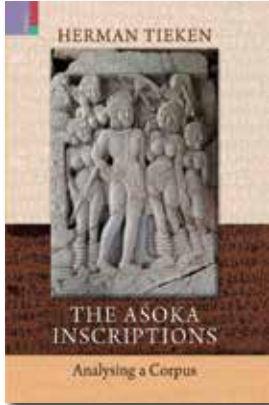
Professor Emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania, where he previously taught from 1960 to 2015. He has also been Visiting Professor at several other universities, both in the United States and in India.

The essays in this volume represent research by George Cardona that centers on Indian thinking in the domain of grammar (vyākaraṇa). Pride of place is given to Pāṇini's śabdānuśāsana and its core, the Aṣṭādhyāyī. These essays treat both Pāṇini's theory and methodology and how these are related to the works of other Indian scholars in fields such as etymology (Yāska's Nirukta), early padapāṭhas for Vedic saṁhitās (e.g. Śākalya), prātiśākhya (e.g. Śaunaka's Ṛgvedapraṭiśākhya), śikṣā, ritual exegesis (mīmāṃsā), and logic (nyāya). Questions of relative chronology are also considered, as well as early Indian treatments of data that reflect historical linguistic developments. Emphasis is placed on philology: close attention to and appreciation of texts and their traditions before going on to a broader theoretical and historical context.

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The Aśoka Inscriptions Analysing A Corpus*

Herman Tieken

Studied Sanskrit and Tamil at the Kern Institute of the University of Leiden in The Netherlands, where he later taught Sanskrit.

The Aśoka Inscriptions: Analysing a Corpus attempts a textual and literary analysis of the inscriptions of Aśoka—the oldest in India—and their relationship as a corpus. Unique in both content and format, the inscriptions primarily engage with ideas of good kingship and dharma rather than with donations made or the celebration of territorial conquests, the usual topics of later inscriptions.

'The book in some ways offers fresh perspectives, even though one may disagree with one or two. The study attempted to 'change the landscape of the inscriptions through a detailed study of the texts as well as of the corpus as a whole.'

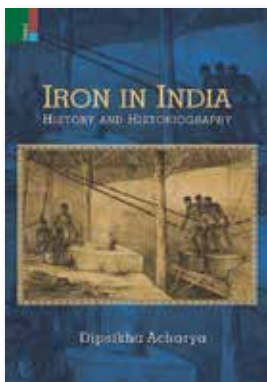
—SUCHANDRA GHOSH, *The Book Review*

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*This book is also relevant for Archaeology.



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402 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1495
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Iron In India History and Historiography

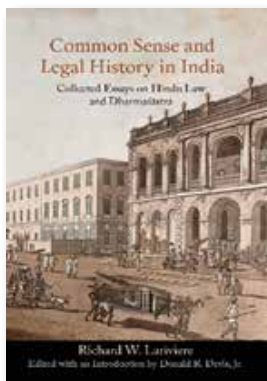
Dipsikha Acharya

Assistant Professor at the Department of History, North Bengal University, West Bengal.

A more comprehensive understanding of the historical significance of objects emerges when integrating material culture with the worldview or mentalités of people. Reading the historians' perceptions of the past, *Iron in India: History and Historiography* presents a transdisciplinary narrative aimed at a reconstruction of the history of Indian iron before its industrial production. This book looks at the pre-industrial period with a two-fold perspective: by understanding the material culture that has survived through the passage of time, and by examining the process through which historians have discovered, interacted, and interpreted those trails of the past.

'The author has stressed on the importance of the use of ethnographic data for the study of production processes of iron multiple times. This also provides a justification of the choice of the region for study.'

—SRABANI CHAKRABORTY, *The Book Review*



ISBN: 978-93-5572-110-5
444 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1695
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Common Sense and Legal History in India Collected Essays on Hindu Law and *Dharmaśāstra*

Richard W. Lariviere

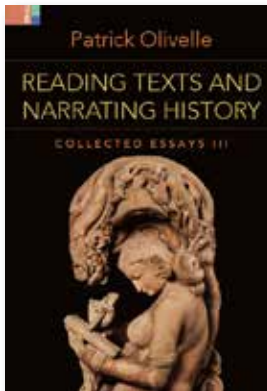
President Emeritus of the Field Museum, Chicago. Professor Emeritus, Sanskrit.

Edited and with an Introduction by

Donald R. Davis, Jr.

Professor, Sanskrit and Indian Religions and Chair, Department of Asian Studies, University of Texas at Austin

Common Sense and Legal History in India: Collected Essays on Hindu Law and Dharmaśāstra brings together the shorter works of Richard W. Lariviere on one important tradition of law in classical and medieval India—the corpus of Sanskrit legal texts called dharmaśāstra. Lariviere's contributions to both general and specific topics of Hindu law have changed our understanding of the depth and complexity of legal ideas, the possibilities and limits of Sanskrit legal sources for historical study, and the continuing relevance of *dharmaśāstra* in colonial and contemporary India. The essays collected here demonstrate the value of careful philological study of Sanskrit materials and exemplify an approach to Indological studies that highlights the achievement of traditional scholarship while maintaining critical modern perspectives. Lariviere's research and interpretations, now all collected in one place, are essential reading for legal historians of India.



ISBN : 978-93-5572-154-9
562 pp. • 2022, • HB • ₹2250
• \$89.95 • £79.95

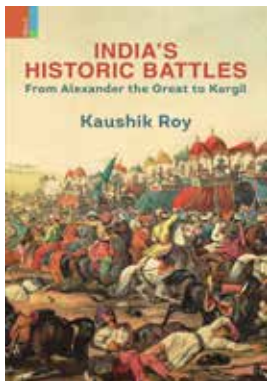
Reading Texts and Narrating History Collected Essays III

Patrick Olivelle

Professor Emeritus at the University of Texas at Austin and a former President of the American Oriental Society.

‘The close attention required for editing and translating gives Olivelle an unparalleled understanding of the texts and inspires numerous articles and essays contained in this volume that draw out key ideas and insights from those same sources. Only careful philological editing and the hard interpretive choices of translation enable progress in our historical understanding of India. Among the advances that philology makes possible is an improved sense of chronology in ancient India. Although uncertain chronologies still pose challenges for this period, readers are invited to note how often Olivelle makes arguments based on historical simultaneity or sequence. His feel for the texts and his scrutiny of the historical markers in them enables him to place ideas, institutions, and authors in plausible chronological contexts. Taken together, Olivelle’s many editions and translations function as both the foundation and the justification for the shorter writings in this volume. In addition to questions of social history and material culture, the volume also addresses the subject of law, affirming that law in India has a history. Olivelle practices enabling scholarship, a form of academic work that makes other scholarship possible. It opens conversations rather than closing them, and it invites instead of concluding.’

—Donald R. Davis, Jr.



ISBN: 978-93-89755-74-9
208 pp. • 2020 • PB • ₹375
\$19.95 • £16.95

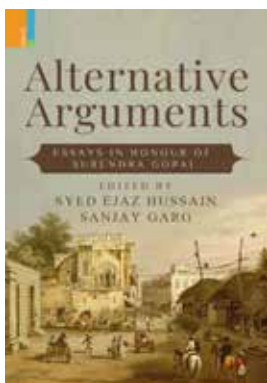
India's Historic Battles From Alexander the Great to Kargil

Kaushik Roy

Guru Nanak Chair Professor, Department of History, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

This book focuses on the decisive battles that have shaped the course of Indian history. Taking into account recent research, especially in the fields of technology, military theory and demography, it attempts to analyse the twelve great battles that have had a crucial impact on the fate of the subcontinent. Moving freely across time and space, and focusing on cross-continental analysis to bring out the uniqueness of the big battles fought in India as well as their commonality, each chapter dwells on the nature of the weapons used, type of leadership displayed, and the experience of the soldiers in each battle.

An attempt has also been made in this book to construct counterfactual scenarios for most of the battles to show how often luck and chance decide the course of history.



ISBN: 978-93-90232-85-7
784 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1995
• \$94.95 • £79.95

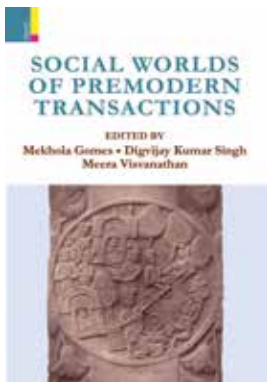
Alternative Arguments Essays in Honour of Surendra Gopal*

edited by
Syed Ejaz Hussain
Professor of History, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal, India.

Sanjay Garg
Director, Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Embassy of India in Kazakhstan.

Alternative Arguments is a tribute to Professor Surendra Gopal, a truly extraordinary historian, well known for his undisputed and sterling scholarship. This collection of essays by his former colleagues, students and friends from India and abroad, comprises thirty-seven scholarly contributions that have been broadly grouped into six sections: the Idea of India; Bihar: Ancient, Medieval and Modern; Indian Economy, Trade and Commerce; Nationalism and Freedom Struggle; Original Sources; and History through Art and Media. *Alternative Arguments* is an attempt at evolving new contours in historical research, focusing on the multi-layered dynamism of India's past.

*This book is also relevant for Medieval and Modern History.



ISBN: 978-93-90430-66-6
220 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1150
\$ 49.95 • £ 42.95

Social Worlds of Premodern Transactions

edited by
Mekhola Gomes
Postdoctoral fellow, Department of Historical Studies and the Centre for South Asian Civilizations,
University of Toronto, Mississauga.

Digvijay Kumar Singh
Cotton University, Guwahati, Assam, India.

Meera Visvanathan
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Shiv Nadar University, Gautam Buddha Nagar,
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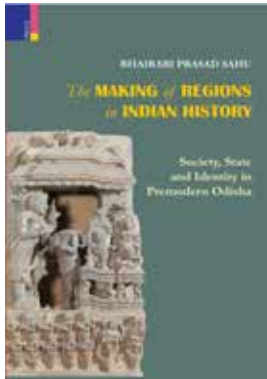
Focusing on inscriptional materials from South Asia, the essays in this volume bring together a range of new perspectives on social and economic history.

They show how exchange is not only about commodities or items, but also about interactions and relationships between people.

The essays span a broad time frame, starting from the early historic and extending into the medieval. They range from studies of sites and micro-regions to translocal communities and transcontinental voyages.

Through a close engagement with inscriptions, what is offered is a history that views South Asia as a region framed by diverse, overlapping, and complex transactions.

This volume will be of interest to students and scholars of premodern South Asia. It will also be useful to anyone interested in exploring issues of social and economic history across regions and time-periods.

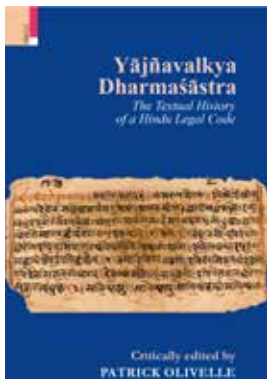


The Making of Regions in Indian History Society, State and Identity in Premodern Odisha

Bhairabi Prasad Sahu

Historical regions evolved in different parts of South Asia during the first half of the second millennium CE as a consequence of the gradual convergence of society, culture, language and territory. However, in spite of the discernible commonalities in terms of the processes of change, the constituent ingredients and chronologies varied across spaces, leading to the unfolding of spatially identifiable and culturally distinguishable regions. This volume, focused on Odisha, situates the region in the wider context of its trans-regional background for as the archaeological and epigraphic evidence available shows that it was an integral part of a wider zone from the early historical period. Juxtaposing the patterns obtaining in the region with developments in other parts of the subcontinent, *The Making of Regions in Indian History: Society, State and Identity in Premodern Odisha* delineates the cultural transactions within and beyond that went into the making of Odisha.

ISBN: 978-93-89850-32-1
296 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1095
• \$54.95 • £46.95



Yājñavalkya Dharmaśāstra The Textual History of a Hindu Legal Code

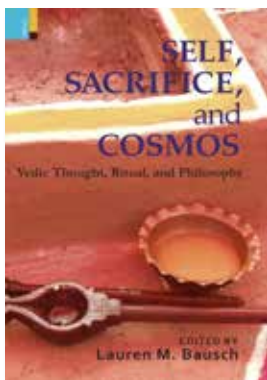
Critically edited by Patrick Olivelle

Professor Emeritus, Department of Asian Studies, University of Texas, Austin.

The Dharmaśāstra ascribed to Yājñavalkya is a text on religious, civil, and criminal law and jurisprudence composed around the fourth or fifth century. Precision of thought and expression and technical legal terminology distinguish it from its predecessors. The text illuminates major cultural innovations, such as the prominence given to documents in commercial and legal matters, the importance of ordeals in resolving disputes, and the growing importance of Yoga in religious practice.

The treatise became the most influential text in medieval India, and, as interpreted by Vijñāneśvara, came to be considered 'the law of the land' under British rule. In spite of its importance for legal traditions, the Sanskrit text has never before been critically edited. This critical edition, along with the translation published in the Murty Classical Library of India, open to modern readers both the 'golden age' of the Guptas and a central text in the long and distinguished Indian legal tradition.

ISBN: 978-93-90232-33-8
462 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1595
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Self, Sacrifice, and Cosmos Vedic Thought, Ritual, and Philosophy*

edited by

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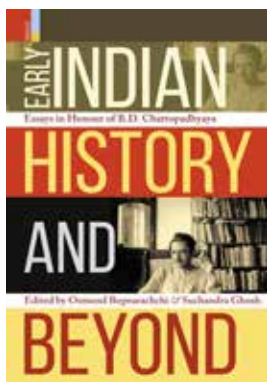
Assistant Professor at Dharma Realm Buddhist University, California.

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.

ISBN: 978-93-5290-344-3

260 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 995
\$ 49.95 • £ 39.95

*This book is also relevant for Religious History.



Early 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,
University of California, Berkeley.

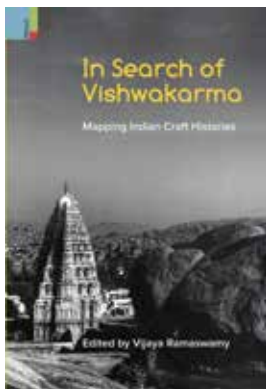
Suchandra Ghosh

Professor of Ancient Indian History & Culture, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India.

Early 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.

ISBN: 978-93-5290-597-3

606 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1395
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ISBN: 978-93-5290-839-4
292 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 1150
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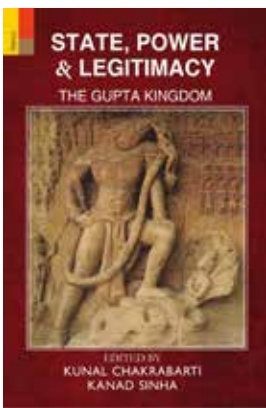
In Search of Vishwakarma Mapping Indian Craft Histories

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.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-280-4
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972 pp. • 2019 • PB • ₹ 1195
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State, Power and Legitimacy The Gupta Kingdom

edited by

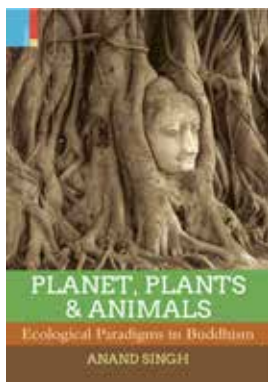
Kunal Chakrabarti

Former 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 and 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’.



Planet, Plants and Animals Ecological Paradigms in Buddhism*

Anand Singh

Professor in the Department of Historical Studies and Archaeology, Central University of South Bihar.

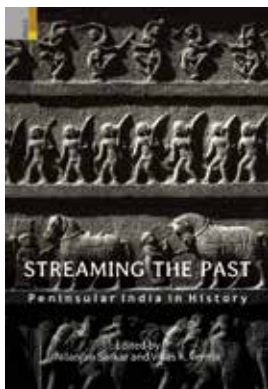
This book is a modest attempt to look at and examine the beginnings of ecological concerns in the Buddhist religious traditions, based on a meticulous examination of diverse narratives pointing towards a correlation between Buddhism and environmental issues. By examining the seminal teachings of the 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.

* This book is also relevant for Religious History.

ISBN: 978-93-5290-226-2

296 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 995

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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.

*This book is also relevant for Medieval and Modern History.

Dipsikha Acharya • Rupendra Kumar Chattopadhyay • R Mahalakshmi • Subha Narayanan • K Rajan • Vijaya Ramaswamy • Bhairabi Prasad Sahu • Nilanjan Sarkar • P Shanmugam • Y Subbarayalu • Kesavan Veluthat • Vikas K Verma • Sreelatha Yegneswar

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372 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 1495

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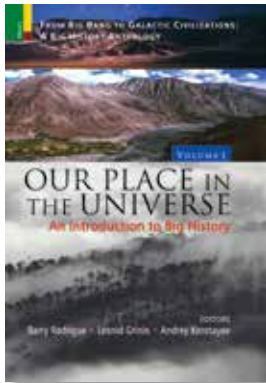
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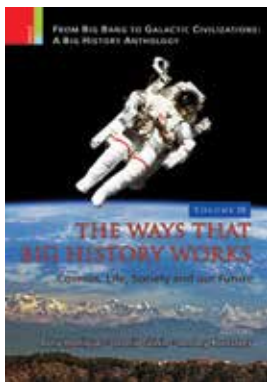


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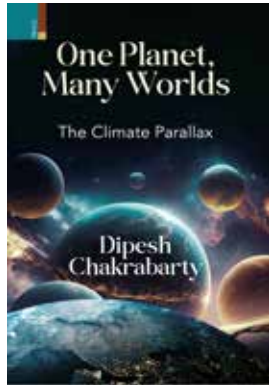


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ISBN: 978-93-86552-24-2 • 536 pp. • 2017 • HB • ₹ 1995 • \$ 99.95 • £ 79.95



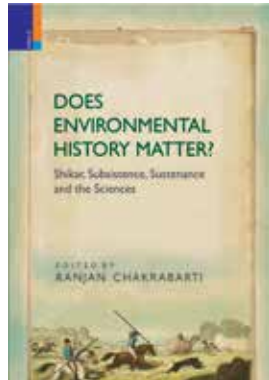
ISBN: 978-93-5852-764-3
144 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹650
*For sale only in South Asia.

One Planet, Many Worlds The Climate Parallax*

Dipesh Chakrabarty

Lawrence A. Kimpton Distinguished Service Professor of History, South Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago.

A historian offers a unique look at the pandemic, climate change, and the human versus non-human. Climate change represents a deep conundrum for humans. It is difficult for humans to give up the unequal and yet accelerating pursuit of a good life based on an insatiable appetite for energy sourced mainly from fossil fuel. But the same pursuit, scientists insist, damages the geobiological system that supports the existence of interrelated forms of life, including ours, on this planet. The planet, seen thus, is one. The global sway of financial and extractive capital connects humans technologically, but they remain divided along multiple axes of inequality. Their worlds are many and their politics still global rather than planetary. In the narrative presented here, Chakrabarty continues to explore the temporal and intellectual fault lines that mark the collapse of the global and the planetary in human history.



ISBN : 978-93-6627-866-7
324 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1495
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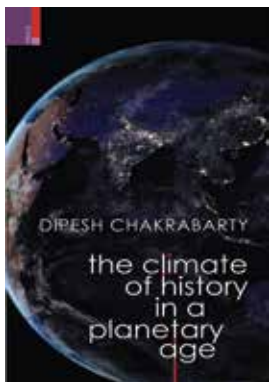
Does Environmental History Matter? Shikar, Subsistence, Sustenance and the Sciences

edited by

Ranjan Chakrabarti

Former Vice-Chancellor of Vidyasagar University and Netaji Subhas Open University. He is currently Hony. Visiting Professor at Jadavpur University and Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Royal Global University, Guwahati.

Does Environmental History Matter? explores the territory of climate history and environmentalism through its methodology and historiography, focusing on its origins and usefulness in the contemporary world as well as its multidisciplinary character. The chapters brought together in this volume examine numerous issues in the context of the ongoing global climate crisis and analyse how such disasters are caused by the complex relationship between humans and the environment. Through their writings, the contributors thus call for a greater understanding of the connections between natural disasters and human-led activities such hunting, land use, deforestation, soil erosion, and overconsumption of resources. The volume grasps historical problems in terms of ecological, biological and cultural terms, drifting away from conventional methodologies of history while also questioning the gaps in history writing relating to the climate and the environment.



ISBN: 978-93--90737-54-3
 292 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹995
 *For sale in South Asia only

The Climate of History in a Planetary Age*

Dipesh Chakrabarty

Lawrence A. Kimpton Distinguished Service Professor of History, South Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago.

For the past decade, historian Dipesh Chakrabarty has been one of the most influential scholars addressing the meaning of climate change. Climate change, he argues, upends long-standing ideas of history, modernity, and globalization. The burden of *The Climate of History in a Planetary Age* is to grapple with what this means and to confront humanities scholars with ideas they have been reluctant to reconsider—from the changed nature of human agency to a new acceptance of universals.

Chakrabarty argues that we must see ourselves from two perspectives at once: the planetary and the global. This distinction is central to Chakrabarty's work—the globe is a human-centric construction, while a planetary perspective intentionally decenters the human. Featuring wide-ranging excursions into historical and philosophical literatures, *The Climate of History in a Planetary Age* boldly considers how to frame the human condition in troubled times. As we open ourselves to the implications of the Anthropocene, few writers are as likely as Chakrabarty to shape our understanding of the best way forward.

'One of the first thinkers to reckon with the concept of the Anthropocene and its relation to humanism and its critics, Chakrabarty forges new territory in his account of the planetary...This is a tour de force of critical thinking that will prove to be a game changer for the humanities.'

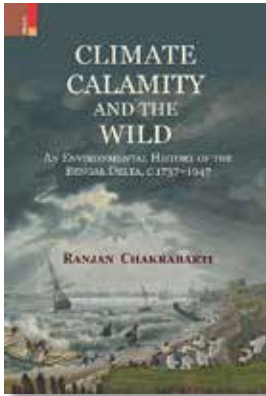
—CLAIRE COLEBROOK, Pennsylvania State University

'With his new masterwork, Chakrabarty confirms that he is one of the most creative and philosophically-minded historians writing today. The oppositions he proposes between the global of globalization and the global of global warming are illuminating and effective for thinking and acting through our highly uncertain and disoriented times.'

—FRANÇOIS HARTOG, author of *Chronos*

'The Climate of History in a Planetary Age is a breathtaking book. Chakrabarty challenges us to reimagine the human from a planetary perspective, a deep history—an infinite horizon of human history—in order to come to terms with the climate crisis that human actions have precipitated.'

—ARVIND ELANGOAN, *The Book Review*



Climate, Calamity and the Wild An Environmental History of the Bengal Delta, c.1737–1947

Ranjan Chakrabarti

Professor of History at Jadavpur University and previously Vice-Chancellor of Vidyasagar University, West Bengal.

Climate, Calamity and the Wild offers a climatic and environmental history of the deltaic plains of Bengal. Unlike the prevalent model of history-writing, this book tackles historical issues in ecological, biological and cultural terms, turning away from conventional ideological and political approaches.

‘... the book is to be read in a wider context of global environmental change and the twin spectres of both flood and drought, and the growing threats which both these scenarios bring. Chakrabarti draws comparison with the environmental histories and fates of other major rivers and deltaic systems. There are also strong echoes here of the insights and approaches developed by, say, Crosby (1972, 1986), and this enhances the style and breadth of the volume. Along with the bigger stories there are enticing insights into the life and times of the period of subjugation of the region by Western imperialism, with accounts of great feasts, of animal hunts, of music, and of hospitality...’

—IAN ROTHERHAM

Environment and History

ISBN: 978-93-5572-461-8
289 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1295
• \$49.95 • £42.95



The Shattered Earth Histories of Climate, Catastrophe and the Wilderness

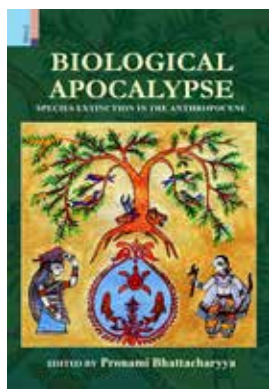
edited by

Mili Ghose

Former Fellow at Maulana Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata and a University Grants Commission Fellow at Jadavpur University.

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.

ISBN: 978-93-5852-903-6
370 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1750
• \$ 64.95 • £ 54.95



ISBN: 978-93-5687-865-5
 338 pp. • HB • 2023 • ₹1395
 • \$ 56.95 • £ 49.95

Biological Apocalypse Species Extinction in the Anthropocene

edited by

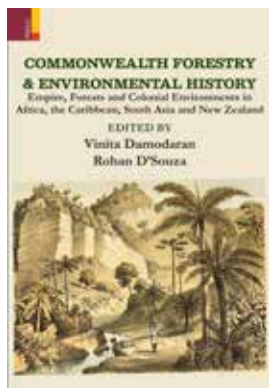
Pronami Bhattacharyya

Assistant Professor of English at Royal Global University, Assam.

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. *Biological Apocalypse: Species Extinction in the Anthropocene* highlights our planet's ingress to the Sixth Mass Extinction—a period conceptualized as the Anthropocene.

'*Biological Apocalypse* zooms in on the IUCN's list of endangered animals. Since a large number of them are Indian, the book is relevant to the subcontinent. It also deals with less dominant species like the black soft-shell turtles, the Chinese pangolin, the red panda, the Jerdon's courser, the white-bellied heron and the white-backed vulture and brings in the new dimension of climate change on ecosystems. It has updated information on the extensive research and efforts being made to save them and ends with success stories on the frontlines of conservation.'

—USHA RAI, *Mongabay*



ISBN: 978-93-89850-17-8
 618 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1895
 • \$ 71.95 • £ 61.95

Commonwealth Forestry and Environmental History Empire, Forests and Colonial Environments in Africa, the Caribbean, South Asia and New Zealand

edited by

Vinita Damodaran

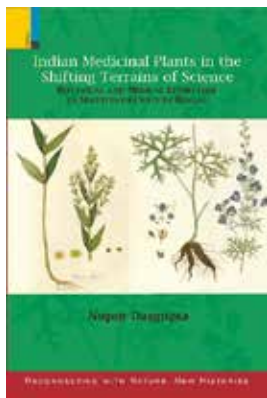
Director of the Centre for World Environmental History, Sussex.

Rohan D'Souza

Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University (Japan).

Contemporary anxieties about global warming and climate change impacts have unsettled the ways in which we think about environmental politics and human history. Intense discussions have already begun over whether we need to reconsider what we understand by the term 'environmental change' and if humans have truly become a 'geo-physical' force. Put differently, how should we recast our understanding of the planet's varied environmental pasts in order to make sense of the Anthropocene present?

This collection of 19 essays on forestry and environmental change in the erstwhile colonies of the British Empire—today comprising the 'Commonwealth of Nations'—builds on Richard Grove's quest for achieving a 'global synthesis' as efforts towards writing environmental histories on a planetary scale. The Commonwealth of Nations as a single environmental bloc for study, enquiry and historical scrutiny, explores connected environmental histories, compares dissimilar ecological regions and debates ideologies for environmental management.



ISBN: 978-93-5687-838-9
254 pp. • 2023 • PB • ₹ 650
• \$ 32.95 • £ 27.95

Indian Medicinal Plants in the Shifting Terrains of Science Botanical and Medical Literature of Nineteenth-Century Bengal*

Nupur Dasgupta

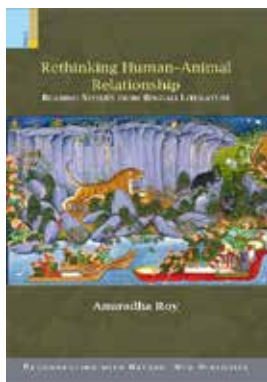
Professor of History, Jadavpur University.

Indian Medicinal Plants in the Shifting Terrains of Science traces the medical and botanical reconnaissance of indigenous medicinal plants in nineteenth-century Bengal and observes their integration into the framework of modern science. These processes involved critical inroads into mapping the natural world and building foundations for the disciplines of medicine and botany in the colonies. Varied and diachronic processes of scientific review of the colony's natural resources were concurrent with rapid epistemological advances on the global scene and a simultaneous build-up of utilitarian colonial configurations.

'The book offers an interesting frame for understanding the history of medicinal plants of Bengal under British colonial contexts. Nupur Dasgupta engages with the complex process of identifying, collecting, classifying and codification of medicinal plants by British orientalists, ethnographers, Indian medical practitioners of western and Indian medicine and botanists in the late-eighteenth and nineteenth century colonial Bengal.'

—BURTON CLEETUS, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

*This book is also relevant for History of Science and Medicine



ISBN: 978-93-5687-000-0
374 pp. • 2023 • PB • ₹ 595
• \$ 29.95 • £ 24.95

Rethinking Human-Animal Relationship Reading Stories from Bengali Literature*

Anuradha Roy

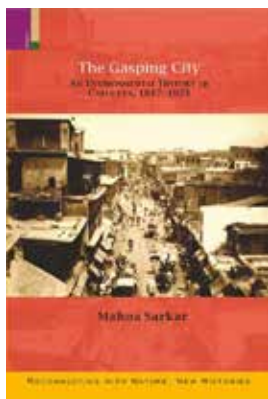
Retired as Professor of History, Jadavpur University.

Rethinking Human-Animal Relationship engages with animal studies, a growing interdisciplinary field that reveals the deep human unreason and moral schizophrenia regarding their animal 'others'. This book focuses on the links of the unrelenting exploitation of animals throughout history to the domination of humans over other humans: women, lower classes, colonized people and other marginalized categories that are more or less animalized by oppressors. Facilitated by scientific insights into physical and emotional continuity between humans and non-humans as well as by the opening up of a theoretical space by postmodernism, postcolonialism, feminism and other such critical modes of discourse, animal studies emphasizes the human failure to look beyond themselves due to cultural blinders.

'In keeping with the interdisciplinary nature of growing academic research in the preceding decades, the book discusses that aspect of environmental history that studies the relationship between humans and animals, reading along with it paradigms of such relationships in Bengali fiction.'

—NIVEDITA SEN, Hansraj College, University of Delhi

*This book is also relevant for Cultural Studies



The Gaspng City An Environmental History of Calcutta, 1817–1923

Mahua Sarkar

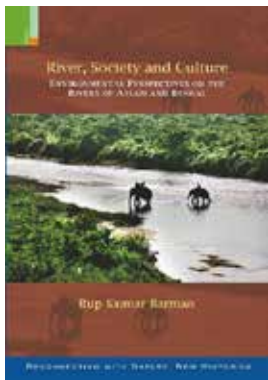
Professor of History at Jadavpur University.

The Gaspng City explores the urban environment of colonial Calcutta from the perspective of science as ‘knowledge’, planning as ‘development’ and the response of the bhadralok and the bhadramahila to the development of the city. Beginning with the foundation of the Lottery Committee in 1817, the volume traces the urban expansion of Calcutta till the emergence of the Calcutta Improvement Trust in 1823. The research presented here, based on information from contemporary vernacular journals, to demonstrate the extent to which the colonized intelligentsia had internalized Western notions of health, sanitation and environment. The central question in this volume surrounds the contradiction in the trajectories of science and public health on one hand, and the growing environmental crises of colonial Calcutta on the other.

ISBN: 978-93-5687-836-5

128 pp. • 2023 • PB • ₹ 395

• \$ 19.95 • £ 16.95



River, Society and Culture Environmental Perspectives on the Rivers of Assam And Bengal*

Rup Kumar Barman

Professor of History, Jadavpur University and former Vice-Chancellor of Murshidabad University.

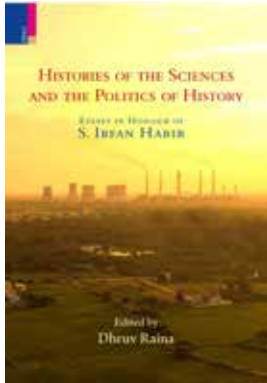
South Asia’s river systems are known for their multiple topographies and varied geography. There are several transnational rivers that flow to eastern and north-eastern India through Bhutan, Nepal and China. Geological and environmental changes; the construction of dams, barrages and hydroelectric power projects as well as their side effects; and massive floods, soil erosion and a rise in silt beds have changed the traditional relationship between these rivers and the civilizations settled near their banks. *River, Society and Culture* presents these dynamics in the context of the rivers of Bengal (both West Bengal and Bangladesh) and Assam. It focuses on four rivers—the Titash, the Tista, the Kalahi and the Raidak—to illustrate the intimate relationship, both historical and contemporary, between these life-giving rivers and their people.

*This book is also relevant for Sociology

ISBN: 978-93-5687-835-8

118 pp. • 2023 • PB • ₹ 375

• \$ 19.95 • £ 16.95



ISBN: 978-93-6883-869-2
332 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹1350

Histories of the Sciences and the Politics of History Essays in Honour of S. Irfan Habib

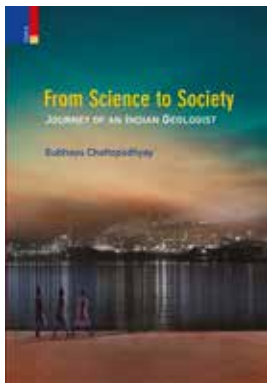
edited by

Dhruv Raina

Professor, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Histories of the Sciences and the Politics of History presents contributions by scholars who have associated and worked with S. Irfan Habib or have been his friends in his intellectual journey. This volume covers a range of subjects from the history of science in South Asia to the trends of science policies in different eras in independent India. Other themes which relate to the scientific and democratic ethos evaluated here include the role of princely states in anti-democratic impulses in South Asia and the problems of terms such as 'global history' in history writing. This volume presents us with fresh insights into emerging fields of inquiry in the history of sciences as well as the political nuances of history making and history writing.

Dinesh Abrol • H.N. Chanakya
• Karine Chemla • Amar Farooqui • Feza Günergün
• Venni V. Krishna • Deepak Kumar • Dhruv Raina • Kapil Raj • Shiju Sam Varughese • Benjamin Zachariah



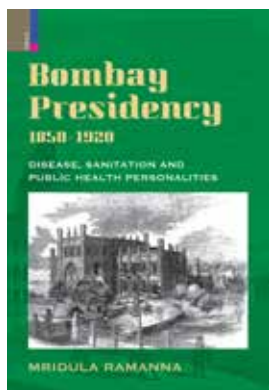
ISBN: 978-93-5572-128-0
414 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1650
• \$ 62.95 • £ 52.95

From Science to Society Journey of an Indian Geologist

Subhayu Chattopadhyay

Assistant Professor at the Department of History, Visva-Bharati.

Pramatha Nath Bose, 'the first Indian Geologist' to be appointed to a graded post by the colonial government, quit his job to register his protest against racial discrimination at the highest official level of the British government in India. He later went on to make significant discoveries as a state geologist of Mayurbhanj which led to the foundation of Tata Iron and Steel Company Ltd (TISCO), the first heavy industry of India. *From Science to Society: Journey of an Indian Geologist* not only traces the significance of Bose's performance as a graded officer of the Geological Survey of India, but also addresses the ever-changing equations between the practitioners of science and the colonial government, whose primary focus was the commercial exploitation of the mineral resources of the subcontinent.



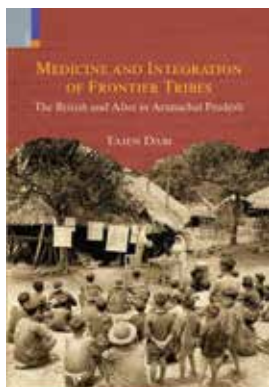
ISBN: 978-93-58522-05-1
 356 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1450
 • \$ 54.95 • £ 47.95

Bombay Presidency, 1850–1920 Disease, Sanitation and Public Health Personalities

Mridula Ramanna

Former Head, Department of History, South Indian Education Society College, Mumbai.

Bombay Presidency, 1850–1920 examines the defining shifts in health and medicine, in Bombay Presidency, over seven decades. This work focuses on the major health and sanitation problems of the nineteenth century: the health of the European poor, battling alcoholism and venereal diseases; the views of Indian men and women doctors, about diseases, curatives and birthing practices; and Florence Nightingale’s interest in the Presidency, particularly her advocacy of village sanitation. Besides, the contributions of doctors B.K. Bhatwadekar and N.H. Choksy, to public health, through an analysis of their writings, are also explored in this monograph. The book also revisits an important episode, the experience of Bombay in coping with the Influenza Pandemic of 1918, based on contemporary newspaper reports, and on reports of voluntary agencies, which provided relief.



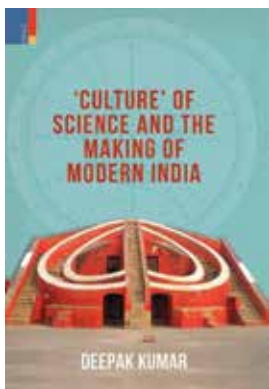
ISBN: 978-93-5687-046-8
 238 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1150
 • \$ 44.95 • £ 39.95

Medicine and Integration of Frontier Tribes The British and After in Arunachal Pradesh

Tajen Dabi

Associate Professor in the Department of History, Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh.

Medicine and Integration of Frontier Tribes: The British and After in Arunachal Pradesh traces the use of medicine as an instrument of diplomacy in British frontier policy and as a medium of integration in the post-Independence era in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. A new domain of knowledge within the sphere of British-tribal studies is presented here for the first time: the peculiar absence of medical missions; the ‘political’ role of doctors; the European-Indian divide over patronage to the tribes; and the post-Independence government policy on the integration of tribes and the development of modern healthcare infrastructure. Aside from a summary of indigenous healing traditions, the volume also explores the origins of colonial epidemiology and dispensaries in the Brahmaputra valley during the nineteenth century through the necessities of the tea economy, a theme about around which limited literature is available. The research in this volume hopes to contribute to historical narratives on British policies in tribal hinterlands by offering an alternate account of the contact between state systems and the tribes of Arunachal in the twentieth century, a period during which the region acquired its present constitutional, national and evolving cultural identities.



ISBN: 978-93-5572-408-3
330 pp. • HB • 2023 • ₹1695
• \$64.95 • £54.95

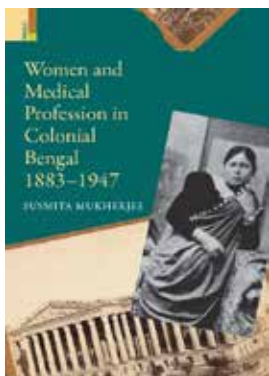
'Culture' of Science and the Making of Modern India

Deepak Kumar

Retired as Professor of History of Science and Education from Jawaharlal Nehru University in 2017.

This book investigates the interface of science and society especially in the context of the colonisation of India. It begins with discussing the strengths and weaknesses of inheritance of scientific traditions, and gradually moves to exploring the changes brought about by colonisation before going on to analyse the way society grappled with these changes. Divided into four parts and based on extensive use of primary data, 'Culture' of Science and the Making of Modern India takes into account the contestations, adaptations, compromises and hybridity without ignoring the overarching framework of colonialism.

Closely linked to the power or success of the colonial or metropolitan knowledge is the status and relevance of the indigenous or non-Western knowledge. Can the indigenous be viewed as historical and social reality or should it be understood only in a metaphysical sense? The indigenous has a historicity of its own, if the evidence from the text and the context are studied together. The recent wave of extended deductions of neo-Orientalism, courtesy a power shift, cannot erase this historicity founded on the study of diverse yet '1695 authentic sources.



ISBN: 978-93-5572-322-2
264 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1250
• \$49.95 • £42.95

Women and Medical Profession in Colonial Bengal, 1883–1947

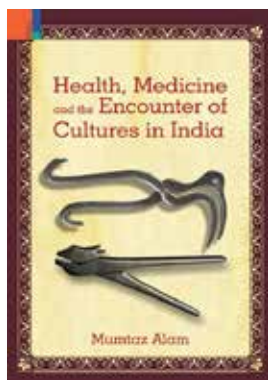
Susmita Mukherjee

Associate Professor and Head of the Department of History, Syamaprasad College, Kolkata.

The expansionist policy of the colonial power necessitated official involvement with medical education in Bengal from the early nineteenth century. By the mid-nineteenth century, Western medicine permeated various levels of society, thereby making medicine a remunerative profession. A handful of women receiving higher education aspired for a professional career and medicine became their obvious choice, as women patients refused to consult male doctors during pregnancy or childbirth, or for diseases specific to women. *Women and Medical Profession in Colonial Bengal, 1883–1947* studies the origin of women's entry into medicine in colonial Bengal and thereby unfurls the layers within these thought-provoking questions about its legacy, providing some answers and leading to new questions, the effects of which abound and govern our present.

'*Women and Medical Profession in Colonial Bengal 1883-1947* is an important academic work that shows how women's lives were profoundly impacted by crucial developments in the domain of medicine and health care. Gender and the politics of health came to be impacted by the intersectionality of colonialism, class, caste, and nation.'

—MRIDUL MEGHA, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi



Health, Medicine and the Encounter of Cultures in India

Mumtaz Alam

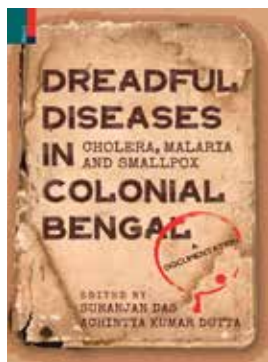
Assistant Professor of History and Associate Dean Learning and Teaching, College of Humanities and Education, Fiji National University.

The book focuses not only on the growth of medical systems in the subcontinent but also on physicians' standing in Indian society. Evaluating the impact of Europeans' entrance into India, the volume argues that this arrival resulted in the establishment of a new medical system and sheds light on the training offered to vaidyas and hakims in the early centuries following the former's arrival. From tracing the descriptions of numerous madrasas and pathshalas established after the formation of the Delhi Sultanate and, later, during the Mughal era, this book proceeds to discuss the establishment of different medical colleges under the British, and provides insights into the contours of this transformation during colonial times.

ISBN: 978-93-5572-177-8

260 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1050

• \$49.95 • £39.95



Dreadful Diseases in Colonial Bengal Cholera, Malaria and Smallpox; A Documentation

edited by

Suranjan Das

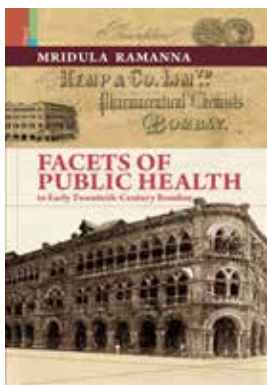
Achintya Kumar Dutta

Dreadful Diseases in Colonial Bengal is the third volume produced under the aegis of the Wellcome Trust (London) funded documentation project 'Western Medicine and Indigenous Society: History of Disease, Medicine and Public Health Policy in Colonial Eastern India, (1757–1947)'. While the first volume documented the context in which hospitals were established in Calcutta during the rule of the British East India Company, and the second analysed the trauma caused by tuberculosis in the public health system of twentieth-century India, the present volume brings together selections from official reports on cholera, malaria and smallpox—the three diseases which repeatedly struck colonial Bengal as epidemics. Its objective is to provide a useful resource for researchers, with ready entry points for reconstructing the incidence of these diseases, their mortality rates, social and economic effects as well as colonial medical interventions to contain them. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of studying epidemics that have struck human society in a historical continuum and the significance of the present collation needs to be viewed in this context. The book will be a welcome contribution to the rapidly developing field of History of Medicine.

ISBN: 978-93-90633-12-8

424 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹ 1350

• \$64.95 • £54.95



ISBN: 978-93-90232-87-1
210 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1050
• \$46.95 • £37.95

Facets of Public Health in Early Twentieth-Century Bombay*

Mridula Ramanna

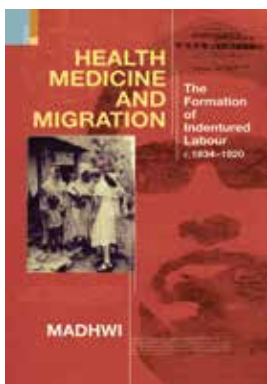
Former Head, Department of History, South Indian Education Society College, Mumbai, India.

This book focuses on some aspects of public health in the first three decades of the twentieth-century in Bombay Presidency. We begin with a review of the Western and Ayurvedic medicines, infant foods, tonics and toiletries, advertised in contemporary English language newspapers, to evaluate how copy reflected social perceptions and notions of health. An attempt is made to understand the health of men and women textile mill workers of Bombay and Ahmedabad. The activities of the semi-official Bombay Presidency Baby and Health Week Association and the non-official Seva Sadan, in providing maternal and infant health care, and the training of nurses and health visitors by the latter, are also detailed. There is a micro-focus on localised attempts to promote self-help schemes among women and to provide support to children and the visually challenged. To provide a contemporary American perspective, the observations of visiting officials of the Rockefeller Foundation on Medical Education in Bombay are discussed as are the public health issues debated in the Bombay Legislative Council, in the 1920s and 1930s. The inequalities in health care between urban and rural areas, inadequate funding of public hospitals and the extent of the state's responsibility in public health, highlighted in this study, have a resonance in today's scenario.

'In Ramanna's description, we find that the divisions of official speak and their confined definitions impact ordinary lives.'

—APRAJITA SARCAR, Centre De Sciences, New Delhi

*This book is also relevant for Modern History.



ISBN: 978-93-90232-68-0
396 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹ 1395
• \$59.95 • £49.95

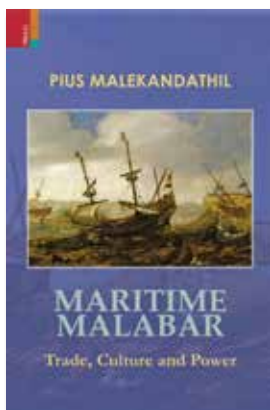
Health, Medicine and Migration The Formation of Indentured Labour, c.1834–1920

Madhwi

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi, Delhi, India.

Exploring the links between medicine and migration, *Health, Medicine and Migration: The Formation of Indentured Labour, c.1834–1920* examines the ways in which medical knowledge, practice, and policies circulated between colonial India, the source of indentured labourers, and the colonies to which they were transported as coolies. It argues that Western science, which itself was a product of modernity and the Enlightenment, acted as an instrument of social and cultural control over the migrants, and worked on the basis of racial categorizations of inferiority and superiority. The understanding of tropical diseases was shaped by a very biased Western perception of the hotter regions of the Southern Hemisphere. The indentured body was seen as the reservoir of diseases, which it had acquired from its unhealthy surroundings in India, and which were later carried overseas by it. The world of medical science and technology helped in the legitimization and regularization of their body in the plantations.

Based on primary sources, this book will interest scholars, researchers and students of modern Indian history and social history of medicine, as well as the interested reader of migration history.



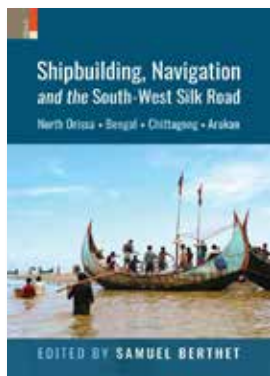
Maritime Malabar Trade, Culture and Power

Pius Malekandathil

Professor at the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Maritime Malabar: Trade, Culture and Power provides a broad overview and connected narrative of Malabar, a region whose fate has been shaped and reshaped over time by a maritime consciousness and sea-related activities. This volume examines the trade and faith related networks in the Asian waters through which Malabar became firmly integrated into the larger world of the Indian Ocean. By analysing the trajectories of commodities, people and ideas between Malabar and the wider Indian Ocean world, the book presents a nuanced and layered picture of the various historical processes of pre-modern Malabar vis-à-vis its various enclaves and spaces of power. Rich in empirical data, the book delves into the multiple facets and strands of the societal processes of Kerala by scrutinizing the trade as well as the urbanity of the port of Muziris and the cities of Calicut and Cochin in ways conditioned by the changing perceptions of the sea and its dynamics.

ISBN: 978-93-5572-103-7
378 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1495
• \$59.95 • £44.95



Shipbuilding, Navigation and the South-West Silk Road North Odisha, Bengal and Arakan

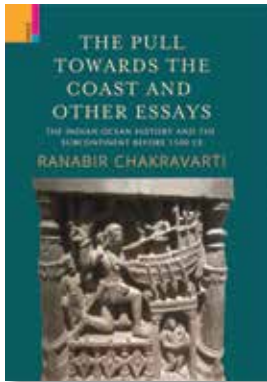
edited by

Samuel Berthet

Historian and research Coordinator of two European educational projects on South Asia-Europe maritime history.

Shipbuilding, Navigation and the South-West Silk Road looks at circulation and ships in a space that brings together the Indian subcontinent, the Himalayan regions, south-west China and South-East Asia, connecting those regions to the larger Indian Oceanic trade. This space is organized around the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna delta, a constantly moving topography criss-crossed by hundreds of changing rivers, where boats and ships play a pivotal role in circulation, trade and wealth. So far, boats and ships of the Northern Bay of Bengal have been the subject of very few studies. Shallow draft vessels, able to navigate the coast, estuaries and deep rivers provided the technological response to a particular topography. They are also the reflections of a form of transportation that evades the control of a central and land-based polity. Their understanding is crucial to reassess our idea of roads as well as the history of technology and trade in a space central to circulation, yet highly politically fragmented and evading sustainable control. The study of shipbuilding highlights the relevance of technological features shared beyond area studies and periodization. Thanks to a cross-discipline, cross-area and cross-era approach, the book offers a water-centric perspective on the region.

ISBN: 978-93-90737-67-3
272 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹995
• \$46.95 • £37.95



ISBN: 978-81-947869-4-8
326 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1395
• \$59.95 • £49.95

The Pull Towards the Coast and Other Essays The Indian Ocean History and the Subcontinent before 1500 CE

Ranabir Chakravarti

Was Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. He has an enduring interest in and engagements with the pre-modern maritime history of the Indian Ocean. He also specializes in the socio-economic and political history of pre-modern South Asia. A bilingual author, he has also published three books in Bangla on early Indian history. He was elected Sectional President, Ancient India, of Indian History Congress in 2011.

This book presents nine essays and two appendices on both, the 'history of' and the 'history in' the Indian Ocean prior to c. 1500 CE by identifying the factors of change and continuity with reference to particular cases and overviews alike. The third largest maritime space, with the subcontinent and Sri Lanka at its centre, the Indian Ocean has been regularly traversed at least since the third millennium BCE. The book discards the notion of the perceived efficacy of Brahmanical taboos against Indic seafaring and the Eurocentric perspective of 'the age of discoveries', in the history of the Indian Ocean.

South Asian ports, oriented to the Indian Ocean, were 'maritime cities', sites of thriving exchanges of commodities as well as the meeting grounds of numerous ethnic communities and socio-religious groups with rich legacies from disparate zones, and this had far-reaching consequences. The essays in this volume discuss the possibilities of the interlocking of the coasts with the mainland of South Asia; the attitudes of powers to the coasts and maritime trade without becoming maritime polities or thalassocracies; and the significance of bulk commodities in the sea-borne networks. In doing so, this volume seeks to rescue the subcontinent's pre-modern pasts from the stranglehold of nationalism and the nation state.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-659-8
 656 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1550
 \$74.95 • £49.95

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
 Researcher in the areas of Indian textiles and Indian seafaring.

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.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-660-4
 610 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1495
 \$69.95 • £54.95

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

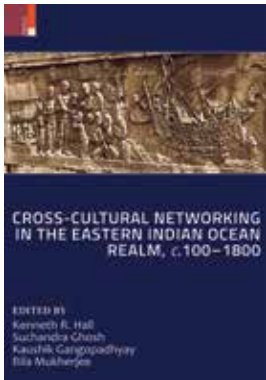
edited by
 Pius Malekandathil
 Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Lotika Varadarajan
 Researcher in the areas of Indian textiles and Indian seafaring.

Amar Farooqui
 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.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-695-6
380 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1495
\$64.95 • £44.95

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

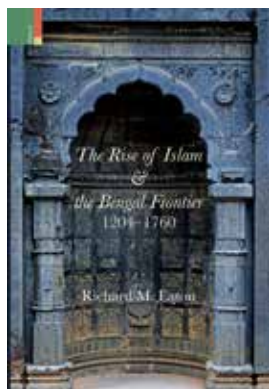
Assistant Professor in the Department of Archaeology, University of Calcutta.

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.

Kenneth R. Hall • Suchandra Ghosh • Kaushik Gangopadhyay • Rila Mukherjee • Sharmistha Chatterjee • Derek Heng • Coline LefranCq • Sabarni Pramanik Nayak • M.N. Rajesh • K.P. Rao • Rajat Sanyal • V. Selvakumar • John K. Whitmore • Brian Wilson • Aparna Vaidik



The Rise of Islam and the Bengal Frontier, 1204–1760*

Richard M. Eaton

Professor of History at the University of Arizona, with a special interest in India from the eleventh to the eighteenth centuries.

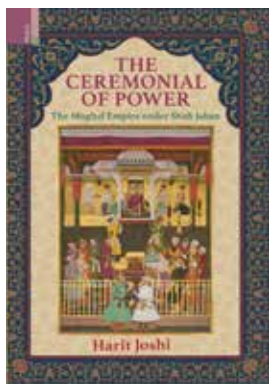
Among the regions of South Asia, Bengal proved extraordinarily receptive to the Islamic faith. This area, and especially the eastern delta comprising today's Bangladesh, contains the world's second-largest Muslim ethnic population. How and why did such a large Muslim population emerge there?

The Rise of Islam and the Bengal Frontier, 1204–1760 is as much an essay in geography as in history, for the Bengal delta was a frontier of many facets. Eaton traces the establishment and evolution of the Indo-Islamic community from the year 1204, when Persianized Turks from North India swept into and annexed the former Hindu states of the lower Ganges delta, to 1760, when the British East India Company rose to political dominance in the region. Whether Bengal was ruled as a province of the Delhi sultans, as an independent kingdom under local sultans, or as a province of the Mughal empire, sociopolitical developments were accompanied by economic transformation—the eastward expansion of the agrarian frontier and the advance of settled agricultural communities, organized around wet rice cultivation.

ISBN: 978-93-5852-718-6

388 pp. • 2025 • PB • ₹ 650

*For sale in South Asia only



The Ceremonial of Power The Mughal Empire under Shah Jahan

Harit Joshi

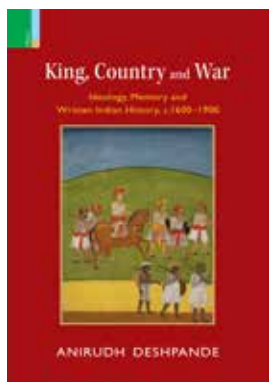
Maître de Conférences (Associate Professor) in the Department of South Asian and Himalayan Studies of the Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO) in Paris, where he has taught since 2002.

The Ceremonial of Power studies the court ceremonial during the reign of the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan (1628–58) and its use as an indispensable tool in asserting imperial authority. It examines Shah Jahan's portrayal in contemporary and later historiography through an analysis of the writings of the court chroniclers, the colonial administrator-historians, and their Indian counterparts. The volume sheds light on different features of the emperor's personality that emerge from the official discourse as well as other significant aspects of his reign: Shah Jahan's passion for architecture and the layout of his court; the emperor's relationship with his courtiers and their daily interactions; Shah Jahan's religious views and their influence on court proceedings.

ISBN : 978-93-5852-905-0

527 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1995

• \$ 74.95 • £ 64.95



ISBN : 978-93-6627-478-2
276 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹1450
• \$ 52.95 • £ 44.95

King, Country, and War Ideology, Memory and Written Indian History, c.1600–1900

Anirudh Deshpande

Professor of Modern History, Department of History, University of Delhi.

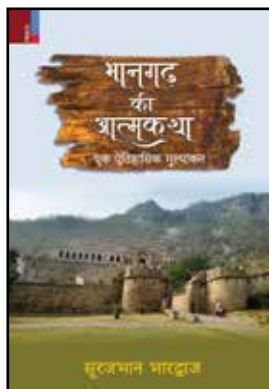
To counter the influence of nationalist anachronisms on Indian historiography, *King, Country and War: Ideology: Memory and Written Indian History, c. 1600–1900* presents a critical analysis of six themes of Indian historiography: the *historicization* of the Indian mind, the role of individuals in history, *desh* and *rashtra* in pre-colonial India, forts in Indian history, the Third Battle of Panipat and *hybridity* in Indian history. The book asserts that deconstructing the ideological binaries which condition the Indian minds comprises the beginning of our quest for a critical appraisal of India's past. This book presents a serious interrogation of the theoretical assumptions of colonialist and nationalist historiographies which continue to influence the historical thinking of contemporary Indians. The book also brings to bear on its subject matter the insights provided by the 'micro history' method. After all, critical history is produced by the inevitable tension between the historian and his sources. This makes history writing a dynamic, honest and scientific craft practiced by the critical historian who is forever alert to the political allure of ideology. Like any social being, the historian has ideological predilections but in his practice as a professional historians he should not be overtly influenced by them.

'Anirudh Deshpande is a leading military historian of India. He is one of the few to study military cultures and practices across the great divide that almost all historians maintain between pre-colonial armies and governments and the colonial era. He is unique in addressing the financial structures and internal discipline that keep military machines functioning. This book contains examples of both long period studies and finely researched analyses of particular battles. I recommend it to the professional historian and the general readers.'

—SUMIT GUHA

'Debates over how we understand and represent the Indian past...were formerly the provenance of professional historians; now the supposed democratization of the public sphere has had the consequence of opening the past to more radical...forms of instrumentalization... The veteran historian Anirudh Deshpande, in *King, Country and War*, has offered a timely reminder both of (in Nietzsche's phrase) 'the use and abuse of history' and why the stakes have never been higher than they are today.'

—VINAY LAL



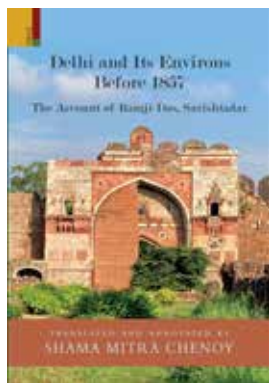
ISBN: 978-93-6627-387-7
200 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹ 800

भानगढ़ की आत्मकथा एक ऐतिहासिक मूल्यांकन

सूरजभान भारद्वाज

लोगों का मानना है कि अन्धेरा होने के बाद भानगढ़ भूत प्रेतों का आवास बन जाता है और यह शहर एक तांत्रिक के अभिशाप के कारण उजड़ गया था। इस अवधारणा को दूरदर्शन की दुनिया ने और पुख्ता कर दिया है। दरअसल इस संकल्पना ने भानगढ़ के इतिहास को गौण बना दिया है और भूत प्रेतों की कहानियां इस उजड़े शहर की जीवन रेखा बन गई है।

इस पुस्तक में भानगढ़ के इतिहास का संक्षिप्त विवरण है। भानगढ़ 17वीं सदी में एक फलता फूलता वाणिज्यिक शहर होता था, जो 18वीं सदी के प्रारम्भिक वर्षों में राजनैतिक कारणों से उजाड़ दिया गया था। 20वीं सदी के प्रारम्भ में भानगढ़ की उजड़ी हुई विरासत को लोगों से बचाने के लिए भूत प्रेतों की कहानियों का प्रचलन शुरू हो गया। इन कहानियों में दो भिन्न धारणाओं का विवरण मिलता है – भानगढ़ का विनाश नाथपंथियों के अभिशाप के कारण हुआ है जबकि वैष्णव धर्म सुखशांति व सम्पन्नता का प्रतीक है।



ISBN : 978-93-5852-021-7
224 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1295
• \$49.95

Delhi and Its Environs Before 1857 The Account of Ramji Das, Sarishtadar

translated and annotated by

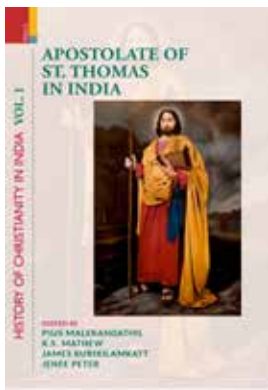
Shama Mitra Chenoy

Professor of History at Shivaji College, University of Delhi.

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.

'In the Introduction to the book, Chenoy analyses the features of Shahjahanabad (the name for Delhi in the seventeenth century) and its history and also dwells on the characteristics of other works on Delhi. This helps to evaluate Ramji Das's *Zikr-e Umurat-e Am Zila-e Dehli* and put it in proper perspective....'

—MEENA BHARGAVA, Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi



ISBN: 978-93-6177-737-0
542 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹ 1695
• \$ 69.95 • £ 59.95

Apostolate of St. Thomas in India

edited by

Pious Malekandathil

Former Professor at the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University and currently Vicar General of the Syro Malabar Diocese of Kothamangalam, Kerala, India.

K.S. Mathew

Served as Professor and Head at Hyderabad Central University and later as Founder Head and Professor of the Department of History, Pondicherry Central University.

James Kurikilamkatt

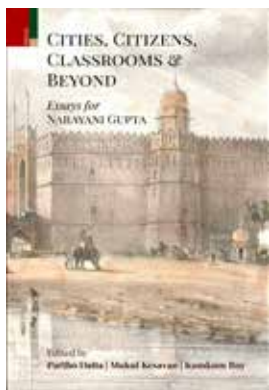
Director of Thomasine Research Centre, Trichur.

Jeneer Peter

Assistant Professor at the PG & Research Department of History, Union Christian College, Alwaye.

Apostolate of St. Thomas in India traces the history of the missionary works of St. Thomas and the origins of Christianity in the subcontinent. It delves into the genesis of the St. Thomas Christians, a community whose various works including their historical documents in Syriac and Malayalam were destroyed by the Portuguese colonizers at the Synod of Diamper (1599) fearing their heretical contents. The chapters here revisit these themes from different perspectives, examining a variety of archaeological and literary sources and using tools of historical research and a multi-disciplinary methodology to question the existing overarching historical narratives about the St. Thomas Christians. This allows readers to retrieve a history that was previously erased as well as understand the alterity of the community's past outside of the convention created by the Euro-centric 'myth of historicity'.

The volume is a reservoir for scholars working on the origin of Christianity in South Asia in general and for those looking for a nuanced understanding of the origin of St. Thomas Christians in particular.



ISBN: 978-93-6627-004-3
 416 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹ 1295
 • \$ 54.95 • £ 44.95

Cities, Citizens, Classrooms and Beyond Essays for Narayani Gupta

edited by

Partho Datta

Taught undergraduate history and now teaches music studies at the School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Mukul Kesavan

Writer based in Delhi. He taught history at Jamia Millia Islamia, along with Narayani Gupta, for many years.

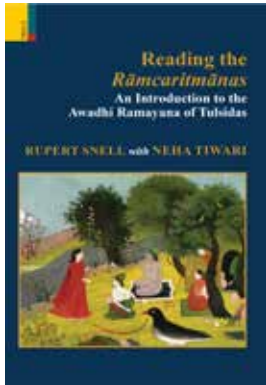
Kumkum Roy

Taught for several years in colleges and universities in Delhi, and retired from the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, in 2021.

Narayani Gupta's pioneering scholarship, concern with the fate of Delhi and campaigns to make the city a habitable space continue to inspire generations of people from diverse fields. Among her writings, *Delhi Between Two Empires* (1981) remains a classic work of urban history. One of the founders of the Conservation Society Delhi, her activism over many years has generated a new civic consciousness around monuments, heritage and shared spaces. Her work with Delhi schools has been equally significant. She has edited and authored school textbooks in Hindi and English, guidebooks to historical sites for children, and promoted innovative teaching methods.

Cities, Citizens, Classrooms and Beyond is a tribute by scholars, colleagues, students and friends which includes memoirs as well as discussions of various facets of urban history, teaching methods and pedagogy. In this volume, divided into three sections, the contributors have explored medieval Srirangam, the legacy of Agra, the *marsiya* in Delhi, the urban natures of colonial metropolises and the conservation of the Nizamuddin complex. There are essays on Patrick Geddes, the fascinating phenomenon of informal towns, early nationalist Delhi and the activities of Communists in the city. Architects, planners, historians, teachers have all reflected on Narayani Gupta's enduring legacy: the personal and humane touch she offers to all her endeavours.

Indu Banga • Prabhat Kumar Basant •
 Meena Bhargava • Ramu Damodaran •
 Partho Datta • Geeta Wahi Dua •
 Ranjeeta Dutta • Amar Farooqui •
 Sohail Hashmi • Navina Jafa • Shailaja
 Kathuria • Mukul Kesavan • Atiqa
 Habeeb Kidwai • Krishna Kumar •
 Swapna Liddle • Jim Masselos •
 Rahul Mehrotra • Helen Meller •
 A.G. Krishna Menon • Snehanshu
 Mukherjee • Anisha Shekhar Mukherji
 • Ratish Nanda • T.C.A. Raghavan •
 Kumkum Roy • Srimanjari



ISBN: 978-93-5572-514-1 (HB)
526 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹ 1995
• \$74.95 • £64.95
ISBN: 978-93-5572-534-9 (PB)
526 pp. • 2023 • PB • ₹ 995
• \$49.95 • £42.95

Reading the *Rāmcaritmānas* A Companion to the Awadhī Ramayana of Tulsidas*

Rupert Snell

Professor Emeritus in the Department of Asian Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, and previously taught at SOAS, University of London.

Neha Tiwari

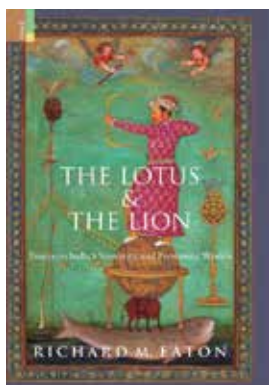
Formerly Director and Instructor at Zabaan School for Languages in New Delhi is currently pursuing a Masters in South Asian languages and literature from Ghent University, Belgium.

The *Rāmcaritmānas* of Tulsidas, begun in 1574 CE, is the most widely known and best loved devotional text in the whole of the north Indian vernacular tradition. Still widely read today—typically with the help of modern commentaries—it is also the subject of public performance styles that have brought it to the widest possible audiences. A source of inspiration and comfort to countless millions over the centuries, the *Mānas* stands as the classic exemplar of the Ramayana tradition for speakers of Hindi and its dialects. The book introduces Tulsī's Awadhī masterpiece to readers who are already at home in modern standard Hindi. Introductory chapters outline the significance of the text, analyse Tulsī's Awadhī and his poetic metres, summarise the narrative, and offer a close reading of a key passage. The main section of the book features selections from all seven chapters of the *Mānas*, with the shortest one (Kīṣkindhākāṇḍ, on events in the monkey kingdom) appearing in full; the copiously annotated English translations are designed to reflect the originals as closely as possible, and are followed by a comprehensive etymological glossary.

'No one surpasses Rupert Snell as a connoisseur of Hindi literature, and he is equally distinguished as a teacher. Now the connoisseur and the teacher fully join hands in print, as they have for many years in the classroom. *Reading the Rāmcaritmānas* makes it possible for ordinary mortals to taste the waters of Tulsīdās's pristine *Mānas* lake—and not just taste but take the plunge and swim. What a miracle of art and craft!'

– JOHN STRATTON HAWLEY, Claire Tow Professor of Religion,
Barnard College, Columbia University

* This book is also relevant for Religious History.



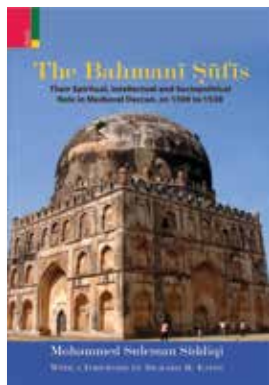
ISBN: 978-93-5572-577-6
402 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹ 1895
• \$ 74.95 • £ 59.95

The Lotus & The Lion Essays on India's Sanskrit and Persianate Worlds

Richard M. Eaton

Professor of History at the University of Arizona, with a special interest in India from the eleventh to the eighteenth centuries.

The Lotus and The Lion dwells on Indian history between the eleventh and the eighteenth centuries, when India was the site of the encounter between two great pan-Asian literary traditions, the Sanskrit and the Persian—metaphorically, the lotus and the lion—and the sociocultural and moral worlds they created and sustained. The book's first part explores how these cosmopolitan and prestigious worlds interacted both with each other and with regional cultures. The second part presents five essays dealing with Islam in precolonial India, ranging from the nature of Islamic traditions, to Islamization in Punjab and Bengal, to current debates on understanding Islam in India. The third part offers two essays on the Mughals, the first elaborating different kinds of frontiers in Mughal history, and the second proposing new ways of evaluating the emperors Akbar and 'Alamgir'. The fourth part contains four essays on the Deccan, ranging from the Tughluq invasion to the earliest advent of gunpowder technology and of written vernaculars in the region. The book closes with five essays on historical methodology, each one illustrating a different way of engaging with, and of illuminating, India's rich past.



ISBN: 978-93-5687-056-7
486 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹ 1650
• \$ 39.95 • £ 34.95

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

Mohammed Suleman Siddiqi

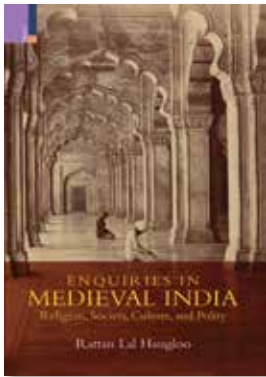
Former Vice-Chancellor of Osmania University (2005–8); founding registrar of Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad (1998–2004); and Head of the Department of Islamic Studies at Osmania (1989–97).

With a Foreword by Richard M. Eaton

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 most exciting part of the book are the appendices, which bring together material that will certainly fuel further research. Appendix A contains the titles of mystical treatises written by the Sufis of Gulbarga and Bidar during the period under study. Appendices B to F contain documents related to the Chishti, Junaydi, and Qadiri Sufis, including a noteworthy possible forgery.'

—PIA MARIA MALIK, St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, Delhi.



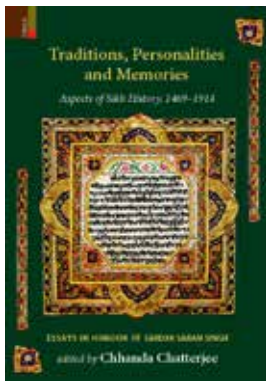
Enquiries in Medieval India Religion, Society, Culture and Polity

Rattan Lal Hangloo

Honorary Chancellor, Nobel International University at Toronto, Canada.

Enquiries in Medieval India: Religion, Society, Culture, and Polity illustrates the nature and span of medieval India, which was always subject to external influences. These influences, upon assimilation, made India internally plural and got reflected in a continuing conversation between its different socio-religious traditions, cultures, strands of thought, and polities. With deliberations on the periodization of medieval India to exploring contacts between India and Central Asia during the period, this work investigates a range of historical problems. It examines the role of political ideas, institutions, religious vocabulary, cultural virtues, and communal relationships that helped in consolidating and conducting the affairs of the state in a pluralistic society. The intricate links of urbanization with the perception of territoriality of the medieval state are brought into focus in an essay and, in another, there are investigations into the place of Sufism in the politics of the Deccan. Keeping aside the framework of preoccupations with different dynasties and their fortunes and intervening into unexplored fields, this book explores how the institutional bases in every field of state and society formed the bedrock for the entire medieval period and beyond.

ISBN: 978-93-5572-183-9
216 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1125
• \$49.95 • £39.95



Traditions, Personalities and Memories Aspects of Sikh History, 1469–1914, Essays in Honour of Sardar Saran Singh*

edited by

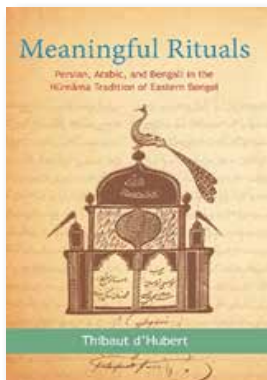
Chhanda Chatterjee

Senior Research Fellow at the Indian Council of Social Science Research, attached to the Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, New Delhi.

Traditions, Personalities and Memories: Aspects of Sikh History, 1469–1914, Essays in Honour of Sardar Saran Singh highlights the traditions of self-sacrifice associated with the Sikh gurus and their renowned followers. Ironically, these great traditions ended up being undermined during the most glorious phase of Sikh history—the rule of Maharajah Ranjit Singh—so much so that both the British sympathizers, Chief Khalsa Diwan and the Singh Sabhas, as well as the anti-British Namdharis, tried to revive these noble traditions. Persecuted by the British rulers, the Namdharis sustained their anti-colonial activities through the Ghadar movement in the twentieth century.

*This book is also relevant for Modern History.

ISBN: 978-93-5572-338-3
294 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹ 1295
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ISBN : 978-93-5572-336-9
 196 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1495
 • \$64.95 • £54.95

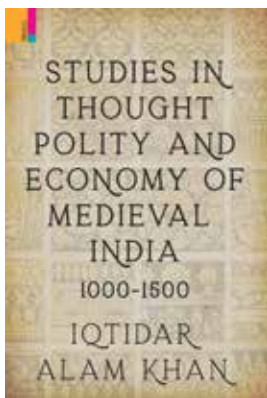
Meaningful Rituals Persian, Arabic, and Bengali in the *Nūrnāma* Tradition of Eastern Bengal*

Thibaut d'Hubert
 Associate Professor, University of Chicago

Meaningful Rituals: Persian, Arabic and Bengali in the Nūrnāma Tradition of Eastern Bengal explores a corpus of texts that centre around the creation of the world by God through his prophet Muḥammad in his primordial form as a luminous entity. These short accounts, which bear the title *Nūrnāma* (The Book of Light), played two roles: as conveyers of knowledge regarding basic Islamic beliefs and cosmology, and as ritual texts meant to protect and bring prosperity to those who read and preserved the physical artefact of the book that contained that knowledge.

In addition to introductory chapters on Muslim literacy in eastern Bengal and the treatment of light in scholastic and non-scholastic Muslim literature, *Meaningful Rituals* contains the text and annotated translations of several Persian and Bengali versions of the *Nūrnāma*, written between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries. A close study of this tradition in eastern Bengal demonstrates the rural literati's engagement with the Persian and Arabic languages and literacy. Beyond the domain of Bengali language and literature, the book opens a new chapter on Indo-Persian studies by shedding light on the didactic and ritual uses of Persian texts in rural Bengal.

*This book is also relevant for Literature.



ISBN: 978-93-90430-60-4
 192 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1050
 \$46.95 • £38.95

Studies in Thought, Polity and Economy of Medieval India, 1000–1500

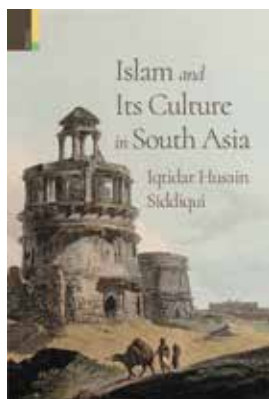
Iqtidar Alam Khan
 Former Professor, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University

This book attempts to comprehend the history of the Delhi Sultanate with reference to its Islamic identity. The Turkish chiefs, despite having a military advantage due to their expertise in horsemanship, could only consolidate their rule through adjustment and sharing of power with local kshatriya rulers, and, therefore, tended to incorporate an increasing number of Hindu chiefs in the ruling establishment. This process was sought to be made durable by conceding to the chiefs many of the pecuniary gains and social clout they had enjoyed before the conquests.

According to Barani, the ulema endorsed the view that in the given situation, provisions of fiqh evolved in Arabia were not practicable in the Delhi Sultanate. By the same logic, settlements conceding to the village chiefs' important roles in the fiscal administration of rural tracts were justified. With the passage of time many notions of Hindu caste culture also became influential in the mental makeup of the ruling elites of the Delhi Sultanate.

'...though the state structure of the Delhi Sultanate evolved under the influence of Sassanid and Turkish traditions, inherited from the Ghaznavid and the Ghorid, it was, in fact, the local, Hindu cultural values that determined its character.'

—MEENA BHARGAVA, Indraprastha College for Women



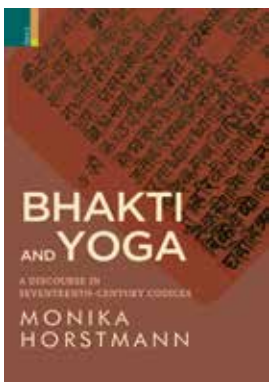
Islam and its Culture in South Asia

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.

ISBN: 978-93-90430-51-2
212 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1095
\$49.95 • £42.95



Bhakti and Yoga

A Discourse in Seventeenth-Century Codices*

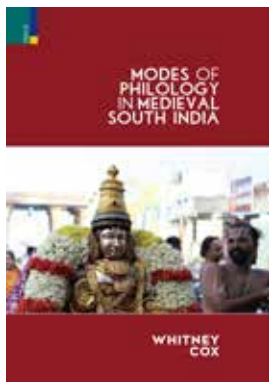
Monika Horstmann

Former Professor, South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg.

The religious order named Dādūpanth, which originated in Rajasthan, produced a wealth of manuscripts from c.1600 onwards. From the beginning of this manuscript culture, huge codices were produced representing a chorus of voices, and reflecting the decisions made by the compilers or copyists regarding the validity of texts or entire traditions. The discourse generated by them represents the intellectual and religious cosmos of their makers. In these codices, bhakti texts and the vernacular works of yogis are transmitted simultaneously, along with works representing a broader Vaishnava tradition, thereby documenting the dialogue of bhakti and yoga. Two texts published in this study for the first time, one by a pre-Dādūpanthī Nath Sidhha, the other by Dādūpanthī yogi are good examples of this. While the site of this dialogue are Dādūpanthī manuscripts, the dioscurian relationship between bhakti and yoga is shared by a wider religious milieu, including the Nirañjanīs. The link between the Dādūpanthī sadhu scribes and the Nirañjanīs is documented in epigraphy and the colophons of manuscripts.

*This book is also relevant for Religious History.

ISBN: 978-93-90232-83-3
296 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹995
• \$49.95 • £42.95



Modes of Philology in Medieval South India*

Whitney Cox

Associate Professor, Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago

Philology was everywhere and nowhere in classical South Asia. While its civilizations possessed remarkably sophisticated tools and methods of textual analysis, interpretation, and transmission, they lacked any sense of a common disciplinary or intellectual project uniting these; indeed they lacked a word for 'philology' altogether.

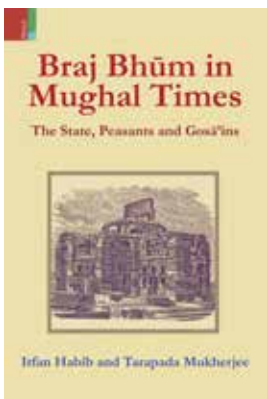
Arguing that such pseudepigraphical genres as the Sanskrit purāṇas and tantras incorporated modes of philological reading and writing, Cox demonstrates the ways in which the production of these works in turn motivated the invention of new kinds of śāstric scholarship. Combining close textual analysis with wider theoretical concerns, Cox traces this philological transformation in the works of the dramatist Śāradātanaya, the celebrated Vaiṣṇava poet-theologian Veṅkaṭanatha, and the maverick Śaiva mystic Maheśvarānanda.

'Cox's is a sustained reflection on what he calls ways of doing philology, which is a novel way of approaching the commentaries and commentarial modes in textual production.'

—MANU V DEVADEVAN, Associate Professor of History,
Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.

ISBN: 978-93-90022-31-1
208pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1195
• \$49.95 • £42.95

*This book is also relevant for Religious History.



Braj Bhūm in Mughal Times The State, Peasants and Gosā'ins

Irfan Habib

Professor Emeritus, Aligarh Muslim University

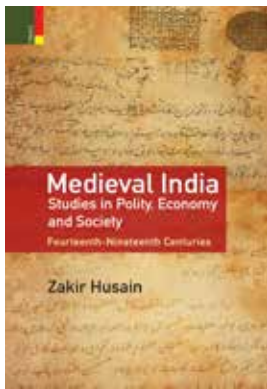
Tarapada Mukherjee

School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

This book represents a unique effort at presenting the conditions of life of the ordinary people in a small region of the Mughal Empire from about the accession of Akbar to the collapse of Mughal power. The study brings out how the Mughal administration functioned on the ground, how peasant communities were organized and religious men conducted their worldly affairs. We are even able to meet some lowly men and women as distinct individuals.

Some interesting facts also emerge: the early dates from which Akbar's grants to temples began; the extensive survey of temples in Braj heartland that Akbar ordered in 1598; and, late in Aurangzeb's reign, the official levy of Re. 1 per annum on each village in the Braj region to be collected by the Chaitanya—*gosā'ins*. Readers to whom ordinary people matter should find much interest in history of three villages separately studied (Vrindavan, Radhakund, and Rajpur).

ISBN: 978-93-89850-22-2
298 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1095
• \$54.95 • £46.95



Medieval India Studies in Polity, Economy and Society Fourteenth-Nineteenth Centuries

Zakir Husain

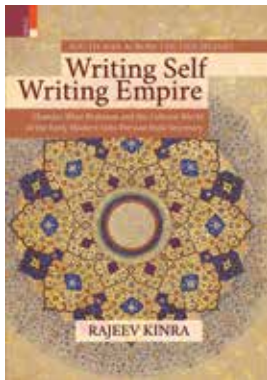
Retired as Assistant Director (Oriental Records), National Archives of India, New Delhi

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.

ISBN: 978-93-5290-726-7

556 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 1595

\$ 69.95 • £ 59.95



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

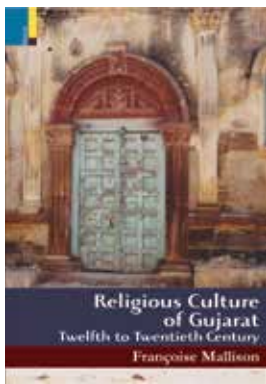
This book examines the life, career, and writings of Chandar Bhan Brahman, a Mughal state secretary who was also one of the great Indo-Persian poets and prose stylists of early modern South Asia. Chandar Bhan was a high-caste Hindu whose life spanned the reigns of four emperors—Akbar, Jahangir, Shah 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.

ISBN: 978-93-5290-304-7

392 pp. • 2019 • PB • ₹ 850

For sale only in South Asia

Winner of Prof. Mohammad Habib Memorial Prize, for the best book on Medieval Indian History at the Indian History Congress 2019.



Religious Culture of Gujarat Twelfth to Twentieth Century*

Françoise Mallison

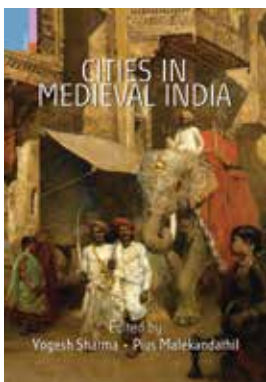
Directeur d'Études Emeritus at the École Pratique des Hautes Études, Section des Sciences Historiques et Philologiques, Paris.

The 22 essays in this volume, written between 1974 and 2010, deal with the religious history and culture of Gujarat. The first part of this book focuses on Gujarati devotional literature: Vaiṣṇava *pad-bhajan*, Vallabhite *dhoj*, *Sant-vāṇī*, Ismā'īlī *Ginān*, Cīstī Gujarati *bhajan*, all with textual and thematic convergences. The second part analyses stories of saints and sacred places. Their constructions are in no way authentic historical accounts, but they provide a vivid picture of the time and society that produced them.

The focus of these essays is more on an exploration of popular religions (*lok-dharma*) mainly in Saurashtra and Kutch, both in their oral and written transmission. Gujarat has a rich variety of religious currents (all of which are not treated here; some are merely evoked, e.g. Jainism, Devi cult, and Parsis). They are reflected in literary sources and local observation and they demonstrate Gujarat's capacity to promote a regional culture nourished by a multiplicity of religions.

*This book is also relevant for Religious History.

ISBN: 978-93-5290-965-0
332 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1295
\$59.95 • £49.95



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.

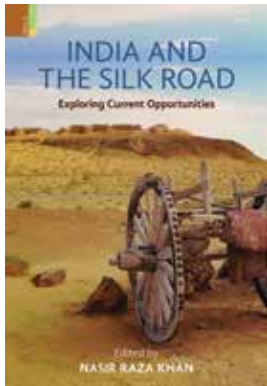
'... the commendable effort of the volume . . . [it] has studied variants of medieval Indian cities with representation from almost all regions of India . . . significant contribution to urban history of medieval India.'

—MEENA BHARGAVA, *The Book Review*

'*Cities in Medieval India* provides a wealth of information about a great number of cities and towns throughout India from a variety of wonderful scholars.'

—CALEB SIMMONS, *The Newsletter*

ISBN: 978-93-5290-303-0
838 pp. • 2019 • PB • ₹ 995
\$ 59.95 • £ 47.95



ISBN: 978-93-5290-722-9
280 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 1250
\$ 59.95 • £ 49.95

India and the Silk Road Exploring Current Opportunities*

edited by

Nasir Raza Khan

Officiating Director, India-Arab Cultural Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

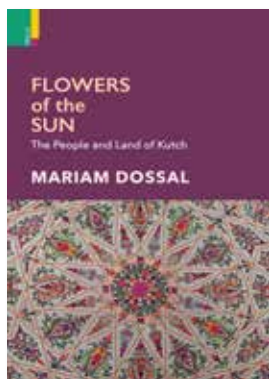
India and the Silk Road: Exploring Current Opportunities is based on the historical as well as contemporary relevance of the Silk Road. This volume comprises essays by a number of contributors who have dealt with varied aspects of the reality of this historical road in a new geopolitical context, with 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.

‘The book is an excellent primer on the various aspects of Silk Route which, at some places, intersects with the Spice Route, an area that is worth exploring in the contemporary backdrop.’

—K V PRASAD, *The Tribune*

*This book is also relevant for Political Science and International Relations

Nasir Raza Khan • Sunita Dwivedi • Madhuparna Gupta • R.G. Gidadhubli • Vrushal T. Ghoble • Aliya Khassanova • G.N. Khaki • Priya Ranjan Kumar • Biswajit Mohapatra • Varoda M. Nikalje • Kaustav Padmapati • Arpita Basu Roy • Swagata Saha • Srikanth Thaliyakkattil • Gabit Zhumatay



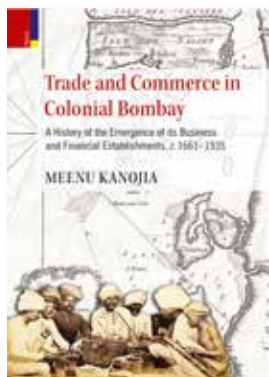
Flowers of the Sun The People and Land of Kutch, c.1740–2020

Mariam Dossal

Former Professor of the Department of History, University of Mumbai.

Flowers of the Sun: The People and Land of Kutch, c.1740–2020 examines Kutch's rich and fascinating history, spanning nearly three centuries. It highlights the strong Sufi tradition of Kutch, the shared love of the land and the awareness that survival in the harsh environment requires cooperation and innovation, 'mil and mithas', friendship and sweetness. The early years of the nineteenth century witnessed efforts by the British to establish political and military control over Kutch, Sindh and north-west India. Thwarted by effective Kutchi resistance under the able leadership of military commander Jamadar Fateh Mahomed, this period constitutes a significant marker in Kutch's history. His death in 1813 was followed by increasing British domination over the princely state, until India (and Kutch) gained Independence in 1947.

ISBN: 978-93-6883-866-1
466 pp. • HB • 2025 • ₹1995
• \$ 74.95 • £ 64.95



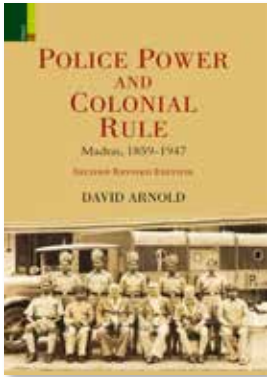
Trade and Commerce in Colonial Bombay A History of Emergence of its Business and Financial Establishments

Meenu Kanojia

An independent historian.

Trade and Commerce in Colonial Bombay: A History of the Emergence of its Business and Financial Establishments, c.1661–1935 examines the evolutionary history of the Bombay Mint along with the banking institutions which led to an efflorescence of trade and commerce in colonial Bombay. From a small trading island in the seventeenth century, Bombay developed into a financial centre during British rule. The book also investigates the effect of import of bullion from parts of South America, Europe, and Asia and its role in India's economic development. The monetary concerns of the British paved the way for trade and commerce in Bombay with the introduction of English currencies minted in the Bombay Mint. The idea of banking thus developed from this Mint under the governorship of Charles Boone in 1720. Origins of banking in South Asia and South-East Asia can, thus, be traced to the Bombay Presidency.

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350 pp. • HB • 2025 • ₹1495
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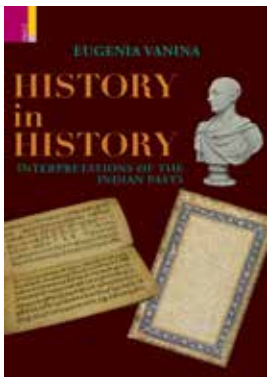
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408 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1150
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Police Power and Colonial Rule Madras, 1859–1947 (Second Revised Edition)

David Arnold

Professor Emeritus in the Department of History, University of Warwick and a Fellow of the British Academy.

Police Power and Colonial Rule analyses the increasing deployment and growing authority of the police in the Madras Presidency of British India, demonstrating the centrality of policing to the colonial regime and its legacies. Beginning with the formation of a colonial constabulary in 1859, the book examines the evolving organization and structure of the force, its racial hierarchies, and response to rapidly changing political and social conditions that led up to Indian independence. Based on cutting-edge research, this work explores the contested role of the police in combating nationalist opposition and labour militancy, and shows how the police, through the formation and expansion of armed units, replaced the military in enforcing internal order and suppressing anti-colonial resistance. The book also examines the impact of colonial policing on both rural and urban society in south India and discusses how nationalists opposed police brutality while ultimately seeking ascendancy over the force. Grounded in India's colonial history, the book is also directly relevant to the critical study of postcolonial India and colonial policing around the world. For this revised edition, the author has written a new Introduction setting out the scope of the work and placing it in the context of recent police studies.



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426 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1795
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History in History Interpretations of the Indian Pasts

Eugenia Vanina

Chief Researcher, Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences.

History in History: Interpretations of the Indian Pasts is not about the history of India but about the evolution of the conception of history in India. As a record and reconstruction of the past, as social perception and as an important part of national, group or individual mindset, development of this consciousness through the epochs differs not only in techniques, forms of socio-political organization and values but also by how people recall their past, inquiring the bygone times to understand their present and future.

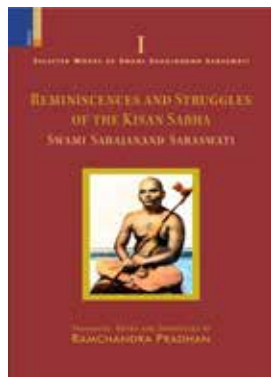
*This book is also relevant for Historiography.

Selected Works of Swami Sahajanand Saraswati

Translated, Edited and Introduced by Ramchandra Pradhan, a well-known social activist and a Gandhian scholar, taught at Ramjas College, Delhi University for several decades.

‘Swami Sahajanand Saraswati is, in this land of ours, a name to conjure with. The undisputed leader of the Peasant Movement in India, and he is today the idol of the masses and the hero of millions.’

–20th April 1940, Signed editorial in the Forward Bloc



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338 pp. • HB • 2025 •

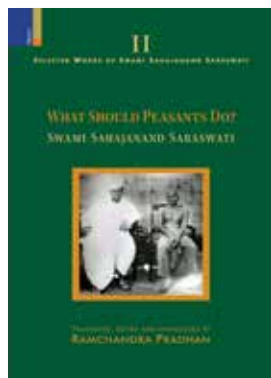
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Volume I

Reminiscences and Struggles of the Kisan Sabha

Reminiscences of the Kisan Sabha and its Struggles is the first in the series titled, Selected Works of Swami Sahajanand Saraswati, comprising four volumes. Sahajanand (1889–1950) was not only a topmost peasant leader but also a prominent freedom fighter and a social reformer. The present volume traces the historical evolution of peasant movements as well as the transformation of Swami led Kisan Sabha from a moderate peasant organization to a militant one. It also chronicles, in an extremely vivid and powerful way, how a band of dedicated ‘non leaders’ at the village level fought and brought massive relief to the people under their sway. It was a true replica of David and Goliath story described in the Holy Bible.

This volume presents a subaltern view of modern Indian history with observations and reflections on our freedom struggle by a leader from the margins and not from an English educated and Vilayat returned nationalist.



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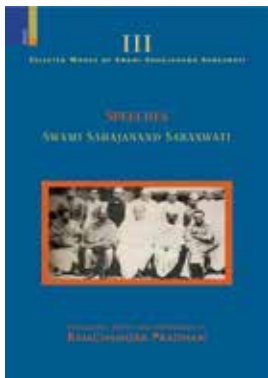
302 pp. • HB • 2025 •

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Volume II

What should Peasants Do?

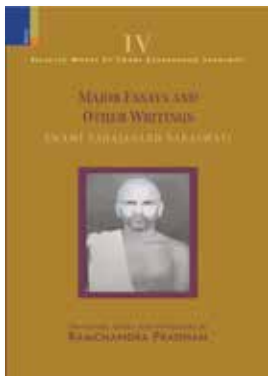
What Should Peasants Do? constitutes the second volume of the Selected Works of Swami Sahajanand Saraswati. Swami as the father figure in the peasant movement loved and adored the poor peasants and went to the extent of calling them as his ‘God’. He walked step in step with them as their leader but also a little ahead of them. As such he became fully aware of their strengths as well as their weaknesses, their innocence as well as cleverness. It was he who was the first to call them as annadata (food provider) and underscored their central role in the sustenance of the cosmic order. But being a father figure, he did not hesitate to pinpoint some of their basic weaknesses, viz., their over dependence on the middle class leaders; their innate faith in the God and their destiny and their ever readiness to clear their dues to zamindars and moneylenders even ignoring the basic needs of their families. He even chided them for being clever by half at times avoiding direct and relentless fight against their tormentors. Towards the end of the work, he gave a clarion call to the peasants to embrace the Kisan Sabha on a mass scale, build up a viable Kisan Sabha and raise and support a dedicated band of Kisan Sevaks.



ISBN: 978-93-6627-987-6
326 pp. • HB • 2025 •
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Volume III Speeches

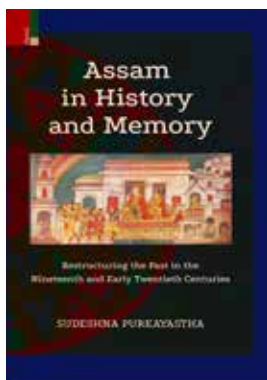
Speeches is the third in the series of Selected Works of Swami Sahajanand Saraswati comprising four volumes. These speeches were primarily delivered by him on the forums of both, the Bihar Provincial Kisan Sabha as well as the All India Kisan Sabha between the years 1935 to 1949. Only the last one (number 14) was delivered at the conference of the Virakta Mahamandal. They mark the evolution of the national movement as well as that of peasant movement in India. Some of the ideas presented in them are context specific but his core ideas remain the same; how to intensify the popular movement to establish a new and revolutionary social order marked by equity and justice. It goes without saying that Swami was speaking from a vantage point, being involved both in national and peasant movements. He was also fully aware of their inter relationship. All through these addresses, he underlines the pressing need for keeping the Kisan Sabha as an independent organization both in organizational and ideological terms.



ISBN: 978-93-6627-230-6
370 pp. • HB • 2025 •
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Volume IV Major Essays and Other Writings

Major Essays and Other Writings is the fourth in the series of Selected Works of Swami Sahajanand Saraswati comprising four volumes. Altogether, there are thirty essays, apart from other writings, compiled in the present volume. They cover the period from 1933 to 1950, a very crucial phase in our national life and the peasant movement. Some of the essays are marked by his high erudition, skill for detailed field investigations and reasoned argumentation. Here he not only critiques but also offers creative alternatives to the issues like land pattern, party system and zamindari abolition. His selfless commitment to peasants' cause remains a proven fact as he refused to join the rat race for loaves and fishes in post-independent India. As reflected in some of these essays, he started working for a new dawn, a new revolution marked by equity and justice. What is more, as a santsipahi in the tradition of Lord Parshuram, Swami Ramdas and Guru Gobind Singh, he, like them, was ever ready to walk his talks.

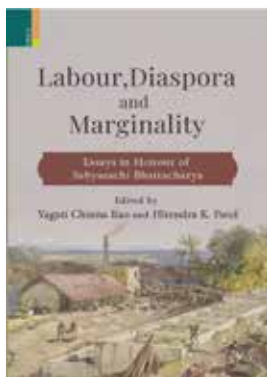


Assam in History and Memory Restructuring the Past in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries

Sudeshna Purkayastha
Teaches history at Assam University, Silchar.

Assam in History and Memory examines the shaping of Assamese historiography in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. A major theme of this study is the fascinating local tradition of buranji literature, which gives primacy to historical memory and has played a key role in the creation of the modern Assamese past. The book also explores the complex relationship between vernacular historiography, Assamese nationalism, and the construction of an Assamese linguistic identity in the colonial and postcolonial periods. In tracing such historiographical transformations, the book identifies the changing political, social and cultural contexts in the colonial period, when the politics of identity were reworked and the modern Assamese past was restructured.

ISBN: 978-93-6177-867-4
352 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1550
• \$ 59.95 • £ 49.95



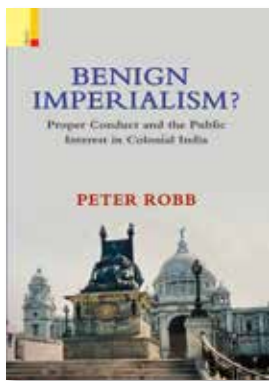
Labour, Diaspora and Marginality Essays in Honour of Sabyasachi Bhattacharya

edited by
Yagati Chinna Rao
Professor and Chairperson, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Hitendra K Patel
Professor, and Head, Department of History, Rabindra Bharati, Kolkata.

Labour, Diaspora and Marginality traces the intellectual legacy of Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya (1938–2019), a towering figure in the field of Indian history. He was an exceptional intellectual, infused with ethical sensibility and humanism. Beginning with his earlier forte in economic history, he eventually contributed to a significant trend in labour studies and gave shape to that turn within the specific context of India and other postcolonial nations. He left an indelible impression across the subfields within history such as education, and political, sociocultural and intellectual histories of India. Professor Bhattacharya remains a great inspiration to generations of historians. This volume puts together articles by his former students and admirers that focus upon economic and cultural histories, labour migration, Indian diaspora, Dalit pasts, and Dalit identity through various protest movements and patterns of caste structure. The volume also delves into some social, cultural, literary and political trends in Indian history, such as the different versions of the revolt of 1857 as reflected in literary texts, historical studies on Indian education, and Gandhi's idea of the Champaran Satyagraha.

ISBN: 978-93-5687-004-8
612 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1500
• \$ 69.95 • £ 59.95



ISBN: 978-93-6177-714-1
350 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1550
• \$ 59.95 • £ 49.95

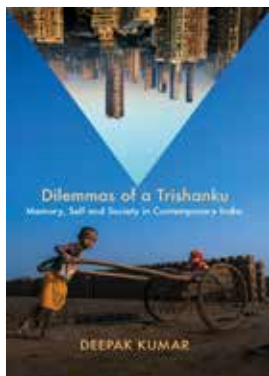
Benign Imperialism? Proper Conduct and the Public Interest in Colonial India

Peter Robb

FRAS, FRHistS, is Professor Emeritus at SOAS University of London.

Were colonial rulers in India worse than other governments and if so why? To consider those questions, the first part of *Benign Imperialism?* examines confidential discussions within the Government of India concerning official misconduct, law, and public benefit, particularly in the Bengal Presidency, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Officials debated the purpose and methods of British rule, how to punish civil servants' misconduct, the relationship between executive and High Court, and the importance of public opinion in India (and Britain). The book also considers these issues by referring to court cases and some British Parliamentary Papers.

Part two turns to policies and local administration, revealing shortcomings including poor focus and police corruption. It assesses the basis of government understandings and describes conditions of village life and the local experience of British rule. The last two chapters look at examples of policies reacting to need and intended to be beneficial, with the longest discussion being about rural irrigation.



ISBN: 978-93-6177-161-3
292 pp. • PB • 2024 • ₹695
• \$ 29.95 • £ 24.95

Dilemmas of a Trishanku Memory, Self and Society in Contemporary India

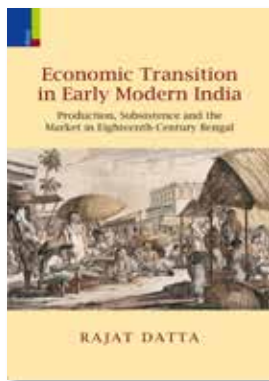
Deepak Kumar

Retired as Professor of History of Science and Education from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Dilemmas of a Trishanku presents a thought-provoking account of a society and a nation marked by its contradictions and seamlessly combines everyday social and political experiences with academic insights. The Pauranic story of a pious king called Trishanku, who probably still hangs between heaven and earth, is used as a metaphor to capture the different nuances of dilemmas which we all face in life as individuals and as citizens.

Based on both historical data and what sociologists call 'participant observation', this account dwells on the predicaments and struggles of post-independence India. It begins with a depiction of life in a moffusil town and moves on to examine closely the issues of caste, religion, governance, corruption, education, science, culture, and lot more.

Presented with rare verve and wit, and by using the lens of both historical and personal experiences, these 'rumblings' help unfurl layers of life in contemporary India.



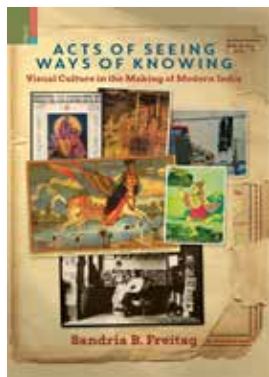
ISBN: 978-93-6177-402-7
 308 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1050
 • \$ 44.95 • £ 39.95

Economic Transition in Early Modern India Production, Subsistence and the Market in Eighteenth-Century Bengal

Rajat Datta

(1956–2021) retired as Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

This book examines how the agrarian society of Bengal was transformed in the decades after the British conquest. While the focus is local, the arguments have a wider resonance. Datta revisits old debates, re-examines established orthodoxies, offers provocative arguments, and persuades us to rethink the history of late Mughal and early modern India. His arguments proceed at two levels. At one, he explores the working of markets: estimating bullion influx, trade fluctuations, price movements, and commodity flows. He shows how the internal trade between Bengal and other regions expanded, bazars and haats proliferated, with merchants and markets creating an interlocking network tying the towns to the countryside. At another level, Datta zooms into the rural areas to recover the lives of peasants. We see them engaged in intensive cultivation of their land with domestic labour, producing rice, lentils, mustard, mulberry and cotton, participating in an increasingly complex market network, negotiating monsoons and fluctuating harvests. Through a close study of the 1769–70 famine, Datta explores how such cataclysmic crises were produced, and what they meant to different sections of rural society. Deeply researched and engagingly written, *Economic Transition in Early Modern India* is an outstanding contribution to the history of early modern India.



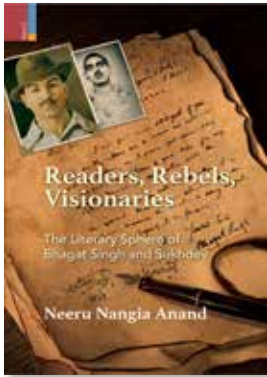
ISBN: 978-93-6627-188-0
 436 pp. • HB • 2025 • ₹1995

Acts of Seeing, Ways of Knowing Visual Culture in the Making of Modern India

Sandria B. Freitag

Teaches History at North Carolina State University and received her PhD from the University of California-Berkeley.

Acts of Seeing, Ways of Knowing: Visual Culture in the Making of Modern India refracts the nineteenth and twentieth centuries history of India through *reception* of the first two ‘mass’ forms of visual culture, photography and posters (those with the capacity to produce multiple copies). India’s responses to a changing public world are revealed, intriguingly, through this visual-culture repertoire. Production and consumption of these material objects revolve especially around visual culture’s capacity to prompt and express identity-narratives that draw on the nexus of a dramatic expansion of consumption practices with individual efforts to construct meaning by collecting, displaying, designing, and interacting with mass-produced materials. They emerge as markers of those intending to be good, modern, citizens, who are drawn, significantly, from both middle- and lower-class/caste participants.



ISBN: 978-93-5687-789-4
350 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1395
• \$ 54.95 • £ 44.95

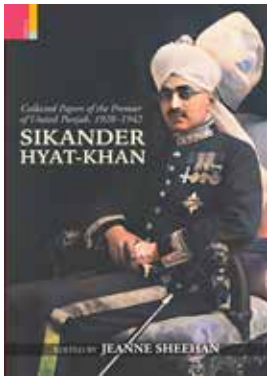
Readers, Rebels, Visionaries The Literary Sphere of Bhagat Singh and Sukhdev

Neeru Anand

Associate Professor of English at Dyal Singh Evening College, University of Delhi.

Readers, Rebels, Visionaries: The Literary Sphere of Bhagat Singh and Sukhdev explores how the revolutionary ideology in India evolved, sustained, and broadened itself through a reading of and a critical engagement with 'revolutionary' or 'protest literature'. Tracing the revolutionary movement and its impact on the Indian national movement in the early part of the twentieth century, this volume focuses on the 1920s, a period of intense intellectual ferment in India, when divergent viewpoints regarding Independence, its various aspects, and the ways to attain it were discussed and debated across the subcontinent.

Focusing on the literary works that two of India's foremost revolutionaries, Bhagat Singh (1907–31) and Sukhdev (1907–31), engaged with, this volume highlights those texts and their reading contexts as significant formative influences that moulded the consciousness and credo of these two revolutionary icons. Friends since childhood, the two were also voracious readers, fluent in many languages. Their readings included not merely political and philosophical tracts and books but also a great deal of fictional literature. It is this reading of imaginative literature and its significance in the freedom struggle of India that is explored in the present book.



ISBN: 978-93-6177-530-7
810 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹2500
• \$ 99.95 • £ 82.95

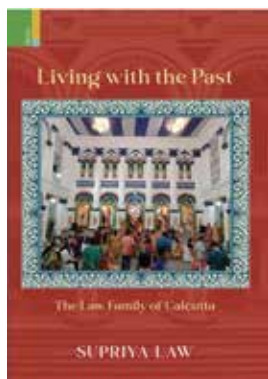
Sikander Hyat-Khan Collected Papers of the Premier of United Punjab, 1928–1942

edited by

Jeanne Sheehan

Professor of Political Science and International Studies at Iona University, a Bloomberg Politics contributor, Senior Democracy Fellow at the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress, and author.

Sikander Hyat-Khan: Collected Papers of the Premier of United Punjab, 1928–1942 presents a comprehensive examination of a pivotal figure in the history of unified Punjab. Hyat-Khan, whose tenure was cut short by his passing at the age of 50, served as a beacon of leadership in the years leading up to the Partition that would reshape the subcontinent. As Punjab's first democratically elected leader, Hyat-Khan championed intercommunal harmony, assembling a cabinet of diverse faiths, and spearheading significant reforms across agriculture, economy, law, education, and culture. He also made pivotal contributions, including drafting the Lahore Resolution (which later became the basis for Pakistan's Constitution), leading India in World War II, advocating for self-determination, and envisioning a unified postcolonial state. This first-ever collection of Hyat-Khan's writings, speeches, and tributes offers insight into his impact and the pivotal moments in South Asian history, celebrating a visionary leader's commitment to freedom and unity.



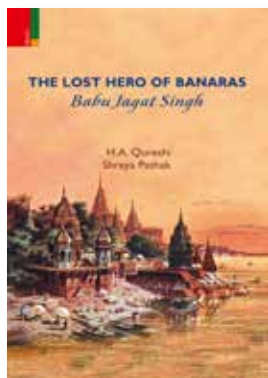
ISBN: 978-93-6177-909-1
378 pp. • HB • 2025 • ₹1995

Living with the Past The Law Family of Calcutta

Supriya Law

Currently pursuing her doctoral degree at the University of Calcutta.

Living with the Past provides an insider's view into the history of the Laws (an Anglicized derivative of the Bengali surname 'Laha'), a Subarnabanik mercantile family that rose to prominence in the commercial world of mid-nineteenth to early twentieth century Calcutta. This study delves into the mercantile origins of the family, examines the functioning of the family firm, Messrs Prawn Kissen Law & Co. (established in 1839), and explores the religious life of the Laws. Written by a member of the family, this book juxtaposes archival sources with oral narratives and memories to share unique insights into the family as well as the intricate workings of their various religious beliefs and rituals, especially their opulent Durga Puja celebrations, which continue to this day. Primarily focusing on four generations, starting with Prawn Kissen Law (1790–1853), the book traces the linkages of caste, commerce, and kinship that contributed to building the reputation of this *bonedi bari*.



ISBN: 978-93-5852-531-1
345 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1195
• \$44.95 • £39.95

The Lost Hero of Banaras Babu Jagat Singh

H.A. Qureshi

Joined the Geological Survey of India in 1965, from where he retired as a Gazetted Officer in 2005.

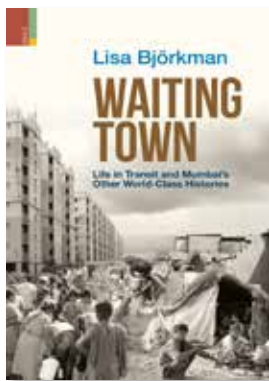
Shreya Pathak

Assistant Professor at Vasanta College for Women, Varanasi.

The Lost Hero of Banaras: Babu Jagat Singh examines the life and legacy of Babu Jagat Singh, a scion of the royal family of Banaras and an instrumental figure in Indian history during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries in India. Most historiographies of the period tend to think of 1857 as a watershed moment in India's struggle for independence. However, the present book—set during a period when the sovereignty of zamindars in north India was rapidly dwindling due to increasing colonial intervention—focuses on an armed anti-British struggle in Banaras in 1799, pioneered under the auspices of Jagat Singh.

'The monograph under review is a unique piece of research which perhaps could/would not have been initiated had it not been for the curiosity and burden of history that compelled Babu Pradeep Narayan Singh to undertake this thornridden enterprise of retrieving scattered sources, coordinating their compilation and fostering of history based on them.'

—DHRUB KUMAR SINGH is with the Department of History/FSS, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.



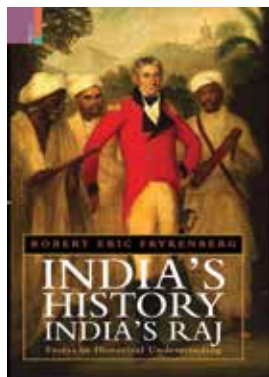
ISBN: 978-93-5852-019-4
172 pp. • HB • 2024 • ₹1595
*For sale only in South Asia.

Waiting Town Life in Transit and Mumbai's Other World-Class Histories*

Lisa Björkman

Currently a senior research associate at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Germany, and an Associate Professor of Urban Affairs at the University of Louisville in the United States.

Drawing on a decade of ethnographic research in the Indian city of Mumbai, *Waiting Town* is unconventional little book—experimental in form—about how we come to know the worlds about which we write. The narrative follows the author's fieldnotes diaries as they wend their way through a series of ethnographic puzzles that emerge in the wake of a high-profile mega-infrastructure project that became an internationally celebrated prototype and model. *Waiting Town* complicates this celebratory narrative by revealing the conflicting temporalities and procedural pretensions of 'world class' developmentalism. On one level, *Waiting Town* is a book about Mumbai—about housing schemes and scams, about 'duplicate' documents (and 'duplicate duplicates'), and about the material wreckage wrought by the city's 'world-class' ambitions. And at the same time, it has a larger story to tell about truth and falsehood, time and memory—and about the promises and pitfalls of knowledge production, interpretation and representation more generally.



ISBN: 978-93-91144-44-9
726 pp. • HB • 2023 • ₹1995
• \$84.95 • £ 72.95

India's History India's Raj Essays in Historical Understanding

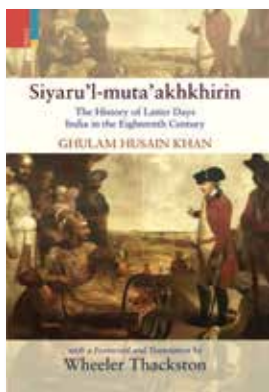
Robert Eric Frykenberg

Emeritus Professor of History and South Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

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.

'It is a testimony to the longevity and relevance of Frykenberg's work that such questions are still debated in the historiography of India. His scholarship does more than survive the tests of time. It presents a perspective that is worthy of engagement, especially for those who tend to ignore the role of Indians in turning the wheels of empire. More recently, writers such as William Dalrymple are drawing attention to the Indian financing of Company rule (Chettiars and Jagat Seths), the vast size of the Company's army (comprised mostly of Indians), and the important distinction between the Company's power and British power. These are observations Frykenberg has made over decades of scholarship, and they are elegantly presented in the articles of this impressive volume'.

—CHANDRA MALLAMPALLI, *International Journal of Asian Christianity*



ISBN: 978-93-5687-001-7
 1022pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹3195
 • \$125.95 • £ 104.95

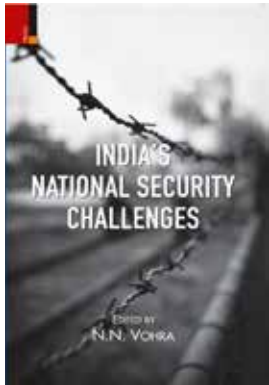
Siyaru'l-muta'akhhirin The History of Latter Days India in the Eighteenth Century

with a Foreword and Introduction by
 Wheeler Thackston

is a retired academic who taught Persian, Arabic, and other Near Eastern languages for forty years. He has translated Babur's memoirs, three Persian memoirs about Humayun, and Jahangir's memoirs. He has also edited and translated Abu'l-Fazl's Akbarnama and many other works.

Ghulam Husain Khan Tabataba'i's *Siyaru'l-muta'akhhirin* is divided into three unequal parts. The first part traces the history of the Mughal Empire from the death of Aurangzeb in 1707 to the latter part of Muhammad Shah's reign, around 1740. The second part focuses on the history of Bihar and Bengal from the death of the governor Shuja'uddaula in 1739 through the nizamate of Sirajuddaula, who was deposed, and died in 1757. The third part returns to the history of the empire at large, picking it up at 1740 and continuing to 1780. Since Ghulam Husain Khan spent almost his entire life in Bihar and Bengal and had family ties to many of the rulers, he was a first-hand witness to many of the events of which he writes. He was also acquainted with many of the British employees of the East India Company and has insightful observations on the rule (and misrule) of the Company and the part it played in the impoverishment of the region. Of particular interest are Ghulam Husain Khan's digressions on his own life. These rare glimpses into the personal lives of the author and those around him show how precarious one's position was in an age of shifting fortunes as the power and prestige of the Mughal Empire were diminished and lives and livelihoods could depend upon the whim of an autocratic local ruler.

Copious notes identifying persons and places as well as a glossary of non-English terms and genealogical and dynastic charts add to the value of the translation.



ISBN: 978-93-5852-037-8
124 pp. • HB • 2023 • ₹995
• \$34.95 • £29.95

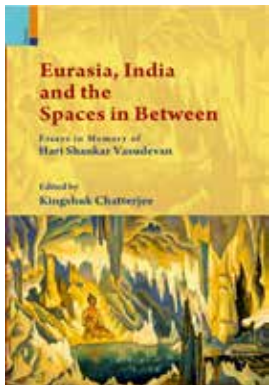
India's National Security Challenges*

edited by
N.N. Vohra

A Life Trustee (and past President) of the India International Centre, Delhi, is a recipient of the Padma Vibhushan. During his service in the IAS (1959–94) he held various important positions in the Government of India, including as Defence and Home Secretary and after retirement, as Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister.

The Constitution of India provides that it shall be the duty of the Union to protect the states against internal disturbance and external aggression, and the states shall be responsible for maintaining police forces and securing public order. A large country, with nearly 23,000 km. of land and sea borders, India faces a host of internal, external, and varied other serious security challenges. The contributors to this volume, almost all of whom are respected veterans of our three Defence Services have, on the basis of their long experiences, highlighted their concerns and pointed to the way forward.

*This book is also relevant for Political Science and International Relations.



ISBN: 978-93-5852-868-6
462 pp. • HB • 2023 • ₹1695
• \$64.95 • £54.95

Eurasia, India and the Spaces in Between Essays in Memory of Hari Shankar Vasudevan

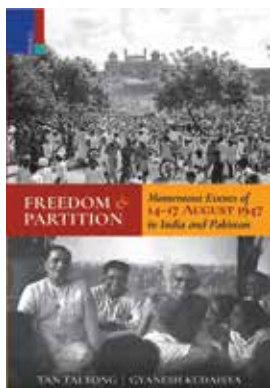
edited by
Kingshuk Chatterjee

Professor in the Department of History, Calcutta University, and was associated with the Institute of Foreign Policy Studies, Kolkata.

Hari Shankar Vasudevan (1952-2020) had an interest and engagement with history writings that belied the constraints of time and space. *Eurasia, India and the Spaces in Between*, is dedicated to his memory with contributions from his colleagues and friends from across the world, engages with a range of issues to give a sense of the diversity of interests that Vasudevan used to nurture. While *prima facie* they might appear to be on disparate subjects, each of the essays contribute to the understanding of different aspects of life in the Eurasian region in early modern and modern times, with particular emphasis on Russia, Central Asia and South Asia.

‘Some essays in the volume are deeply insightful pieces of research but there are some that are either descriptive or sketchy in their presentation, sometimes involving extended detours from the concerns of the paper.’

—MANU V. DEVADEVAN, Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi.



ISBN: 978-93-5687-068-0
 222 pp. • PB • 2023 • ₹495
 • \$19.95 • £15.95

Freedom and Partition Momentous Events of 14–17 August 1947 in India and Pakistan

Tan Tai Yong

President of Singapore University of Social Sciences.

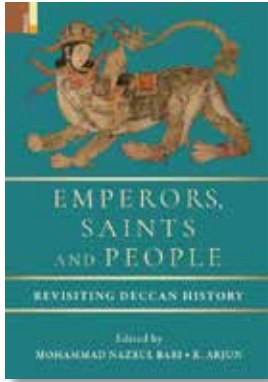
Gyanesh Kudaisya

Associate Professor in South Asian Studies and Visiting Associate Research Professor at the Institute of South Asian Studies (NUS).

Freedom and Partition offers a reconstruction of four momentous days which shaped the lives of millions of people in the Indian subcontinent: 14–17 August 1947. Based on primary archival material, newspaper reports, oral histories and private papers of leaders, it looks at how the outgoing British officials worked with the leaders of the Congress and the Muslim League to plan the ceremonies that would mark the birth of India and Pakistan. In doing so, this book offers a ringside view of events in New Delhi and Karachi. Moving away from official ceremonies, *Freedom and Partition* uses a ‘slice of life’ approach to see how ordinary people in cities and towns looked at the approaching moment, capturing the sense of trepidation and insecurity felt by minority communities in Bengal, Punjab, Sindh and across much of north India. This volume provides vignettes of Gandhi’s peace mission for the safety and security of the minorities in Calcutta and recounts how the euphoria of freedom came to be overshadowed by the Radcliffe Award of 17 August 1947. Finally, it examines how popular meanings and memories of 14–15 August 1947 have changed over the decades, as shown by shifts in narratives which have marked the 25th, 50th and the 75th anniversaries of Independence and Partition.

‘By focusing primarily on the developments which occurred between August 14-17, 1947, Yong and Kudaisya have provided a fresh perspective to the study of a critical period in the history of modern India. The language, which is jargon-free and popular in tone, will help the book to attract readers from beyond the small circle of subject specialists. Moreover, the rare photographs, especially those from the archival collections in Pakistan, add richness to many of the arguments.’

—AMOL SAGHAR, *The Book Review*



ISBN: 978-93-5572-123-5
390 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹ 1695
• \$59.95 • £52.95

Emperors, Saints and People Revisiting Deccan History*

edited by

Mohammad Nazrul Bari

Associate Professor in the Department of History, Centre of Advanced Study, Aligarh Muslim University and specializes in ancient history and archaeology.

R. Arjun

Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Archaeology, Central University of Karnataka.

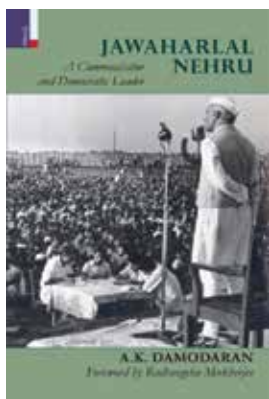
The Deccan Plateau has diverse ecological formations that have shaped human ecology, politics, philosophies, trade and urbanization. With thirteen meticulously researched contributions, *Emperors, Saints and People: Revisiting Deccan History* tells the story of the region from the earliest remains of hominins in and around the Bhīma and Krishna rivers of prehistoric times to the paintings of gender-based marginalized sections in the Nizam's Dominion of the twentieth century. The contributions explore archaeological and historical remains and examine rulers and their administrative reforms, art and architectural influences, Sufi saints and their contributions to the flowering of Indo-Persianate traditions. The volume also investigates the lives of common people—an aspect that has consistently been considered peripheral to the historical reconstruction of the region. *Emperors, Saints and People* highlights the interwoven fabric of the Deccan through all these facets, delineating continuities and transformation through the ages.

Malini Adiga • R. Arjun • Mohammad Nazrul Bari • B. Lavanya • Jigar Mohammed • Danish Moin • Sara Mondini • M.A. Nayeem • K. Paddayya • Rekha Pande • Kanti Kumar Pawar • R. Rajasekhara • Bhairabi Prasad Sahu • Bina Sengar • Mohammed Suleman Siddiqi

'The main contribution of the book, however, is that it has brought the Deccan to limelight again—a region that needs to be still deeply and expansively studied beyond the rigid boundaries of defining historical regions by their political configurations. In our endeavour to critique the first writings on the Deccan, we need to interrogate ourselves to gauge to what extent we have made the lives of ordinary people and their sustenance the basis of our studies. Being the land between the north Indian plains and the southern extremity of the Indian Peninsula, it is difficult to give it firm, stable historical boundaries especially since over time, rulers, peoples, religious and cultural ideas travelled with ease across the region.'

ALOKA PARASHER SEN, formerly at University of Hyderabad

*This book is also relevant for Medieval History.



Jawaharlal Nehru A Communicator and Democratic Leader

A.K. Damodaran

(1921–2012) studied at the universities of Madras and Lucknow.

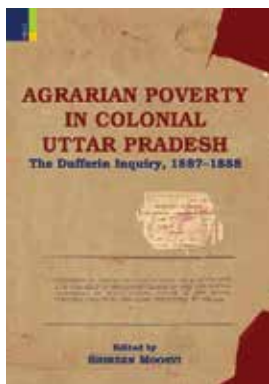
Foreword by Rudrangshu Mukherjee

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.

ISBN: 978-93-5572-523-3

398 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹ 1450

• \$ 59.95 • £ 49.95



Agrarian Poverty in Colonial Uttar Pradesh The Dufferin Inquiry, 1887–1888

edited by

Shireen Moosvi

Former Professor of History at Aligarh Muslim University.

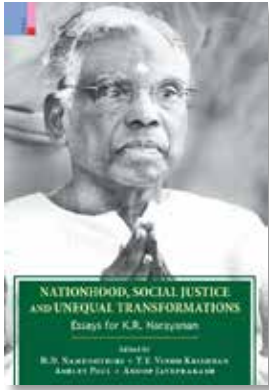
It is seldom recognized that Indian nationalism had its beginnings in the belief that India was being increasingly impoverished under British rule. To contest claims about the growing poverty in India, Viceroy Lord Dufferin, in August 1887, decided to institute an inquiry to establish whether 'the greater population of India suffer from a daily insufficiency of food'. But, in effect, the inquiry as organized by the provincial governments and conducted by the district 'Collectors', extended to all material and social aspects of the lives of the rural poor in India.

The printed volumes of the inquiry were not made available to the public. *Agrarian Poverty in Colonial Uttar Pradesh: The Dufferin Inquiry, 1887–1888* thus brings to the reading public what has practically been a closed book till now. The text of the inquiry conducted in Uttar Pradesh (then known as 'North-Western Provinces and Oudh') is here preceded by a detailed Introduction providing a critical analysis about the material conditions and social customs of the poor, labourers, artisans, landlords, moneylenders and women, as well as an examination of the quality and substance of the reports.

ISBN: 978-93-5687-000-0

374 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹ 1750

• \$ 64.95 • £ 56.95



ISBN: 978-93-5572-450-2
950 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1695
• \$56.95 • £49.95

Nationhood, Social Justice and Unequal Transformations Essays for K.R. Narayanan

edited by

D.D. Nampoothiri

Executive Director of the Centre for Research and Education for Social Transformation (CREST), Calicut.

T.Y. Vinod Krishnan

Associate Programme Coordinator at CREST, Calicut.

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Associate Programme Coordinator, CREST, Calicut.

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Course Coordinator, CREST, Calicut.

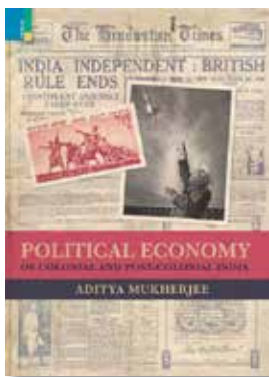
Nationhood, Social Justice and Unequal Transformations: Essays for K.R. Narayanan is a commemorative volume consisting of lectures delivered at the Centre for Research and Education for Social Transformation, Kozhikode during the past fifteen years on varied themes that reflect the democratic and secular values cherished by K.R. Narayanan.

Shri K.R. Narayanan, the late President of India, was a statesman of eminence whose remarkable achievements straddled the multiple realms of diplomacy, administration, institution-building, and scholarship. His rise from growing up as a Dalit boy from Travancore to becoming the President of India is a saga of courage, resistance, self-belief, and an unending passion for learning.

This dedicatory volume explores topics ranging from nation-building to independent India's socio-economic, political, educational, and cultural transformations. The essays herein copiously draw from Narayanan's insights into the making of a humanist and secular India and highlight issues relating to caste, gender, religion as well as the triumphs and pitfalls that characterize the nation's frenetic journey after Independence. Presenting a unique overview of India as an evolving democracy, this book provides critical insights into the intertwined nature of the democracy and the worldview of its citizens.

'The edited book under review is a commemorative volume comprising a series of lectures delivered at the Centre for Research and Education for Social Transformation, Kozhikode (Kerala). This volume is a reflection upon the idea of a democratic, secular and inclusive India which KR Narayanan cherished. His rise as a Dalit boy from Travancore to India's presidency embodied these values. Narayanan became the President of the Indian Republic in 1997, the golden jubilee year of India's Independence.'

—ARVIND KUMAR, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi



ISBN: 978-93-5572-180-8
 592 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1950
 • \$84.95 • £74.95

Political Economy of Colonial and Post-Colonial India

Aditya Mukherjee

Former Professor of Contemporary Indian History at Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Political Economy of Colonial and Post-Colonial India analyses critical aspects of the political economy of the colonial and the post-colonial period and focuses on the debates on the transition from one to the other. The volume discusses the Great Divergence, where Britain's shooting forward was predicated upon the devastation of the colonial economy, and instruments used for achieving the subjugation of the Indian economy, such as British monetary policy and particularly the Reserve Bank of India.

A major contribution of the book is to study the politics of the two basic contending classes—the capitalist class and the working class as represented by the Left. It is this that determined which class perspective exercised ideological hegemony or influence over the national movement and, consequently, over the post-colonial Indian state.

An examination of the Indian national movement's 'idea of India', implemented by the post-colonial Indian state led by Jawaharlal Nehru forms a core theme of the book. It also discusses Indira Gandhi's shaping of the Indian economy, taking the Nehruvian path to its logical conclusion and then initiating the shift to economic reform. Finally, it discusses at length the growing challenge of perhaps the longest lasting legacy of colonialism—religious communalism—which threatens India's integrity today.

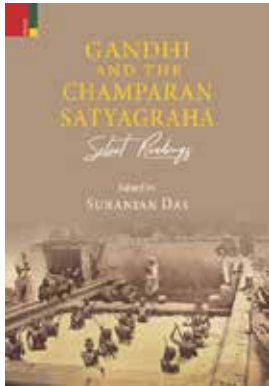
'It's hard to overstate the importance of this book. It embodies a lifetime of scholarship and political commitment, and the early essays repay the same attention as more recent ones. Each essay can be savored separately but together they represent a substantial and significant achievement that is a distinctive and vital contribution to global history and the reconsideration of social science.'

—GURMINDER K. BHAMBRA

London School of Economics and Political Science

'Prof. Mukherjee has done a great service by giving us his life's work in a fine compendium. What makes the book even more important is the timing of its publication. Indians would fare far better and have more arrows in their argumentative quiver against the rising tide of communal fascism if they picked up this book as soon as it hit the stores.'

—SHUBHAM SHARMA, *Newslick*



ISBN: 978-93-5572-410-6
880 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1995
• \$99.95 • £74.95

Gandhi and the Champaran Satyagraha Select Readings*

edited by
Suranjan Das

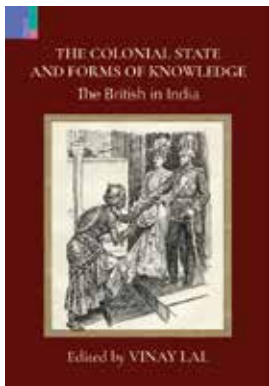
Vice-Chancellor, Jadavpur University and Honorary Director, Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata.

This volume looks back at the Champaran Satyagraha of 1917 through contemporary accounts and scholarly reflections. Organized into five parts, the collection contains passages from Gandhi's own recollection of the Satyagraha; excerpts from the accounts of participants such as Rajendra Prasad and J.B. Kripalani; statements of indigo ryots; selections from official documents; and extracts from the works of historians and academics. *Gandhi and the Champaran Satyagraha: Select Readings* provides readers with an idea of how the first Gandhian mass political intervention in India has been recreated, contextualized, and assessed in writings, and captured through some archival visuals.

'Gandhi once declared: 'It was Bihar that made me known to the whole of India. No one knew me earlier. I had almost become a Negro after staying in Africa for twenty long years. ...Then I came to Champaran, and the entire country woke up'. The present volume is perhaps the testimony to this fact.'

—JAWAID ALAM, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

*This book is also relevant for Political Science and International Relations



ISBN : 978-93-5572-164-8
302 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1450
• \$59.95 • £52.95

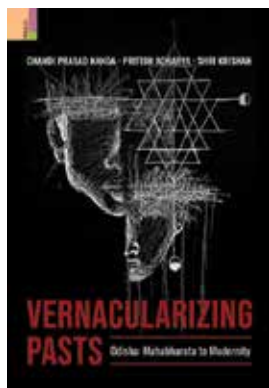
The Colonial State and Forms of Knowledge The British in India

edited by
Vinay Lal

Professor of History and Asian American Studies at University of California, Los Angeles.

Colonialism is generally understood to encompass political domination, military expansion, and economic exploitation, but the British, in their nearly two centuries of rule over India, also achieved a thoroughgoing conquest of knowledge. In the backdrop of the Enlightenment impulse, which held that everything can be known, mapped, counted, categorized, and bounded, and the knowledge thus acquired reshaped into useable forms, the British in India created an epistemological state. *The Colonial State and Forms of Knowledge: The British in India* examines the fields and bodies of knowledge through which this state was created.

The colonial state not only produced historical, linguistic, religious, and purportedly scientific accounts of 'the people of India', but also founded organizations such as the Linguistic Survey of India and the Anthropological Survey of India, besides deploying such forms of institutionalizing knowledge as the 'report of the committee of inquiry' in their quest to know and govern India. The discursive formation that the British put into place as they brought India under their control, and instances of their more precise interventions in history, geography, cartography, anthropology, lexicography, and veterinary science, among other areas of knowledge, are delineated in this volume.



ISBN: 978-93-5572-555-4
 502 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1850
 • \$69.95 • £59.95

Vernacularizing Pasts Odisha: Mahabharata To 'Modernity'

Chandi Prasad Nanda

Professor at the School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, National Railway Transportation Institute (NRTI), Vadodara, Gujarat.

Pritish Acharya

Professor of History at the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)

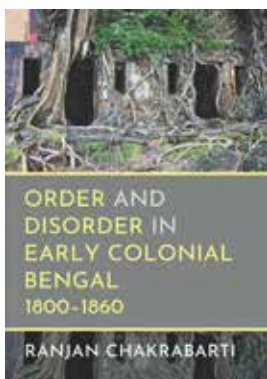
Shri Krishan

Retired Professor of History from Indira Gandhi University, Rewari.

Examining questions of vernacularity and marginality, *Vernacularizing Pasts* explores critical concerns underlying history, time-space, modernity, and their associated discourses about Odisha. This work interrogates the idea of historicism in analytic history (History 1), whose rigid disciplinary practices stand delimited by explorations in alternative histories.

Drawing on the conceptual resources of 'History 2'—alternative history of subaltern pasts and historical temporality—the first two sections of the volume trace the trajectory of the *deshi* in terms of a 'new aesthetic of Place'. This conception of the local as produced by vernacular literary traditions of Odisha interweaves the socio-textual orientations of its community with the aesthetics of its geo-cultural region.

The problematization of the region and its identity as dependent on ideas and culture are further bolstered in the next two sections. Focusing on the complexities involved in evaluating cultural phenomena morally, epistemically, and aesthetically, these sections scrutinize the nuances of the underlying questions of region, identity and marginality. Illustrating the history of ideas of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, this book brings into focus the hitherto-unexplored literary and political figures of Odisha which ushered in a regional cultural transformation within the broader nationalist movement.



ISBN: 978-93-5572-332-1
256 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹995
• \$44.95 • £34.95

Order and Disorder in Early Colonial Bengal, 1800–1860

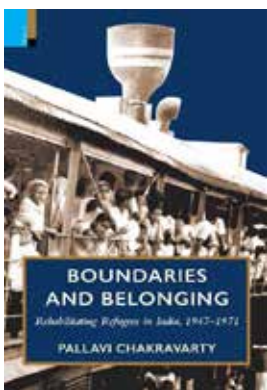
Ranjan Chakrabarti

Professor of History at Jadavpur University and former Vice-Chancellor of Vidyasagar University, West Bengal.

This book is a historical study of order and disorder in early colonial Bengal. It focuses on the encounter of social restlessness, crime, and violence, on the one hand, and the colonial state's attempt to control these, on the other. Exploring these themes through unique descriptions of the numerous instruments of control and myriad breaches of law, *Order and Disorder in Early Colonial Bengal, 1800–1860* investigates the mechanism of social control with reference to contemporary British administrative policies and the ideological background and colonial perceptions of law and justice. It also concentrates on the various social disorders faced by the colonial state at times when the society was relatively free from insurrectionary disturbances. It gives a detailed account of apparently less significant rural violence, dacoity, and rural riots in particular—which kept the local authorities on their toes—in the light of popular attitudes, prejudices, and perceptions of law and order vis-à-vis the colonial one.

‘...this book looks at crime and disorder in the Bengal countryside in the context of multiple factors, and gives a very good survey of the colonial state's inability to fully control or discipline the periphery, and the reasons and networks that are behind their inability.’

—SUDIPTO BASU, St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, Delhi



ISBN: 978-93-5572-225-6
428 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1650
• \$64.95 • £56.95

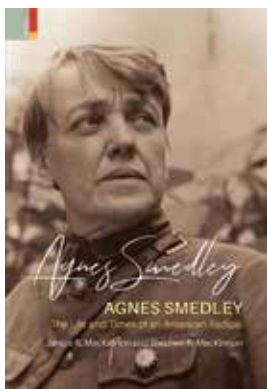
Boundaries and Belonging Rehabilitating Refugees in India, 1947–1971*

Pallavi Chakravarty

Assistant Professor of History at the School of Liberal Studies, Ambedkar University, Delhi.

Boundaries and Belonging: Rehabilitating Refugees in India, 1947–1971 documents and analyses the efforts of the Indian State to rehabilitate the refugees migrating to India after the tragic partitioning of the subcontinent. While Partition and borders decided the physical contours of India and Pakistan, the rehabilitation programme in both countries was more than just an administrative task as it decided the crucial issue of being citizens of the State. Comparing the treatment and policies for refugees from West and East Pakistan, this book investigates the priorities of the nascent nation-state in determining its constituents. With special focus on two major refugee cities in post-Partition India—Delhi and Kolkata—this work examines how far State-defined stereotypes hold true compared to the efforts of the refugees along both borders in rebuilding their lives.

*This book is also relevant for Political Science and International Relations



ISBN: 978-93-91144-31-9
 504 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1795
 • \$79.95 • £69.95

Agnes Smedley The Life and Times of an American Radical

Stephen R. MacKinnon

Emeritus Professor of History and former Director of the Center for Asian Studies at Arizona State University.

Janice R. MacKinnon

(1943–99) was a poet and businesswoman who sold antique Chinese furniture.

Agnes Smedley's (1894–1950) career as an activist journalist began in the 1910s and 1920s, with a commitment to the Indian Independence movement. Her anti-imperialism was based on the Jeffersonian tradition of the American Revolution. In New York, she was close to the Lion of the Punjab, Lala Lajpat Rai, writing for his publications until his death. In California, she was involved with the Sikh-led Ghadar party of insurrectionists. Her complicated relationship with the European movement leader Virendranath Chattopadhyaya in Berlin in the 1920s is better known. Smedley left Europe for China in 1929 in an effort to reach India through the backdoor. Once in China, she was struck by the poverty and oppression of ordinary people. Her new cause, in addition to anti-imperialism, became the Chinese peasant. For the next two decades she documented their plight in countless publications (including in the Indian press). Herself the product of rural poverty, she identified like few Westerners did with the plight of peasants, Chinese or Indian, and wrote biographies of Chinese peasant leaders such as Zhu De.

Today, inside and outside of Asia, Smedley is recognized as a feminist icon and one of the most important chroniclers of the Chinese Revolution. Her story is told here for the first time in an Indian edition, including her deep involvement with the Indian independence movement much before Gandhi appeared on the scene.

'The authors skilfully blend a thorough grasp of the first half of the century with a sensitive use of psycho-biographical technique.'

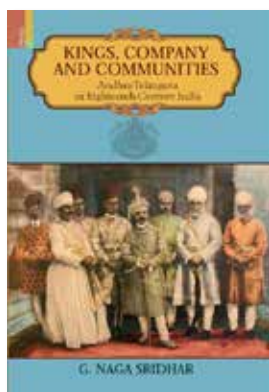
—GADDIS SMITH (YALE), *Foreign Affairs*

'A first-rate biography – rich in detail, lucid in expression and judicious in interpretation.'

—JOHN PATRICK DIGGINS, *New York Times Book Review*

'[A] fascinating biography... Smedley remains one of the extraordinary women of the century.'

—JONATHAN MIRSKY, *London Independent*



Kings, Company and Communities Andhra-Telangana in Eighteenth-Century India

G. Naga Sridhar

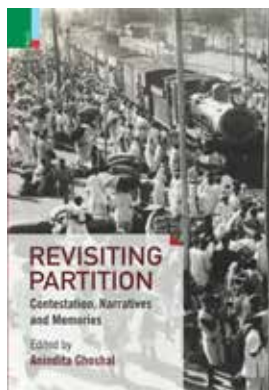
Financial journalist and a passionate researcher and teacher of history.

Kings, Company and Communities: Andhra-Telangana in Eighteenth-Century India is the first book of its kind as it analyses the social, economic, and political formations of the Andhra-Telangana region at a crucial juncture where they were put to the test by the manifestations of colonial rule. Capturing the vibrancy of the regional economy and the process of 'rurbanization', Sridhar investigates the manner in which local potentates negotiated with captains of colonialism and their native agents. As the region also witnessed the reassertion of caste identities during this period, this book maps the changes in varna perceptions with the aid of previously unexplored sources.

ISBN: 978-93-5572-393-2

126 pp. • HB • 2022 • ₹995

• \$ 34.95 • £ 29.95



Revisiting Partition Contestations, Narratives and Memories

edited by

Anindita Ghoshal

Associate Professor of History at Diamond Harbour Women's University, Kolkata.

The effects of Partition were felt not only in specific regions but all across the country. Moving away from state-specific analyses of the fractured reconfiguration of the Indian subcontinent, *Revisiting Partition: Contestation, Narratives and Memories* delves into the connected nature of the developments and their lingering deep impact. Divided into five sub-themes, this book weaves in the narratives from the geographic areas of West Bengal, Pakistan and Bangladesh as well as the less studied, but equally significant, north-east India. The contributions identify the stages of Partition and investigate the accompanying complexities that transformed the migration of refugees into a prolonged affair. Combining authentic glimpses into the national, provincial, regional and local undercurrents this collection touches upon the everyday life experiences and the continuing influence of the Partition on generations of Partition victims.

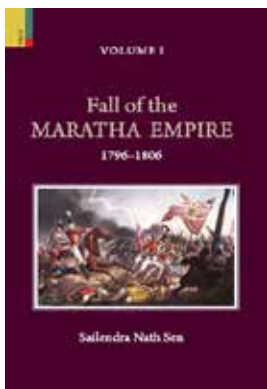
'This important volume is concerned with the "Long Partition" on the Eastern side and explores the varied processes, events, mobilizations, and memories.'

—SHASHI BHUSHAN UPADHYAY, Indira Gandhi Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi

ISBN: 978-93-5572-147-1

402 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1450

• \$64.95 • £49.95



Fall of the Maratha Empire, Volume I (1796–1806)

Sailendra Nath Sen
Former Professor of History, University of Calcutta

Fall of the Maratha Empire, Volume I (1796–1806) documents that significant transitional epoch in modern Indian history when the Marathas lost their hegemony in India and Peshwa Bajirao II became a subservient tool of British imperialism by concluding the Treaty of Bassain in 1802. The two resourceful Maratha chiefs Shinde and Bhonsle, fought against the British in the Second Anglo-Maratha War while Holkar remained quiescent. Shinde and Bhonsle were, however, defeated by the brilliant and meticulous planning of Governor-General Lord Wellesley and the British Generals. The vast amount of material available at the National Archives of India, New Delhi; the Secretariat Record Office, Bombay; and the British Library, London, along with the published documents contained in the several volumes of the Poona Residency Correspondence and the Wellesley papers in Montgomery Martin’s volumes, have been fully utilized to reconstruct the fascinating story of the fall of the Marathas in this volume.

ISBN: 978-93-90633-18-0
644 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1695
• \$84.95 • £64.95

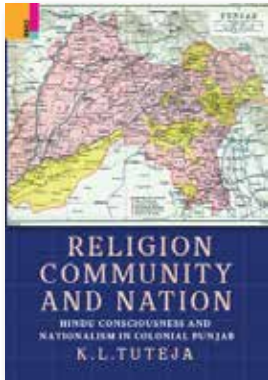


Fall of the Maratha Empire, Volume II (1807–1818)

Sailendra Nath Sen
Former Professor of History, University of Calcutta

The course of Maratha history in its last phase is marked by contingencies, some of greater import than others. Against the weakening authority of Peshwa Bajirao II and Shinde, Holkar and Bhonsle stands the rising power of Hastings. *Fall of the Maratha Empire, Volume II (1807–1818)* documents the history of the Marathas and their subsequent decline during the period 1807–18, when the Peshwa was reduced to spending his days at Bithur near Kanpur as a pensioner of the British. The Pindari hordes that deluged the major part of India were exterminated by Lord Hastings followed by the consolidation of British hegemony over the Marathas, spearheaded by Elphinstone.

ISBN: 978-93-90633-77-7
585 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1595
• \$74.95 • £59.95



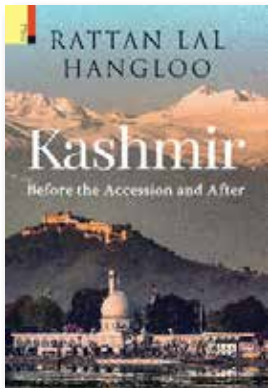
ISBN: 978-93-90737-85-7
386 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1350
\$64.95 • £54.95

Religion, Community and Nation Hindu Consciousness and Nationalism in Colonial Punjab

K.L. Tuteja

Former Professor, Modern Indian History, Kurukshetra University

Religion, Community and Nation: Hindu Consciousness and Nationalism in Colonial Punjab examines the emergence and growth of a Hindu communitarian identity in Punjab and its interface with the nationalist discourse and the anti-colonial struggle from the late nineteenth century to the closing years of the 1920s. An attempt has been made to understand and explain how different sections of the new Hindu elite, having developed a distinct communitarian identity, negotiated with the ideology of inclusive nationalism and the anti-imperialist struggle represented by the Congress. However, the Hindu consciousness that emerged and evolved in colonial Punjab was far from monolithic and represented divergent perceptions. One of the trends that dominated the Hindu discourse and polity, described in this study as the 'nationalist-communitarian' perspective, was led by Lala Lajpat Rai. This volume also takes a fresh look at the position of Lala Lajpat Rai in the context of the shifts taking place in Hindu identity politics as well as in the nationalist movement.



ISBN: 978-93-91144-70-8
282 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1295
\$54.95 • £42.95

Kashmir Before the Accession and After*

Rattan Lal Hangloo

Honorary Chancellor, Nobel International University, Toronto, Canada

The region and people of Kashmir have been at the centre of processes that transformed South Asia after the two World Wars and the collapse of colonialism. *Kashmir: Before the Accession and After* examines the hitherto-neglected areas of life in Kashmir; its continually fraught relationship with the central government of India and the role of international politics, which resulted in the inception and perpetuation of the crisis in the region. Spanning the decades from the end of the rule of the Dogras and Sheikh Abdullah's contentious relations with the national leadership in Delhi to the current abrogation of Article 370, this book investigates the historical trajectory and modern identity politics at the core of the Kashmir problem. Invoked by the local elite and other participants through political and social struggles, this situation has shaped the everyday life of Kashmiris, offering tools for highlighting pre-existing homogeneities and differences in order to construct specific versions of such identities on religious and regional bases.

*This book is also relevant for Political Science and International Relations

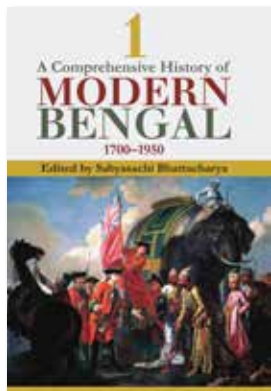
A Comprehensive History of Modern Bengal, 1700–1950 (Volumes I–III)

Editor: Sabyasachi Bhattacharya

Sabyasachi Bhattacharya was Professor of Indian Economic History at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and the Vice Chancellor of Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan. He was also Chairman, Indian Council of Historical Research, and Founder President, Association of Indian Labour Historians. In 2017 the Indian History Congress felicitated him with its highest honour for his contribution to the writing of the history of Bengal. Some of his notable publications are *Archiving the British Raj, 1858–1947* (2019); *The Colonial State: Theory and Practice* (2016); *The Defining Moments in Bengal 1920–1947* (2014); and *The Financial Foundations of the British Raj: Ideas and Interests in the Reconstruction of Indian Public Finance 1858–1872* (1971, revd edn 2005). The prestigious Rabindra Puraskar was conferred upon him in 2011 by the Government of West Bengal.

The historical framework of *A Comprehensive History of Modern Bengal, 1700–1950* deals with three thematically distinct periods—the decline and fall of the Nawabi regime in Bengal and the remaking of the polity of Bengal in volume I (1700–93); the reawakening of Bengal in volume II (1793–1905); and the freedom struggle against the British Raj in volume III (1905–50). However, these three volumes are structured such that they allow for overlappings in the periods covered, going back and forth in time: themes and narratives often move seamlessly from one volume to the other, retaining their coherence and inter-connectedness.

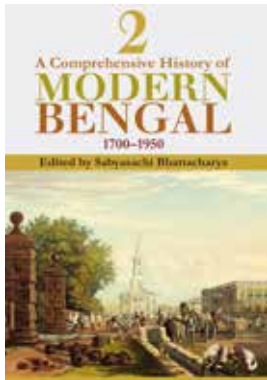
Series ISBN: 978-93-89901-95-5 • 3048 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹7000
Sold as a set in an attractive slipcase



Volume I of this series of three books begins with a close study of the events at the start of the eighteenth century, and covers ground up to the year 1793 when the Permanent Zamindari Settlement in Bengal marked the closure to a contentious issue after much experimentation. The essays in this volume deal with a variety of themes like political history and warfare; activities of the various European companies; maritime economy; internal trade and markets; demography and environment; growth of Calcutta; zamindars; urbanization and de-urbanization; banking and credit; art and artists; social banditry; and Islam and the Muslim literati. Some of these essays attempt to cross the accepted patterns of periodization and the themes they deal with are relooked at in the volumes that follow.

CONTRIBUTORS

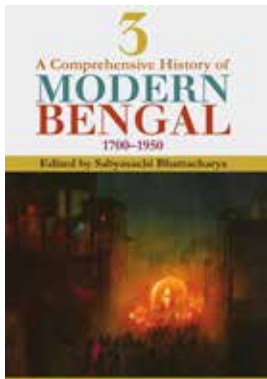
Arun Bandopadhyay • Ranjan Chakrabarti • Ratnabali Chatterjee • Sushil Chaudhury • Asok Kumar Das • Richard M. Eaton • Syed Ejaz Hussain • John R. Mclane • Rila Mukherjee • Abhik R. Ray • Aniruddha Ray • Kaushik Roy • Ranjit Sen • Sudipta Sen • Soumitra Sreemani



Volume II of this three-volume series begins with the Bengal Renaissance, with essays on Rammohan Roy, the Derozians, the Tagores, Vidyasagar, and religious thought and social reform in nineteenth-century Bengal. The volume is rich in the depiction of the social and cultural history of Bengal, with essays on Calcutta as a commercial metropolis; the middle-class intelligentsia; castes in Bengal; popular culture; Bengali language and literature; and the growth of journalism and public opinion, besides chapters on industrial economy, peasant economy, and banking and credit. The idea of legal modernity; the Sundarbans; medicine and public health; the ramifications of the 1857 Revolt in Bengal; and Bengali Muslims and their literature have also been touched upon. The issues raised in the essay on gender in this volume continue to be further discussed in the next volume.

CONTRIBUTORS

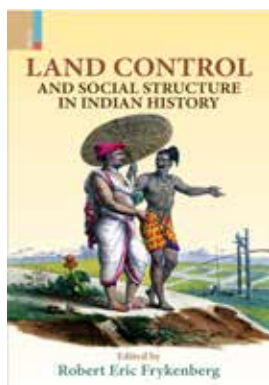
Amiya Kumar Bagchi • Arun Bandopadhyay • Sumanta Banerjee • Bishnupriya Basak • Swapan Basu • Nandini Bhattacharyya-Panda • Ranjan Chakrabarti • Gorky Chakraborty • Subhas Ranjan Chakraborty • Rosinka Chaudhuri • Ajit Kumar Danda • Amit Dey • Saswata Ghosh • Brian A. Hatcher • Sujata Mukherjee • Nariaki Nakazato • Abhik R. Ray • Prasanta Ray • Bruce Carlisle Robertson • Mahua Sarkar • Pabitra Sarkar • Tanika Sarkar • Amiya Prosad Sen • Kaustubh Mani Sengupta



The third and last volume in this series begins with the Partition of Bengal in 1905 and the main theme dealt with is the anti-imperialist struggle, with a focus on nationalist and communalist politics between 1905 and 1947. The Swadeshi era; civil society and politics in Bengal and its nationalist trajectory; the Muslim League; and Bengal's communal challenge during 1940–47 are some of the other issues discussed. It delves into social questions, the adivasi quest for a new culture; caste and politics in Bengal; the rise of a middle-class intelligentsia; the evolution of a Muslim literati; and the story of the Hindi-speaking people in Calcutta. Three essays explore the position of women in Bengal, touching on their marginalization. Related themes, within the broad structure of the volumes, which deal with the industrial labour movement; science in modern Bengal; Bengali literature and its links with nationalism and communism; the Calcutta Police; Bengali theatre songs; and late colonial art are also discussed.

CONTRIBUTORS

Sonia Nishat Amin • Devajit Bandyopadhyay • Sekhar Bandyopadhyay • Nirban Basu • Rajsekhar Basu • Ranjit Kumar Bhattacharya • Amit Bhattacharyya • Bidyut Chakraborty • Binay Bhushan Chaudhuri • Suranjan Das • Deepak Kumar • R. Siva Kumar • Tazeen M. Murshid • Chitta Panda • Hitendra K. Patel • Bipasha Raha • Harun-Or-Rashid • Rajat Kanta Ray • Prasanta Ray • Anuradha Roy • Sumit Sarkar • Samita Sen • Aparajita Sengupta



ISBN: 978-93-90232-00-0
 280 pp. • 2020 • PB • ₹300
 • \$15.95 • £12.95

Land Control and Social Structure in Indian History (Second Edition)

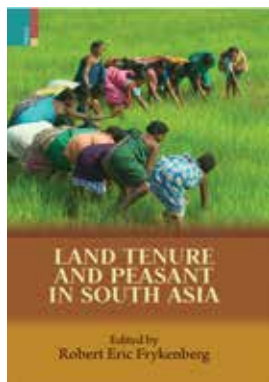
edited by

Robert E. Frykenberg

Professor Emeritus, History and South Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

In this volume, whose first edition won wide scholarly acclaim, nine distinguished Indian historians re-examine what is perhaps the central problem throughout India's history.

In a general introduction, Frykenberg points out some of the broader aspects of the relations between land control and social structure. This is followed by a theoretical examination of the meaning of the concept of 'land' in an Indian milieu. Also included are essays on more specific themes: the zamindars under the Mughals; the disruption of land-holding under the British; the fate of the 'dispossessed'; the transformation of local rajas into landlords in Oudh; the Permanent Settlement in operation in a Bengal District; the integration of agrarian life in south India; and the Ryotwari system in the Madras Presidency. Specially new in this edition is an essay about persistent historical tendencies leading to structural disintegration entitled 'Traditional Processes of Power in South India'.



ISBN: 978-93-89850-19-2
 400 pp. • 2020 • PB • ₹350

Land Tenure and Peasant in South Asia (Second Edition)

edited by

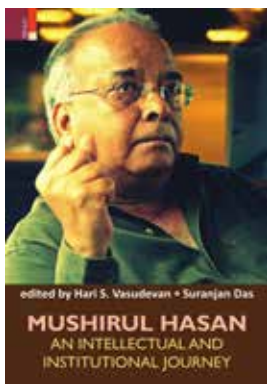
Robert E. Frykenberg

Professor Emeritus, History and South Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Nowhere on earth is the relationship between man and land more complicated and seemingly as intractable as in South Asia. India alone, with some 1.37 billion people, most of whom work the land for a living, has known famine and scarcity on a scale unknown elsewhere. This has mocked humanity, and the urged need to investigate causes and remedies.

Chapters in this volume look at issues of land, tenure, and peasant from a variety of different disciplines—history, anthropology, economics, geography, political science, sociology. Each is by a specialist who deals with intricate ways in which land and lord and labour have been combined and changed.

Abolishing poverty by economic development alone, without coming to grips with conflicts, can beg the question and end in futility. Contributors emphasize the fallacy of thinking that, with just a little more money, fertilizer or know-how, problems of land tenure and distribution can be resolved.



ISBN: 978-81-944287-7-0
206 pp. • 2020 • PB • ₹250
\$19.95

Mushirul Hasan An Intellectual and Institutional Journey

edited by

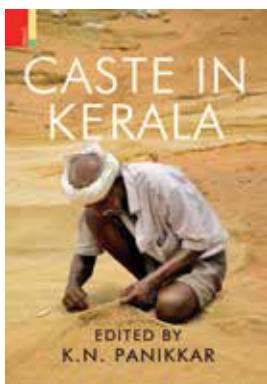
Hari S. Vasudevan

Former Professor of History, University of Kolkata, Kolkata.

Suranjan Das

Vice Chancellor, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

The volume is a tribute to the memory of Mushirul Hasan. It begins with Mushir's own recollections of his Aligarh years, his Presidential Address to the Modern India Section of the Indian History Congress on 'Partition Narratives' and his unpublished 2014 lecture on Jawaharlal Nehru. The collection then brings together essays by Francis Robinson, Farzana Sheikh, Mujibur Rehman, Ranjit Nair, Lakshmi Subramanian, Arif Ali, Martha C. Nussbaum and Manisha Sethi, on how Mushir shaped himself both as a leading historian and an ardent institution-builder of his time, as well as personal recollections of Mushir by Prabhat Patnaik, S. Irfan Habib, Suparna Gooptu and Jawid Laiq. The next part of the volume reprints the published tributes by Majid Siddiqi, Shahid Amin, Narayani Gupta, Ramachandra Guha, Amir Ali, Hasan Suroor, Seema Mustafa, Seema Chishti and Ziya us Salam. The collection has traced aspects of Mushir's personality, writing and achievement, adding nuance and depth to a public record.



ISBN: 978-93-90430-02-4
275 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹ 1395
• \$59.95 • £49.95

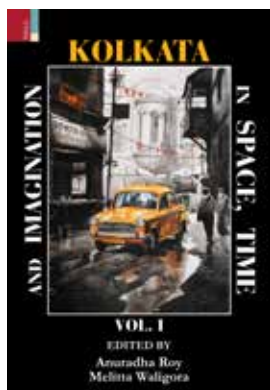
Caste in Kerala

edited by

K.N. Panikkar

Former Professor of Modern Indian History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India Founder Chairman, Kerala Council for Historical Research

The essays in this volume deal with caste reform movements in Kerala of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, which form the most significant development in the history of caste in modern times. The core of this book Caste in Kerala consists of four essays on cast reform movements among the Namputhiris, Nairs, Ezhavas and Dalits. They are prefaced by two essays which discuss the origin of the caste system in Kerala and the historical process of its fragmentation and proliferation. The closing essay throws light on the role caste plays in contemporary politics. Over time, most of the external attributes of caste system have been rendered irrelevant by the changes that have occurred in society with the decline of the feudal order and the subsequent movements for caste reform. Yet, caste has persisted. An analysis of the internal contradictions within these movement throws light on the enigma that caste continues to be.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-786-1
 358 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1250
 • \$ 42.95

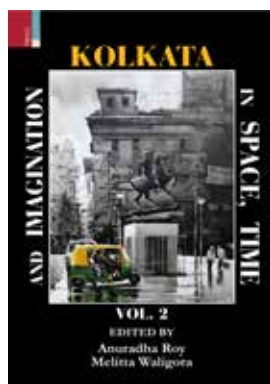
Kolkata in Space, Time, and Imagination, Vol. 1

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.



ISBN: 978-93-89850-85-7
 440 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1250
 • \$ 42.95

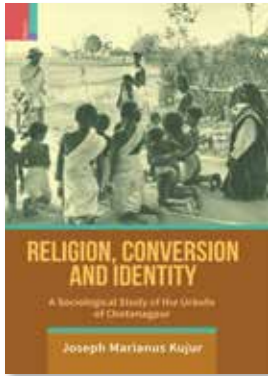
Kolkata in Space, Time, and Imagination, Vol. 2

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.

The second volume of *Kolkata in Space, Time, and Imagination* continues with the theme of the ordinary and the everyday, with special attention paid to the underclasses of the city, focusing on certain labouring sectors (including feminized ones) that have always been marginalized in the city's history and yet do assert their 'right to the city' even in this age of neoliberal economics that seems to be rapidly turning the city into a utopia for the middle-class.

This volume, moreover, deals with the efflorescence of creative imagination in the city's culturescape, focusing on certain literary and artistic genres. It also shows how, in a sense, the city itself is an imagined existence, albeit a pluralistic one, and how perceptions of the city's past and the conservation of its heritage are also largely determined by imagination. Just as the first volume highlights the politics of space and time, the present one makes a nuanced study of the politics of culture in the city.



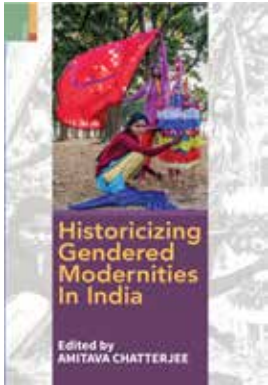
Religion, Conversion and Identity A Sociological Study of the Urāoñs of Chotanagpur*

Joseph Marianus Kujur
Provincial, Ranchi Jesuit Society, Ranchi, India

Set in the theoretical perspective of religious conversion in general, and that of tribal identity of Christians in particular, this volume brings out the complexities of the triangular relationship among tribal Christians, tribal Sarnās, and others. Based on historical records, some rare archival materials of the Church, oral traditions of the Urāoñ Adivasi community as well as fieldwork data, this book explores the dialectics between the old and the new. It presents insights derived from the processes of Indianization, indigenization and tribalization in the Church from the Second Vatican Council, and also addresses issues of ethnic and minority studies with a focus on identity formation and articulation. The book argues that the Urāoñ identity has evolved through the ages, that conversions are only side-effects of multiple factors resulting in the restructuring of identity, that in the fragmented relationship between Christians and Sarnā there are negotiations for convergence, that the Urāoñ Sarnā converts to Christianity are very much a Scheduled Tribe by virtue of being 'Urāoñs', and that calling the Urāoñ Sarnās 'Hindu' is self-contradictory.

*This book is also relevant for Sociology.

ISBN: 978-93-89676-19-8
344 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1295
• \$64.95 • £54.95



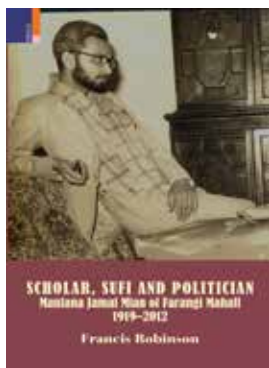
Historicizing Gendered Modernities in India*

edited by
Amitava Chatterjee
Professor of History, Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol, West Bengal.

This volume underscores how gender is central to our imagination and understanding of modernity. The essays in this volume unravel the complexities of modernity's relationship to femininity and the cultures of gender construction in India. The essays cover varied aspects of gender identities, including the private spheres of elite women who often expressed their freedom through their subversive, restricted sexuality; the debates regarding dress codes for women; the deplorable condition of girls after marriage and the concerns of social reformers; legislative battles to achieve the right to divorce; challenges to notions of sports as a masculine activity; the different meanings of modernity for women writers and poets; the implications of print cultures and cinema on women; gendered meanings of peace and partition; the ethics of care and responsibility; women's preferences, perceptions and practices; the politics of resistance; and questions of agency and autonomy within and outside the private domain.

*This book is also relevant for Women's and Gender Study.

ISBN: 978-93-89850-00-0
294 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1150
• \$ 54.95 • £ 44.95



ISBN: 978-93-90022-51-9
350 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1095

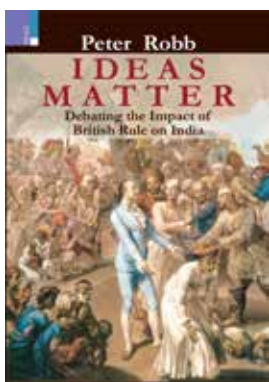
Scholar, Sufi and Politician Maulana Jamal Mian of Farangi Mahall, 1919–2012

Francis Robinson

Professor of the History of South Asia, Royal Holloway, University of London

Jamal Mian was a respected product of Lucknow's Farangi Mahall family and an important leader of the Pakistan movement. This book explores Jamal Mian's life, from his education and the spiritual traditions of his family, to his rise to leadership. Independence and Partition wrecked his family fortunes and he had to work in East Pakistan to support his family. After losing almost everything in the 1971 Bangladesh liberation war, he resettled in Karachi where he became involved in international Islamic organizations.

This book examines Jamal Mian's relationships with Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Jawaharlal Nehru and Mirza Ahmed Ispahani; his close friendships with Hasrat Mohani, the Raja of Mahmudabad, Sadri Ispahani, and Mufti Amin al-Husseini; his opposition to the Islamization of Pakistani politics; the extent to which his life was infused by poetry and spiritual devotion; and how long it took for the meaning of Partition in his life to be realized in full.



ISBN: 978-93-90232-45-1
320pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1050
• \$49.95 • £42.95

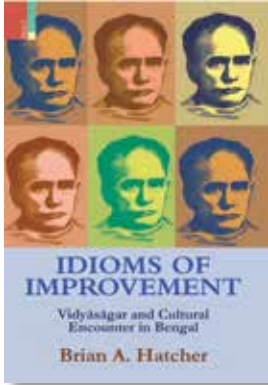
Ideas Matter Debating the Impact of British Rule on India

Peter Robb

Professor Emeritus, Department of History, School of History, Religions & Philosophies, SOAS University of London

This volume argues that concepts and ideologies shaped the practice of British rule in India; impacted policies and laws, and were embodied in institutions and practices. It calls for a balanced assessment of India's growth/decline under British rule. It examines revenue policies and their consequences stressing continuities from pre-colonial times but also discussing major changes deriving from British laws. Two chapters analyse the rationale and impact of the Bengal Tenancy Act of 1885. Others discuss communal identities and the effects of colonial categorization, probing the significance of interpretations of the 1857 revolt and the Amritsar massacre of 1919, and considering the overtly non-communalist Abdul Latif (1828–93) and educational reforms intended to benefit Bengali Muslims.

The book examines British and Indian nationalism; commemorations of colonial rule and Indian resistance; the reification of politico-religious identities; and concepts and misconceptions that shaped policy and law, especially those affecting rural India.



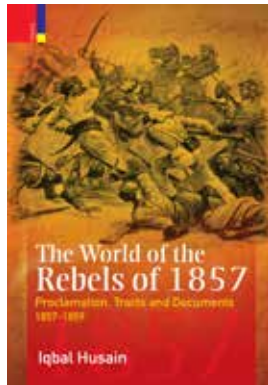
ISBN: 978-93-90430-06-2
342 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1395
• \$64.95 • £54.95

Idioms of Improvement Vidyāsāgar and Cultural Encounter in Bengal

Brian A. Hatcher

Professor and Packard Chair of Theology, Department of Religion, Tufts University, Medford

Two hundred years after his birth, Īśvarcandra Vidyāsāgar remains a compelling figure in the history of modern Indian social change. Vidyāsāgar is renowned as both a Sanskrit pandit and an innovative modern thinker. *Idioms of Improvement* seeks to fathom this 'ocean of learning' (vidyā-sāgar) by focusing on the convergence of Sanskritic and European cultural norms within Vidyāsāgar's distinctive Bengali worldview. Unlike other colonial reformers, Vidyāsāgar held religious discourse and theology at arm's length. While this fact has charmed his secularist admirers and infuriated the keepers of Hindu orthodoxy, neither camp has been able to provide a convincing, integrated account of his worldview in this regard. This book offers such an account, making the case for a religious dimension to Vidyāsāgar's worldview that can explain both impatience with orthodoxy and his respect for dharma. As one compelling species of liberal Hindu modernity, this worldview deserves careful explication and on-going critical reflection.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-724-3
358 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 1395
\$ 64.95 • £ 54.95

The World of the Rebels of 1857 Proclamation, Tracts and Documents, 1857–1859*

Iqbal Husain

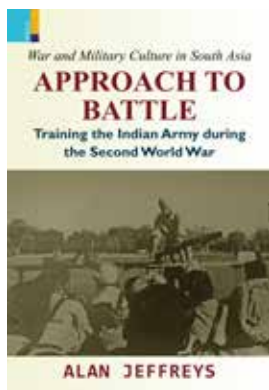
Late Professor, Centre of Advanced Study in History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.

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*.

'...this posthumously published volume provides the Urdu texts and English translations of a number of documents issued by the rebels in the main areas of the rebellion.'

—SHIREEN MOOSVI, *Studies in People's History*

*This book is also relevant for Sources of Indian History.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-627-7
250 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1195

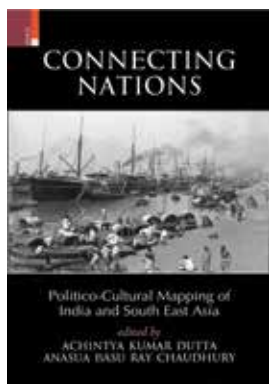
**For sale only in South Asia.*

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.



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

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

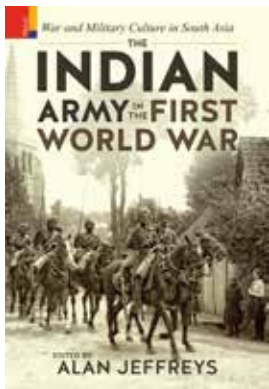
Fellow and Coordinator of the research project 'Proximity to Connectivity' at the Observer Research Foundation, Kolkata Chapter, under the Neighbourhood Regional Studies Initiative

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.

'...the editors need to be complimented for a very smart and timely publication with an excellent bibliography.'

—PURUSOTTAM BHATTACHARYA, *The Statesman*

*This book is also relevant for Political Science and International Relations



ISBN: 978-93-5290-620-8
314 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1295

**For sale only in South Asia.*

The Indian Army in the First World War*

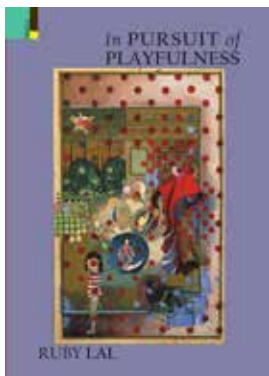
edited by

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*.

Allan Jeffreys • Raymond Callahan • Michael Creese • Anirudh Deshpande • Andrew Jarboe • Robert Johnson • Daniel Marston • Joseph Moretz • David Omissi • Adam Prime • Peter Stanley • Kristian Coates Ulrichsen • Cat Wilson • Graham Winton



ISBN: 978-93-5290-404-4
248 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1595

ISBN: 978-93-5290-414-3
248 pp. • 2019 • PB • ₹695

**For sale only in South Asia.*

In Pursuit of Playfulness

The Girl-Child/Woman and Nineteenth-Century India*

Ruby Lal

Professor, Emory College of Arts and Sciences, Atlanta

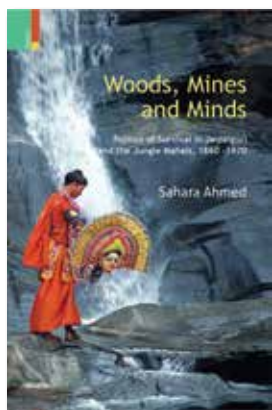
In this engaging and eloquent history, Ruby Lal traces the becoming of nineteenth-century Indian women through a critique of narratives of linear transition from girlhood to womanhood. In the north Indian patriarchal environment, women's lives were dominated by the expectations of the male universal, 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.

'This extraordinary portrait of young women in nineteenth-century north India begins with a vivid and moving conversation with an elderly woman whose memories stretch back over many decades. That intimate personal tone continues to animate the feisty and imaginative women that Ruby Lal found in neglected archives and brought to life for us.'

—WENDY DONIGER, University of Chicago

* This book is also relevant for Women's and Gender Studies



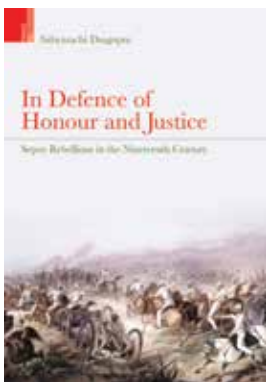
ISBN: 978-93-5290-693-2
 320 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 1295
 \$ 54.95 • £ 44.95

Woods, Mines and Minds Politics of Survival in Jalpaiguri and the Jangal Mahals, 1860 -1970

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.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-308-5
 152 pp. • 2019 • PB • ₹ 395
 \$ 21.95 • £ 16.95

In Defence of Honour and Justice Sepoy Rebellions in the Nineteenth Century

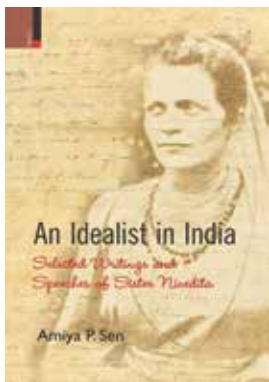
Sabyasachi Dasgupta

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Visva-Bharati, West Bengal

This book focuses on the 'sepoy' 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 'sepoy' identity. Thus, the various sepoy 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 'sepoy' identity.

'... the present volume convincingly attempts to bring out sepoy-centric perspective of various mutinies scripted by them in the nineteenth century by treading into their worldview and sensibilities.'

—SAURAV KUMAR RAI, *Social Scientist*



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

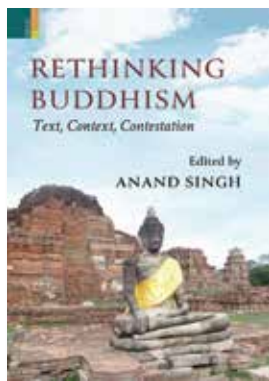
This book puts together representative writings and speeches of Margaret Elizabeth Noble (1867-1911), better known as Sister Nivedita. Posterity has often judged Sister Nivedita and her guru, Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902), in widely different ways. Opinion remains divided over whether or not the Swami was more a patriot than prophet, and Nivedita's biographers have read her life and work variously, 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. However, it is just as possible that neither Vivekananda nor his most illustrious disciple felt that there was an innate conflict between the spiritual and the social, between the quest for personal salvation and the collective emancipation of the masses. Suitably annotated, this book coincides with Sister Nivedita's 150th birth anniversary and 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.

This book provides a rare and important gloss on the intellectual history of modern India. Sister Nivedita's immense and lasting contribution as a social reformer and educationist shaped the contours of women's education and empowerment in not just Bengal but also India. Accordingly, this book will be pertinent to the pedagogical and scholarly work of not just historians of modern India but also scholars of gender studies, cultural studies, and autobiographical writing.

ISBN: 978-93-5290-307-8

238 pp. • 2019 • PB • ₹ 695

\$ 34.95 • £ 26.95



Rethinking Buddhism Text, Context, Contestation*

edited by Anand Singh

Professor in the Department of Historical Studies and Archaeology, Central University of South Bihar.

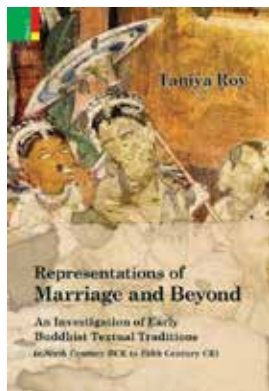
Rethinking Buddhism: Text, Context, Contestation deals with textual traditions, contextualization, and contestation in Indian Buddhism. The essays in this volume envision, explore, and challenge some of the well-established views to investigate Buddhist sources and contemplate alternative theories on origin, development of early Schools, and other fundamentals. On the one hand, there are reassessments and reinterpretations of the established hypotheses; on the other, new voices are raised to re-examine the traditional opinions on narratives of understanding the philosophical and literary approaches. This volume examines real historical contexts and finds whether any kind of contestations occurred in different sects of Buddhism and with other existing religions.

*This book is also relevant for Ancient History and Sociology.

ISBN: 978-93-5572-342-0

478 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1650

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Representations of Marriage and Beyond An Investigation of Early Buddhist Textual Traditions (c. Sixth Century BCE to Fifth Century CE)*

Taniya Roy

Assistant Professor at Asutosh College, University of Calcutta.

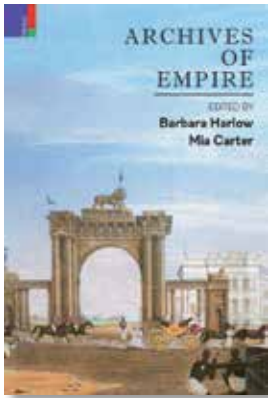
At the core of the social world of Buddhism was the alternative system of salvation provided by the Buddha. *Representations of Marriage and Beyond* explores this alternative by investigating the relationship between gender and history in Buddhist society, allowing us to trace the roots of subordination and hierarchical difference among men and women, monks, and nuns during this time period. Closely analysing three Buddhist textual traditions—the Jātakas, the Therīgāthā and the Theragāthā— this book examines representations of marriage and gender relations in a period that witnessed far-reaching changes in economic, political, material, and social life.

*This book is also relevant for Sociology.

ISBN: 978-93-5572-125-9

244 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1050

• \$49.95 • £39.95



ISBN: 978-93-86552-57-0
828 pp. • 2018 • HB • ₹ 1995

**For sale only in South Asia.*

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

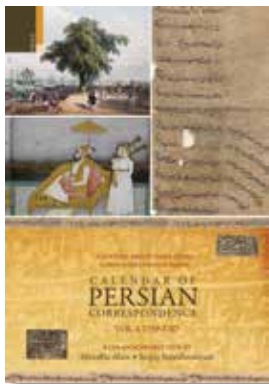
Mia Carter

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.

Documents including mercantile company charters, parliamentary records, explorers' accounts, and political cartoons are complemented by timelines, maps, and bibliographies. Unique resources for teachers and students, these books reveal the complexities of nineteenth-century colonialism and emphasize its enduring relevance to the 'global markets' and imperialist conflicts of the twenty-first century.

*This book is also relevant for students of Literature.



Calendar of Persian Correspondence

With an Introduction by Muzaffar Alam

George V. Bobrinsky 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.

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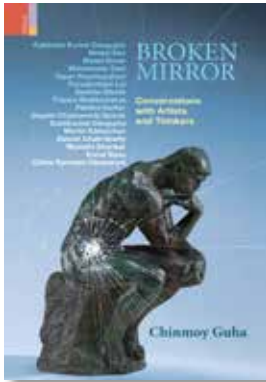
Being Letters which passed between some of the Company’s Servants and Indian Rulers and Notables

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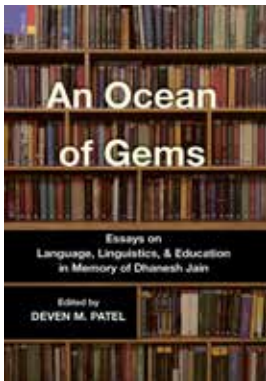
Broken Mirror Conversations with Artists and Thinkers

Chinmoy Guha

Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Calcutta and an author and translator.

As the world moves into an uncertain post-theory phase, and one can see an increasing intolerance which threatens to disrupt the painstakingly constructed language of Indian modernity, there is a profound need for conversations and dialogues that can lead to self-questioning and open up a meaningful interpretative space. These interfaces may eventually lead to reflections and a possible reconstruction of the prevailing discourse(s).

Broken Mirror captures the life-experiences, worldviews, hopes and frustrations of several leading cultural personalities who have left a deep imprint on the shaping of the Indian ethos. The individuals represented here cover a significantly wide range of authors, filmmakers, scholars, artists and critics who simultaneously represent Bengal and India. Through these interviews, Chinmoy Guha draws out the inner self of these personalities, examines their personal trajectories and worldviews in the face of the changing paradigm of cultural and knowledge discourse in the country, and traces the formation and evolution of the larger cultural milieu.



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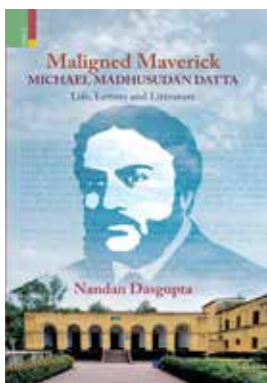
An Ocean of Gems Essays on Language, Linguistics, and Education in Memory of Dhanesh Jain

edited by

Deven M. Patel

Sanskrit scholar, translator, and professor in the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, USA.

An Ocean of Gems is dedicated to Dr Dhanesh Jain (1939–2019), distinguished scholar of Indian sociolinguistics and founder of Ratna Sagar, parent company of Primus Books. He was also a dedicated academic and editor, with George Cardona, of *The Indo-Aryan Languages*, a seminal reference work on the subject. As a publisher, Dhanesh Jain was an inspiration to authors and readers, tirelessly advocating and pragmatically supporting the Indian academic publishing industry with highcalibre academic reference books and Indological scholarship. As a scholar and reviewer for major presses, he recognized the urgent need for such a publishing enterprise in the humanities and social sciences, particularly in the discipline of South Asian languages. To this day, Primus Books provides a viable alternative publishing platform to academics globally. This memorial volume of essays by prominent scholars of Indian languages and linguistics aims not only to honour Dhanesh Jain but also hopes to encourage those who pursue his footsteps in scholarship, editing, or publishing to maintain the purity of purpose and ceaseless efforts necessary to ensure that the best of humanistic knowledge about South Asia is preserved for posterity in India and across the world.



ISBN: 978-93-5852-382-9
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Maligned Maverick Michael Madhusudan Datta: Life, Letters and Literature

Nandan Dasgupta

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

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 sociocultural transformation. 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* examines the life and work of the pioneer of modern Bangla literature.

‘...a welcome addition to the literature on Dutt because it is in English and makes the poet more accessible to Indian readers outside Bengal.’

—SARBARI SINHA, *Frontline*

‘To Mr. Dasgupta’s credit, this book effectively establishes that Michael was a language prodigy, and not a synonym hunter.’

—A K BHATTACHARYA, *Business Standard*



ISBN: 978-93-5852-029-3
 338 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1095
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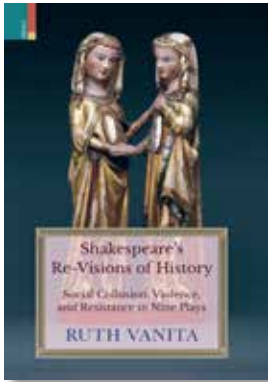
The Observant Owl Hutom’s Vignettes of Nineteenth-Century Calcutta (Second Edition)

translated by
 Swarup Roy

Associate Professor in English at Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandira, Belur Math, West Bengal.

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. 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.



ISBN: 978-93-6627-400-3
286 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹1195

Shakespeare's Re-Visions of History Social Collusion, Violence, and Resistance in Nine Plays

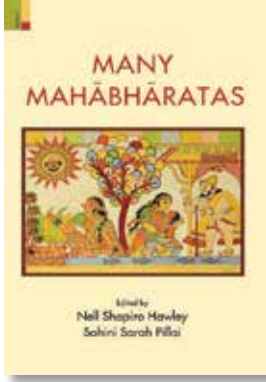
Ruth Vanita

An eminent writer and has authored several books.

This book provides close readings of important, widely studied Shakespeare plays, and puts forward some unique arguments. In *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, *Othello*, *Measure for Measure*, and *Hamlet*, Shakespeare depicts how violence is made possible by social collusion, both deliberate and inadvertent. Bystanders' acts of omission and commission allow groups such as Jews, old people, and women to be violently mistreated, and vulnerable individuals to be silenced and excluded. Vanita shows how Shakespeare's dramaturgy draws attention to this collusion through choric comments, understated irony, play with parts of speech, and songs. Later plays, such as *King Lear*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *Henry the Eighth*, contemplate what might happen when society collaborates with the powerless. Tyrants may still triumph but Shakespeare appeals to collective memory and imagination with images of female power, such as the Virgin Mary and the saints, which had been exiled by the Reformation. He recollects histories of miracle and resistance to present a vision of what a future open to forgiveness could look like.

'Just when I was feeling that there is nothing new to say about Shakespeare, along comes Vanita's book with a freshness I thought was gone forever. Drawing on an exhilarating breadth of knowledge in different theologies and a deep knowledge of Shakespeare, she makes us think anew about what Shakespeare provokes us to confront in social collusion in discrimination.'

— PETER HOLLAND, University of Notre Dame, USA



ISBN: 978-93-5572-106-8
462 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1495
*For sale only in South Asia.

Many Mahābhāratas*

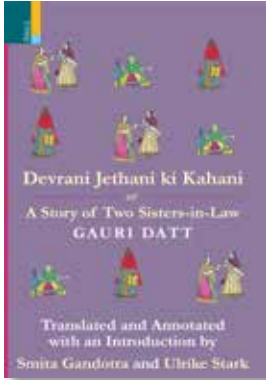
edited by
Nell Shapiro Hawley
Preceptor in Sanskrit at Harvard University

Sohini Sarah Pillai
Assistant Professor of Religion at Kalamazoo College.

Many Mahābhāratas is an introduction to the spectacular and long-lived diversity of Mahābhārata literature in South Asia. This diversity begins with the Sanskrit Mahābhārata, an early epic poem that narrates the events of a catastrophic fratricidal war. Along the way, it draws in nearly everything else in Hindu mythology, philosophy, and story literature. The magnitude of its scope and the relentless complexity of its worldview primed the Mahābhārata for uncountable tellings in South Asia and beyond.

‘Rāmāyana, traditionally viewed as *kāvya* (creative literature), can easily be approached as one among many literary representations of Rāma’s story. The *Mahābhārata*, often called *itihāsa* (historical tradition, though not the same as History), is not about one character’s journey but about a watershed moment in the (presumed) past.’

—KANAD SINHA, The Sanskrit College and University, Kolkata, West Bengal.



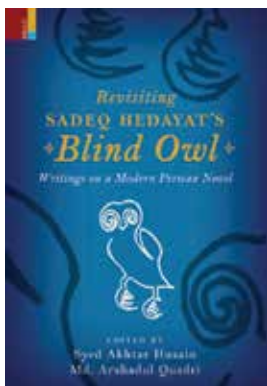
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438 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1595
• \$69.95 • £54.95
ISBN: 978-93- 91144-56-2
438 pp. • 2022 • PB • ₹495

Devrani Jethani ki Kahani or A Story of Two Sisters-in-Law Gauri Datt

Translated and Annotated with an Introduction by
Smita Gandotra
Assistant Professor, Department of English, St. Stephen’s College, Delhi.

Ulrike Stark
Professor, Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago.

Pandit Gauri Datt’s *Devrani Jethani ki Kahani* is often considered the first novel in Hindi. This story follows the fortunes of an Agarwal merchant family in Meerut, then under colonial rule. Gauri Datt introduces us to a canvas of characters in which the family’s two daughters-in-law remain the focus of interest. Following a familiar pattern, only one of them is virtuous, skilled and literate. The novel acknowledges the large extended family’s aspirations for social mobility, reform and modernity, while capturing the swiftly transforming everyday and ritual life of merchant communities.



ISBN: 978-93-5687-767-2
258 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1450
• \$54.95 • £44.95

Revisiting Sadeq Hedayat's *Blind Owl* Writings on a Modern Persian Novel

edited by

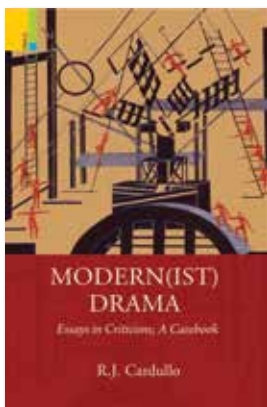
Syed Akhtar Husain

Professor at the Centre of Persian and Central Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Md. Arshadul Quadri

Assistant Professor at the Department of Persian, University of Lucknow.

Revisiting Sadeq Hedayat's Blind Owl: Writings on a Modern Persian Novel is a commemorative volume of thirteen scholarly articles on the Persian novel *Buf-e-Kur* (*Blind Owl*) by Sadeq Hedayat (1903–51). Scholars of Persian studies have long endeavoured to bring this complex novel, written in a unique form and structure, into a simple narrative for aficionados of modern Persian fiction. Thus, the present volume is a 'literary manifesto', presenting perspectives on the novel and the writer from historical, cultural, psychoanalytical, cinematic, artistic, translational, and poetic viewpoints. Drawing upon continued Indo-Iranian relations when Burzoe translated the *Panchatantra* into Pahlavi in 570 ad to when Hedayat wrote his masterpiece during his India sojourn in 1937, the chapters presented here explore a number of topics: from critiques of translations of the novel into three Indian languages (Bengali, Hindi, and Malayalam) to discussions regarding the compatibility of the novel with cinema and the interface of the novel with Hedayat's sketches and paintings. The volume also offers an analogical study of the thought processes of Ghalib and Hedayat, demonstrating the resonance between great minds.



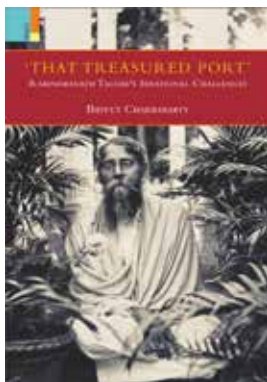
ISBN: 978-93-5572-715-2
566 pp. • HB • 2023 • ₹1995
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Modern(ist) Drama Essays in Criticism; A Casebook

R.J. Cardullo

Has taught for over four decades at the University of Michigan, Colgate, Wesleyan, and NYU, as well as outside the United States in Turkey, Kurdistan, and Finland.

Modern(ist) Drama: Essays in Criticism is a casebook of ideas and arguments about Western modern as well as avant-garde drama. In this volume, the author gathers together a uniquely wide ranging selection of original essays whose subjects span the late nineteenth and most of the twentieth century and reach forward into the twenty-first. He thereby provides access to the thinking behind much of the most stimulating playwriting (and performance) the modernists had to offer, in addition to supplying guidelines to understanding current drama's most adventurous developments. Treated in this volume, in chronological order by date of their work, are such modern dramatists as Henrik Ibsen, August Strindberg, Anton Chekhov, J.M. Synge, George Bernard Shaw, Eugene O'Neill, Thornton Wilder, Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller, Brendan Behan, David Hare, Sam Shepard, and David Mamet; and such seminal avant-gardists as Alfred Jarry, Georg Kaiser, Fernand Crommelynck, Antonin Artaud, Gertrude Stein, Bertolt Brecht, Carlo Terron, Samuel Beckett, Harold Pinter, and Joe Orton.



ISBN: 978-93-5852-234-1
 295 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1495
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'That Treasured Port' Rabindranath Tagore's Ideational Challenges

Bidyut Chakrabarty

Former, Vice-Chancellor of Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan.

Rabindranath Tagore (1861–1941) represented an ideational universe in which universal humanism was one of the most significant pillars. In conventional terms, Tagore is conceived as a poet which is in reality, a partial description of his role he discharged in favour of his distinct politico-ideological priorities. He was a visionary who always privileged humanity above all. *'That Treasured Port': Rabindranath Tagore's Ideational Challenges* demonstrates how a perusal of his enormous oeuvre reveals that while expressing his preference for a poetic voice, he also articulated his particular mode of thinking which was attuned not only to the contemporary context but much beyond. His views were thus transcendental since he dealt with issues which are useful to safeguard humanity, regardless of class, colour and creed. What deserves attention is his ability to understand the prevailing socio-economic and politico-cultural reality from the point of a distinct perception which was based on both—Western as well as indigenous discourses.



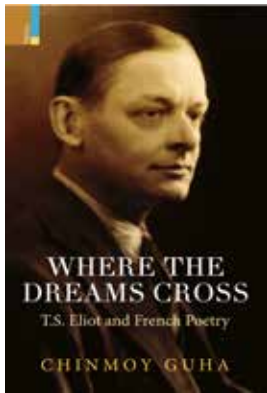
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 375 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1595
 ISBN: 978-93-5572-026-9
 375 pp. • 2021 • PB • ₹550
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Understanding Drama A Student Companion

R.J. Cardullo

Professor of English at the American University of Malta.

Understanding Drama contains 70 short essays that analyse a number of geographically diverse, historically significant plays—among them *Oedipus Tyrannos*, *King Lear*, *Tartuffe*, *Long Day's Journey into Night*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Androcles and the Lion*, *Our Town*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Riders to the Sea*, *Old Times*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Buried Child*, *The Threepenny Opera*, and *Edward II*. Supplementing these model essays are a Step-by-Step Approach to Play Analysis, a Glossary of Dramatic Terms, Study Guides, Topics for Writing and Discussion, Bibliographical Resources, and a comprehensive Index. Written with students in mind, these critical essays cover many important plays included in most dramatic literature courses and will provide students with practical models to help them improve their own writing and analytical skills.



Where the Dreams Cross T.S. Eliot and French Poetry

Chinmoy Guha

Professor of English, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India

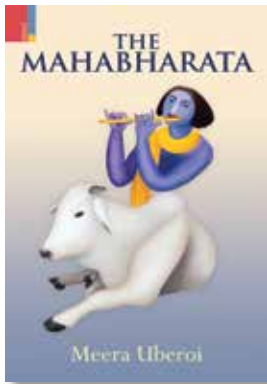
‘The kind of poetry that I needed to teach me the use of my own voice, did not exist in English at all, it was only to be found in French’, admitted T.S. Eliot (1888–1965) in 1940.

This book reconstructs the poetic career of one of the major poets of the twentieth century by closely analysing his creative responses to his favourite French poets and critics, who were influential in Eliot’s development, and of their interrelations with each other, together with the contexts in which Eliot was exposed to their works—all of which enabled the author to cast a new light on an insufficiently considered area and unearth much that was draped in mystery. Vivid, amusing, and in a sense warm and consistently interesting, this book seems to have unmistakable Ancient Mariner gifts—it grips one and convinces.

ISBN: 978-81-947560-0-2

240 pp. • 2020 • PB • ₹ 495

• \$19.95 • £16.95



The Mahabharata

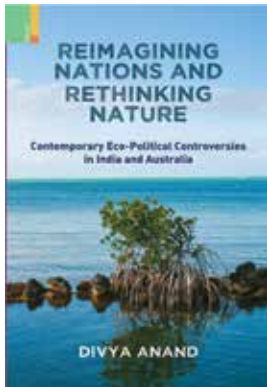
Meera Uberoi

‘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

\$29.95 • £24.95



ISBN: 978-93-5290-313-9
296 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹ 1195
\$59.95 • £47.95

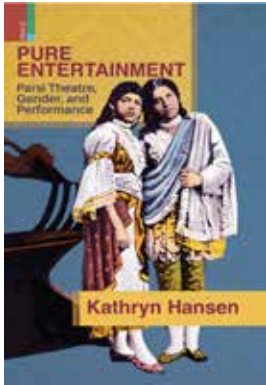
Reimagining Nations and Rethinking Nature Contemporary Eco-Political Controversies in India and Australia*

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.

*This book is also relevant for Sociology



ISBN: 978-93-5852-790-2
 460 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1495
 • \$ 59.95 • £ 49.95

Pure Entertainment Parsi Theatre, Gender and Performance

Kathryn Hansen

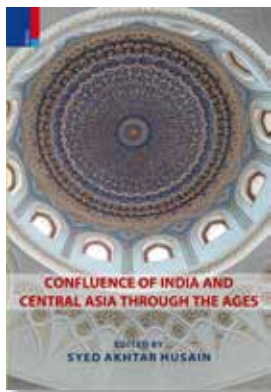
Cultural historian and has worked extensively on Indian theatre. She is the author of *Stages of Life: Indian Theatre Autobiographies*. Her *Grounds for Play: The Nautanki Theatre of North India* won the A.K. Coomaraswamy Book Prize. She translated and edited *The Parsi Theatre: Its Origins and Development* and co-edited *A Wilderness of Possibilities: Urdu Studies in Transnational Perspective*. Currently Professor Emeritus at the University of Texas at Austin, she has earlier served as Director of Center for Asian Studies and as Program Officer for Translations at the National Endowment for the Humanities. She has also held teaching positions at the University of British Columbia, University of Chicago, and Rutgers University.

For over fifty years Parsi theatre was famous for the sheer pleasure it brought to audiences in colonial India. It transformed the enjoyment of drama into a modern pastime. This cosmopolitan entertainment lured crowds to urban playhouses night after night with its passionate refrains of Urdu poetry and the melodious voices of cross-dressed youths.

Pure Entertainment traces how Parsi theatre wedded vernacular narrative and musicality to new stage technologies to create an aesthetic that appealed across classes and communities. Its performing women and female impersonators became the first media stars. It expanded the mythological, historical, and social genres, preparing the ground for the emergence of cinema. By running profitable companies, Bombay troupes travelled to ports like Madras and Rangoon, leaving behind an unmistakable legacy.

The fourteen essays in this volume represent Kathryn Hansen's decades of research on the Parsi theatre. Her pioneering scholarship unites lifelong immersion in Indian languages with deep appreciation of oral performance culture and promises fresh insights for both, the general reader and the theatre specialist.

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND IR



ISBN: 978-93-6883-941-5
370 pp. • 2025 • HB • ₹1450

Confluence of India and Central Asia through the Ages

Edited by

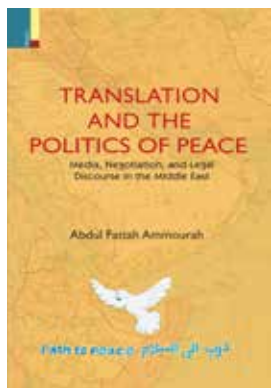
Syed Akhtar Husain

Professor at the Centre of Persian and Central Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and President of the Institute of Indo-Persian Studies, New Delhi.

Confluence of India and Central Asia through the Ages is a compendium of papers presenting the colourful past and promising future of Central and South Asia. Scholars have discussed Buddhism as the leitmotif of the Silk Route, criss-crossing Asia, in this book. The volume also deals with Persian and Urdu texts which demonstrate the cultural richness of the regions. Equally good number of chapters in the book give insight into connectivity, multilateralism, threats of terrorism to and hopes of peaceful coexistence and cooperation for India and Central Asia.

Mahmood Alam • Shernaz Cama • Suchandana Chatterjee • Preeti D. Das • Dipanwita Donde • Sunita Dwivedi • Mansura Haidar • Syed Akhtar Husain • Nirmala Joshi • Kamal Kumari • Nazar Mammedov • B.R. Mani • Nahid Morshedlou • Muzaffar Olimov • Md. Arshadul Quadri • Mirzokhid A. Rakhimov • P. Stobdan • Shodimahmad Z. Sufiev • Athar Zafar

*This book is also relevant for Medieval History.



ISBN: 978-93-5852-967-8
328 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1450
• \$ 54.95 • £ 44.95

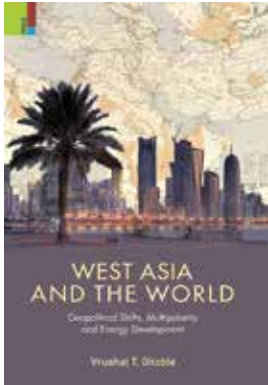
Translation and the Politics of Peace Media, Negotiation, and Legal Discourse in the Middle East

Abdul Fattah Ammourah

Professor, Vice Dean, Founder and Executive Director of the Centre for Middle East Studies (CMES) at the Jindal School of International Affairs since 2015.

Translation and the Politics of Peace explores Middle Eastern politics from cultural, political, legal, and diplomatic perspectives to understand the language of politics, media, and negotiation embedded in English and Arabic terms and expressions. It explores approaches to translating and analysing political utterances and written discourse through speeches, media reports, and legal documents, including United Nations resolutions and treaties. This aims to help readers understand the repercussions of political discourse on contemporary Middle East politics as well as on future global events.

The present book lays the ground for scholars to understand aspects of sociolinguistics, semantics, pragmatics, syntax, and grammar in both English and Arabic to analyse and respond to the prevailing needs of the people in the Middle East and around the world. It also helps to comprehend language as an abstract instrument that facilitates creative interactions amongst the cultures and civilizations of various peoples and nations.



ISBN: 978-93-5687-049-9
232 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1250
• \$49.95 • £39.95

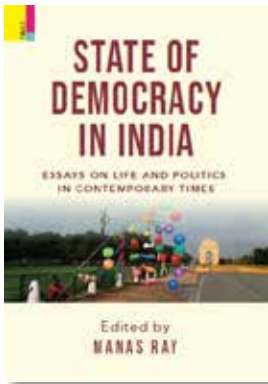
West Asia and the World Geopolitical Shifts, Multipolarity and Energy Development

Vrushal T. Ghoble

Assistant Professor at the Centre for West Asian Studies (CWAS), School of International Studies (SIS), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU).

West Asia and the World explores West Asia's changing political and socio-economic architecture post the 2011 Arab Uprisings. The chapters presented here investigate the influence exerted by regional and extra-regional actors and explore their power dynamics.

West Asia has been witnessing a directional change in recent years; once spectators to geopolitical developments, systemic changes in recent times within the states themselves indicate a restructuring of the region that has shifted the status quo in both the regional and the global contexts. However, many political, sectarian and economic conflicts still plague West Asia. This book explores West Asia's outlook in composite terms towards issues of geopolitics, the types of states in the region and their outlook, multipolarity, energy development, the arms race, aid, the states' role in geopolitics, and their strategic regional and extra-regional engagements. An attempt is made to scrutinize and appraise the balance of power among states and their ability to influence the regional and global orders.



ISBN: 978-93-91144-99-9
692 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1995
• \$104.95 • £79.95

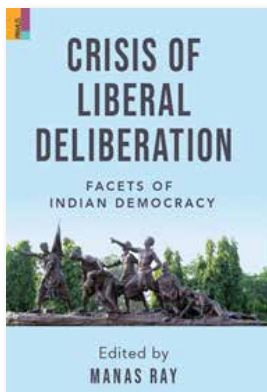
State of Democracy in India Essays on Life and Politics in Contemporary Times

edited by

Manas Ray

Former Professor, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC)

Collections on Indian democracy are plentiful. Yet, rarely are the questions of how ongoing democratic mobilizations impact the mundane, everyday lives of ordinary citizens and the world around them studied. The guiding principle of this book is that democracy is not merely a psephological number game, but a whole way of life, touching every department of life, collective and individual, a force-field of interests and new imaginations. The topics span from authoritarian populism, democratic history of monuments in the city of Aurangabad and the festival mode of populist politics to climate migration and COVID-19 migration to reservation and historical ontology of caste to Dalitization of politics to democratic aspirations of Dalit literature and so on.



Crisis of Liberal Deliberation Facets of Indian Democracy

edited by
Manas Ray

Former Professor, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC)

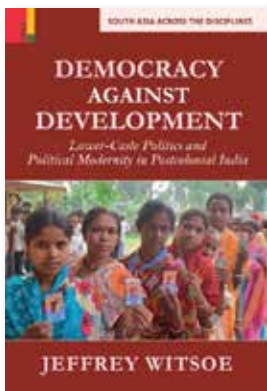
The precarity of the democratic order in contemporary times needs no underlining. This book asks how, through what magic, the Indian democratic state as a political formation is surviving. For how long will the democratic order remain durable despite its myriad loopholes, glaring fault-lines, and thousand histories of disappointment? In the process of analysing the different facets of contemporary Indian democracy, the contributors try to understand and unveil this apparent paradox.

Manas Ray presents a long theoretical account of the crisis of democratic deliberation, a veritable *tour de force*. The book discusses historical lineages of Indian democracy and three disturbing trends of Indian democracy: electoral sanctity, religious politics, and violence in politics.

ISBN: 978-93-91144-03-6

603 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1995

• \$89.95 • £69.95



Democracy Against Development Lower-Caste Politics and Political Modernity in Postcolonial India*

Jeffrey Witsoe

Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Union College, Schenectady, NY

Hidden behind the much-touted success story of India's emergence as an economic superpower is another, far more complex narrative of the nation's recent history, one in which economic development is frequently countered by violent political movements. In this book, Jeffrey Witsoe investigates this counter-narrative, uncovering an antagonistic relationship between recent democratic mobilization and development-oriented governance in India.

Witsoe looks at the history of colonialism in India and its role in both shaping modern caste identities and linking locally powerful caste groups to state institutions, which has effectively created a postcolonial patronage state. He then looks at the rise of lower-caste politics in Bihar and how it has radically threatened the patronage state by systematically weakening its institutions and disrupting its development projects.

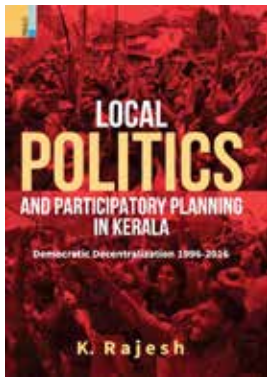
ISBN: 978-93-90430-99-4

254 pp. • 2021 • HB • ₹1395

*For sale only in South Asia.

'Democracy Against Development realizes a lot of the promise of the new political anthropology of India. Jeffrey Witsoe's ethnographic focus ensures that the rich and diverse struggle over caste and its political forms can be revealed. He is able to show precisely how colonially structured caste, as identity and power, is reshaped in the working of Indian democracy.'

— KALYANAKRISHNAN SIVARAMAKRISHNAN
Yale University



ISBN: 978-93-90022-26-7
180 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹995
• \$39.95 • £32.95

Local Politics and Participatory Planning in Kerala Democratic Decentralization 1996–2016*

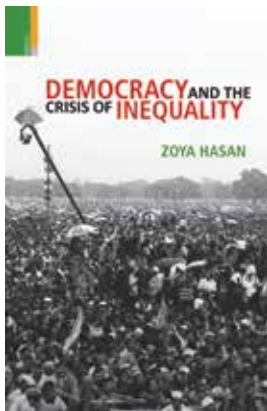
K. Rajesh

Senior Fellow, Intergrated Rural Technology Centre, Palakkad, India

This book analyses how micro-level politics impacts local governance and examines the dynamics of its interaction. Written within the theoretical framework of Field and Habitus, it incorporates how decentralization and the peoples' planning campaign, in the early 1990s reconstructed local governance from a mere bureaucratic process to becoming a highly politicized construct.

The book also investigates how the stratagems and social dynamics of political parties, religious groups and civil society towards grassroots democracy have changed over time, focusing particularly on the extent of participation of women and marginalized sections. Further, considering the evolving nature of local governance, it analyses the history of the past 20 years of local governments in Kerala on the basis of empirical data; how the changes in political regimes in the state have affected the democratic decentralization process, and how this is reflected in the village life of Kerala. Three case studies from different locations of the state document this political transition.

*This book is also relevant for Sociology.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-305-4
578 pp. • 2019 • PB • ₹ 795
\$ 44.95 • £ 34.95

Democracy and the Crisis of Inequality

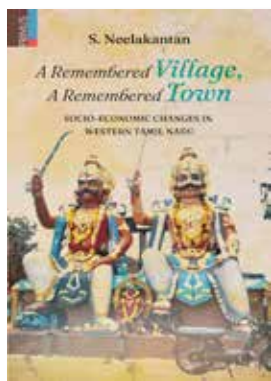
Zoya Hasan

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*



ISBN : 978-93-5852-185-6
258 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹995
• \$ 39.95 • £ 34.95

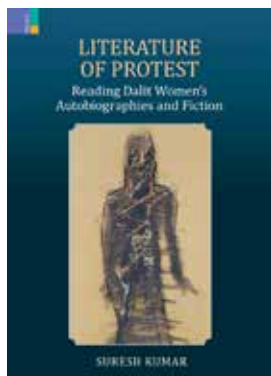
A Remembered Village, A Remembered Town Socio-Economic Changes in Western Tamil Nadu

S. Neelakantan

Served as Director of MIDS in the early nineties and was also a Fulbright Fellow at Washington University under Nobel laureate Douglass C. North.

Western Tamil Nadu has witnessed tremendous changes in the last many decades, which have underpinned its contemporary economic, social and political importance. However, the region in general has remained largely understudied.

A Remembered Village, A Remembered Town gives an impressionistic account of socio-economic changes in a village, Appalalayam, and its nearest town, Karur, in the second half of the twentieth century. As a trained economist, S. Neelakantan brings his scholarship to bear on his lived experience and, whilst exploring labour, landed power, caste, and rural-urban linkages, provides an insightful account of the transformations, growth, and stagnation witnessed in the Kongu region across five decades. Peppered with anecdotes, this book makes for a gripping read.



ISBN : 978-93-56870-06-2
416 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1750
• \$ 64.95 • £ 54.95

Literature of Protest Reading Dalit Women's Autobiographies and Fiction

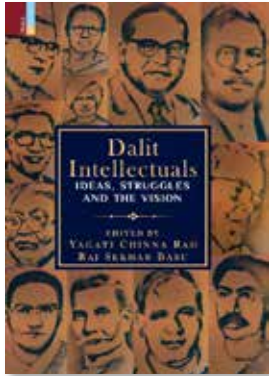
Suresh Kumar

Assistant Professor of English at Government Sanskrit College, Tungesh in Shimla.

This book attempts to critically examine Dalit women's literature to analyse how Dalit women perceive and depict caste, class, and gender in their autobiographies and fiction. It endeavours to locate the beginning of Dalit women's socio-political and cultural movements and peruse their nature, scope and significance. *Literature of Protest: Reading Dalit Women's Autobiographies and Fiction* explores how traditionally suppressed, marginalized and muted Dalit women forayed into writing to express their distress, uncover dominant power structures, voice their indignation, and register their protest against them in order to abrogate disparities and restore their autonomy.

'Suresh Kumar in his book *Literature of Protest: Reading Dalit Women's Autobiographies and Fiction* gives a comprehensive account of the corpus of Dalit literature penned by women as it voices their sustained and systemic protest against caste, the caste divide and patriarchal control.'

—SOMYA CHARAN PAHADI, Research Scholar, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi



ISBN : 978-93-5572-581-3
424 pp. • 2022 • HB • ₹1995

Dalit Intellectuals Ideas, Struggles and The Vision

edited by

Yagati Chinna Rao

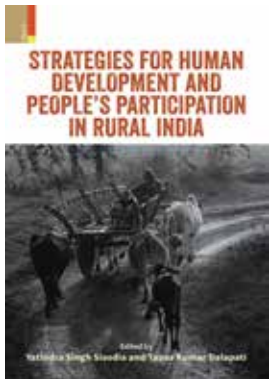
Professor and Chairperson at Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Raj Sekhar Basu

Professor in the Department of History, University of Calcutta, Kolkata.

‘Lower-caste’ thinkers made a crucial intervention in the conceptualization of modern India by claiming that there could hardly be any discussion of colonial India without a critical interrogation of the caste system. *Dalit Intellectuals: Ideas, Struggles and the Vision* is an exploration of a range of interpretations of Dalit intellectual traditions through contributions which emerged from a special panel on Dalit History and Politics. Dedicated to Professor K.N. Panikkar, who introduced the study of intellectual history of modern India, these essays explore Dalit intellectual thought—beginning with Ambedkar’s re-envisioning of modern India to the Adi-Dravida movement in colonial Tamil Nadu, the emergence of Kanshi Ram from obscurity to prominence as a public intellectual, autobiographies that led to the making of Dalit intellectuals, and lastly, the late emergence of Dalit intellectual traditions in Bengal.

This volume brings to the fore a new intellectual journey, revolutionizing social categories which had hitherto remained outside the domain of respectability and scholarship, and steering the wheel towards newer methods of history writing.



ISBN: 978-93-90022-14-4
250 pp. • 2020 • HB • ₹1195
• \$49.95 • £42.95

Strategies for Human Development and People’s Paticipation in Rural India

edited by

Yatindra Singh Sisodia

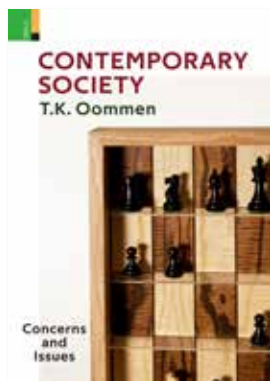
Director, M.P. Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain.

Tapas Kumar Dalapati

Assistant Professor at M.P. Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain.

Human development is the process of enlarging possibilities, to enhance human choices. In a developing country like India several initiatives have been undertaken in rural areas to do so. However, after seven decades of planned development, several challenges still remain. One of the major factors for the successful implementation of human development policies is the active participation of the people for whom the development initiatives are meant. This book unravels the in-depth dynamics of people’s participation in the processes of human development initiatives in rural India. It analyses contemporary perspectives and the present scenario of human development; prospects and challenges in human development initiatives and people’s participation in human development initiatives in rural India, related to education, employment, health, livelihood, nutrition, and grassroots governance.

This book will be of immense interest to researchers, bureaucrats, policy makers, planners, practitioners, academia, and those interested in rural development and public policy.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-903-2
298 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1150

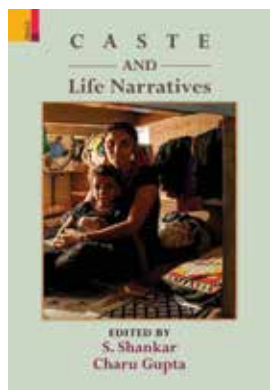
Contemporary Society Concerns and Issues

T.K. Oommen

Professor Emeritus, Jawaharlal Nehru University

The 15 chapters in the book address a variety of themes and yet its core concern is India, an Old Society but a New State. Interrogating the West European notion of nation-states, which were designed to be culturally homogenous, this book posits that in India which has a culturally plural polity, the notion of Human Rights is perhaps more relevant than the notion of citizenship. Consequently, not only individual rights but also group rights—religious, linguistic and racial—need to be recognized and fostered.

Indian social science has emphasized the study of structures as against processes, leading to the neglect of social movements and everyday protest. Similarly, analyses of globalization in the Indian context have focused on macro-structures and processes ignoring its impact on micro-structures and processes. The very cognition and conceptualization of the world undergoes transformation as we transition from the colonial, cold war mindset to the ongoing globalization. The book analyses the implications of this for social science research in India.



ISBN: 978-93-5290-875-2
320 pp. • 2019 • HB • ₹1195
\$54.95 • £44.95

Caste and Life Narratives

edited by

S. Shankar

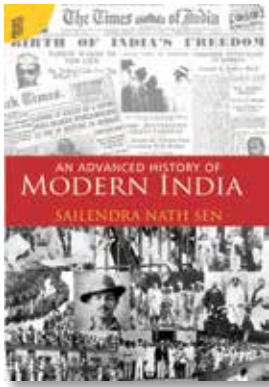
Professor and Chair, Department of English, University of Hawai'i, Mānoa, Hawai'i.

Charu Gupta

Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Delhi.

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 Dalibahujan 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.



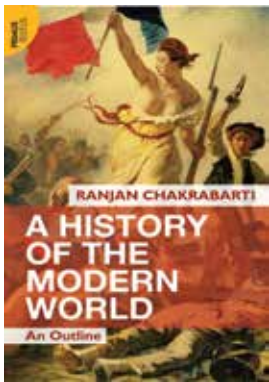
ISBN: 978-93-84082-55-0
 664 pp. • 2017 • PB • ₹ 540
 \$ 37.95 • £ 30.95

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.



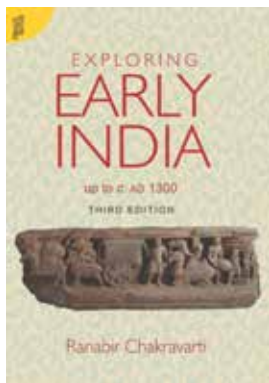
ISBN: 978-93-80607-50-4
 434 pp. • 2012 • PB • ₹ 425
 \$ 32.95 • £ 21.95

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.



Exploring Early India Up to c. AD 1300 (Third Edition)

Ranabir Chakravarti

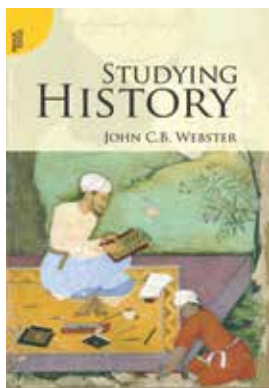
Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

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.

ISBN: 978-93-84082-67-3

516 pp. • 2016 • PB • ₹ 350

\$ 29.95 • £ 19.95



Studying History

John C.B. Webster

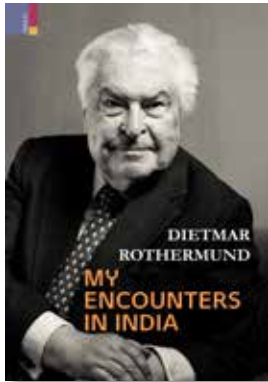
Taught history at Baring Union Christian College and Guru Nanak Dev University in the Punjab, as well as the United Theological College in Bangalore

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.

ISBN: 978-93-5290-774-8

210 pp. • 2019 • PB • ₹ 120

\$ 12.95 • £ 10.95



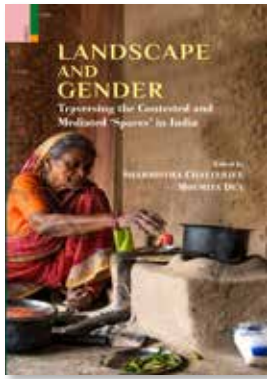
ISBN: 978-93-89676-23-5
448 pp. • 2020 • PB • ₹850
\$49.95 • £41.95

My Encounters in India

Dietmar Rothermund

On 20 January 1933, a few days before Hitler seized power in Germany, Professor Dietmar Rothermund was born in Kassel. He lived through the War, and then went on to study History and Philosophy at Philipps-Universität Marburg and Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, and received his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1959. His PhD dissertation centred on the social history of America. Shortly thereafter he travelled to India on a fellowship from the German Research Council, and wrote a book on the Indian freedom movement titled *Die Politische Willenbildung in Indien* (1965). In 1968, he was called to a chair in South Asian History at the University of Heidelberg, which he held until 2001.

Between 1961 and 2012, Dietmar Rothermund spent about eight years in India on various assignments and met many bright scholars, resourceful politicians and leading businessmen. In this book, he has delved into his diary and put together sketches of those who left a lasting impression on him, in effect creating a portrait of contemporary India, showing the attractive features of this fascinating country, which Dietmar has come to love. He has learnt much from the Indian people he has met, and wishes to share his experiences with his readers. The text begins with his meeting Jawaharlal Nehru and ends with a short sketch of his life in India. He believes that he has had the good fortune of living in India during the formative stage of its history and becoming a historian of India, devoting his work to tracing the experiences of this great nation.



ISBN: 978-93-5852-778-0
 390 pp. • 2024 • HB • ₹1450
 • \$ 59.95 • £ 49.95

Landscape and Gender Traversing the Contested and Mediated 'Spaces' in India

edited by

Sharmistha Chatterjee

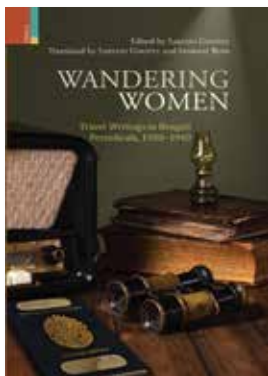
Assistant Professor of History at Srikrishna College, University of Kalyani. She has previously taught at the School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, SRM University, Andhra Pradesh. Her areas of interest include historical archaeology, landscape studies, environmental history, and digital humanities.

Moumita Dey

Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, St. Xavier's College, Burdwan. Her areas of interest include gender, feminism, culture, society, and visual and qualitative methodology, and she has published papers in numerous national and international journals on these subjects.

Landscape and Gender delves into the intricacies of contested and mediated 'spaces' through a gendered lens. Bringing together a range of subjects—archaeology, history, cultural geography, and urban studies—the chapters here examine the connections between landscape and gender within a spatio-temporal framework unique to India. The volume explores spaces that are regulated and subordinated by agencies, and which reinforce gender gaps in quotidian landscapes.

The theoretical discourse that underpins the volume aids in comprehending the subtleties of genderscapes. Further, it throws light on relationship dynamics in varying spatial contexts, including public-private and rural-urban, and makes us cognizant of the structures of disparities and discrimination that often emerge and evolve from the closest units, such as families and peer groups. This volume weaves together the diverse 'landscapes' of India through ontological and epistemological orientations to explore how gendered norms, roles, and structures have remained constant, in one way or another, across time.



ISBN: 978-93-5687-693-4
465 pp. • 2023 • HB • ₹1650
• \$ 64.95 • £ 54.95

Wandering Women Travel Writings in Bengal Periodicals, 1900–1940

edited, translated, and annotated by

Sarvani Goptu

Professor of Asian literary and cultural studies at Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata.

translated by

Indrani Bose

Retired teacher and has translated several articles for reputed journals.

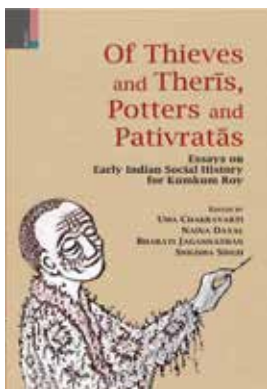
Travel and writing on travel became a means of self-expression for Bengalis, especially women, in the early twentieth century. Although social and religious restrictions coloured their experiences, these travellers' tales to the East and West reflected their privileged status, their exposure to different forms of knowledge, and their cosmopolitanism and nationalism. Their eagerness to share their experience with other women helped create a world where women of all cultures could bond. *Wandering Women* presents sixteen travelogues that were originally published in Bengali periodicals (*samayik patrikas*) like *Bamabodhini Patrika*, *Antahpur*, and *Mahila*, among others, narrating the places these Bengali women visited and the people they met while highlighting nationalist and universalist values.

Unlike conventional Western women's narratives, these travel narratives by colonized women are unique since they reiterate, confront, and subvert inherited colonial stereotypes in their encounters with the West; however, in their travels to the East they themselves become colonial in their analyses. Women's travel narratives are hugely important for assessing the position of women and their intellectual development within societal growth in late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in India. Publication in vernacular periodicals empowered both writer and reader, creating a world for, by, and of women.

'...As the editor has rightly mentioned, one common feature of all these travel narratives is their contemporaneity. They are very important for assessing the position of women and their intellectual development within societal growth in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in India. Though for a long-time travel writing was considered not canonical enough to be treated as a serious literary genre, even now it is important to use these narratives to fill in the large lacuna in the construction of social history, especially regarding women's position and intervention. Also, the editors have rightly pointed out how unlike conventional western women's narratives these travel narratives by colonized women are unique since they reiterate, confront, and subvert inherited colonial stereotypes in their encounters with the West; however, in their travels to the East they themselves become colonial in their analyses. By translating these Bengali texts, the two translators have done yeoman service for further research in this area, especially in the pan-Indian context.'

—SOMDATTA MANDAL, formerly at Visva-Bharati University

*This book is also relevant for Travel Writing



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Of Thieves and Therīs, Potters and Pativrātās Essays on Early Indian Social History for Kumkum Roy

edited by

Uma Chakravarti

Taught at Miranda House, University of Delhi, till 1998. She reads and writes on Buddhism, early Indian history, the nineteenth century, and contemporary issues. She has also been associated with movements for women's rights and democratic rights.

Naina Dayal

Teaches history at St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi. Her research interests include the period c.320 BCE–300 CE, during which the Sanskrit Rāmāyaṇa and Mahābhārata took shape.

Bharati Jagannathan

Teaches history at Miranda House, University of Delhi. She writes fiction for both children and adults and is interested in watching birds and trees.

Snigdha Singh

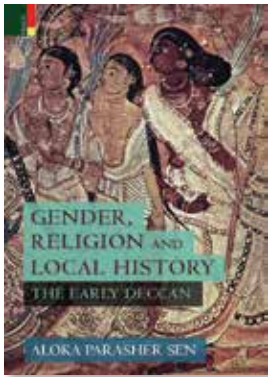
Teaches history at Miranda House, University of Delhi. Her research interests include gender relations in the early historic period, represented in inscriptions and visual sources.

Of Thieves and Therīs, Potters and Pativrātās celebrates Kumkum Roy's contributions as a scholar and teacher of history. Best known for her research on the history of early India, Kumkum Roy has worked on sources as diverse as the Vedic corpus, the *Therīgāthā*, the *Rājatarāṅgiṇī* and the *Mahābhārata*. A crucial feature of her scholarship has been her emphasis on the significance of gender in the reconstruction of India's pasts. She has enriched our understanding of social history through essays and edited volumes examining institutions and processes, including monarchy, urbanism, caste, the household and renunciatory traditions. While her primary source materials have been Sanskrit and Pali texts, she has also integrated insights from epigraphy and archaeology into her work. Her contribution as a teacher has been immense, and in recent years her pedagogical engagements have expanded to include writing textbooks for the Delhi State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), as well as interventions on the teaching of history at the school level. The essays in this volume in honour of Kumkum Roy draw attention to various aspects of early Indian social history.

'What comes out clearly is the extent of the work and influence that Kumkum Roy's own research have had on a range of aspects of early Indian history—gender, of course, but also questioning the texts, minutely, meticulously and critically examining these texts, and then developing new ways of understanding the past.'

—RADHIKA SESHAN, *The Book Review*

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Aloka Parasher-Sen

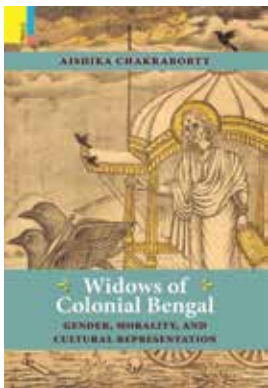
Professor Emerita in the Department of Sanskrit Studies, University of Hyderabad, where she previously taught history for more than four decades.

Gender, Religion and Local History: The Early Deccan straddles two areas of research, namely the study of women in a socio-religious context and images of the feminine that emerged as objects of worship. Based on a study of inscriptions, sculptural representations and archaeological and literary sources, the research in this volume is located in different local contexts that focus on gender and ideology in order to discern the dynamics of social change.

'Parasher Sen's stated intent is to trace how women subscribed to and broke out of the prescriptive norms that were laid out for them and to generally explore how religious ideas shaped gender relations in early India, while trying to bring in the particularities of local history in all this.'

—A SOHEB VAHAB, Jawaharlal Nehru University

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Widows of Colonial Bengal Gender, Morality and Cultural Representation

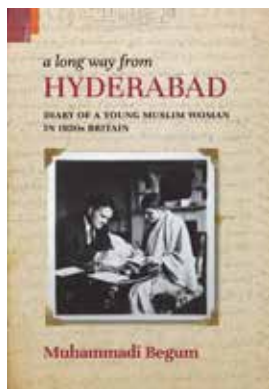
Aishika Chakraborty

Professor and Director of the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University.

Widows of Colonial Bengal: Gender, Morality, and Cultural Representation seeks to explore the unique vulnerability and precarity of widowhood in Bengal during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. A major purpose of this study is to re-examine the official and indigenous discourses surrounding the widely debated Widow Remarriage Act of 1856; another is to situate the 'widow problem'—rooted in the historical context of a heightened preoccupation with marriage, remarriage, sexuality and survival—within contemporary cultural representations.

'The book sets out to deal with three main concerns: the heightening of patriarchal preoccupation with marriage, conjugality and sexuality in the nineteenth century; the question of desire and sexuality of widows and how debates around these issues framed the subjectivity of these women; and the 'new construction of gender' (p. 5) that the socio-legal debates around the question of widowhood facilitated in the given period.'

—SURBHI VATSA, Center for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.



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A Long Way from Hyderabad Diary of a Young Muslim Woman in 1930s Britain

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Zehra Ahmad

lives in Karachi. The eldest among Muhammadi Begum's daughters, she was born in Oxford, England, a year after the events recorded in the diary.

Zainab Masud

the second daughter of Muhammadi Begum, was equally involved in translating her diary.

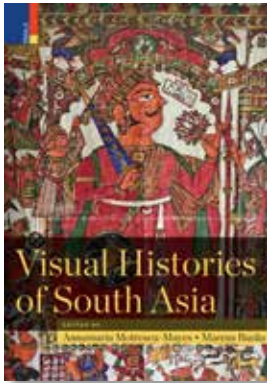
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the youngest daughter of Muhammadi Begum, lives in Leesburg, Virginia. She came out of retirement to edit the translated version of her mother's diary.

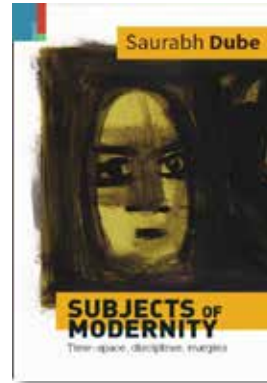
A young Muslim woman, Muhammadi Begum, arrived on English shores from the princely state of Hyderabad in the early 1930s. Her sharp intelligence had won her a scholarship to attend Oxford University, making her one of just a few Indian Muslim women to receive the opportunity. A keen observer, she kept a diary which records a time when competing political configurations to improve lives had seized public imagination in Europe. Away from mainland Europe, in the colonies of the British Empire the movement for freedom had gathered momentum.

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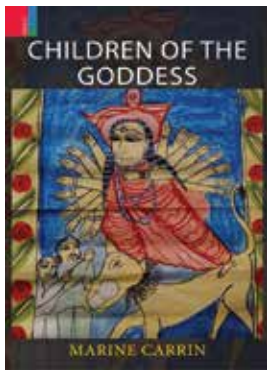
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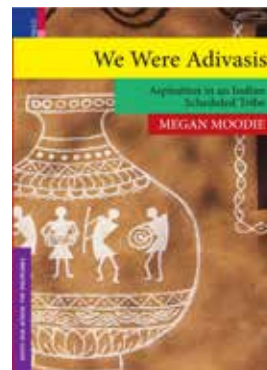
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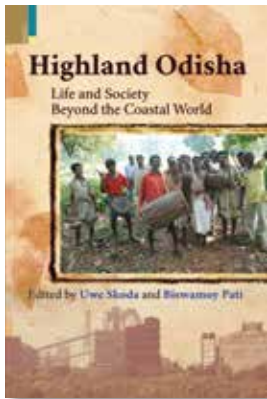
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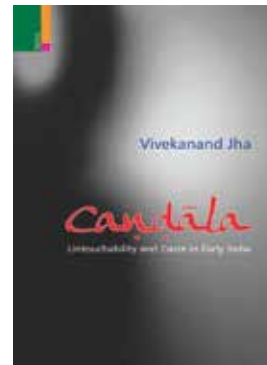
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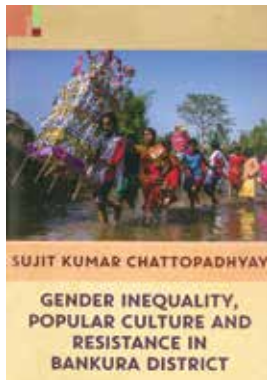
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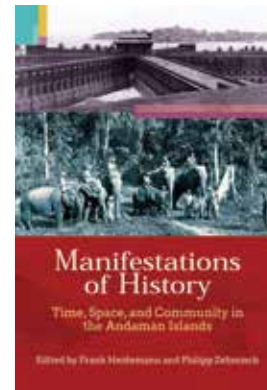
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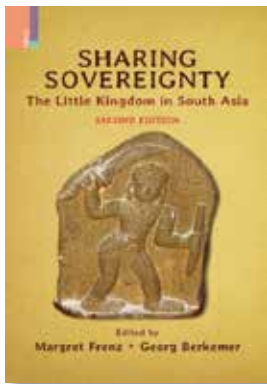
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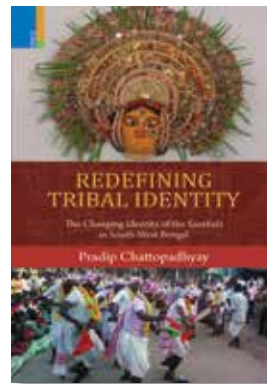
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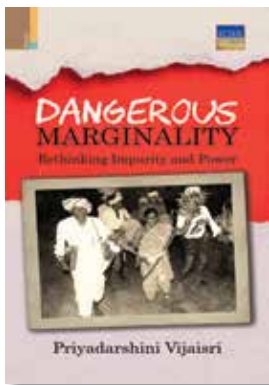
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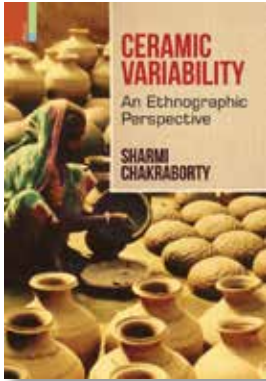
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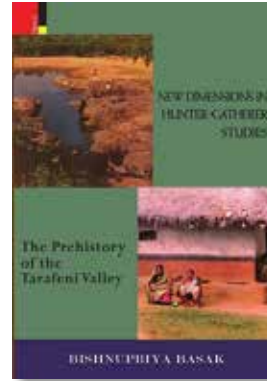
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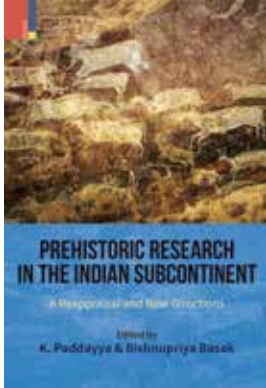
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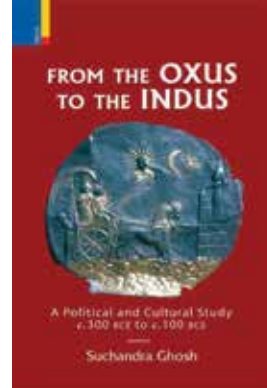
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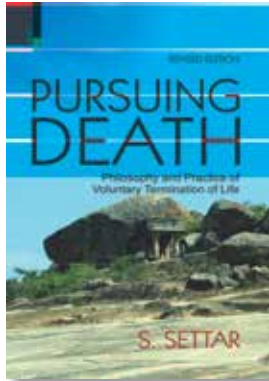
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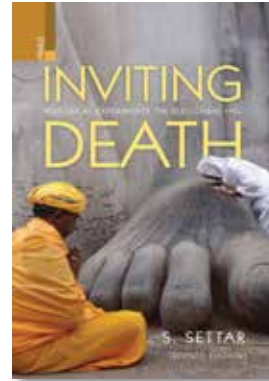
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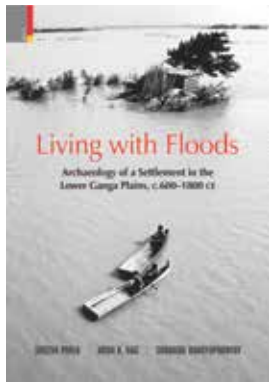
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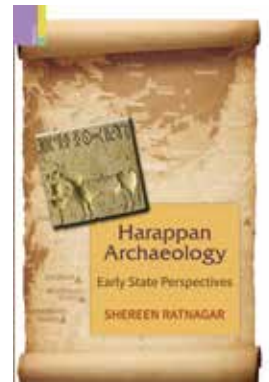
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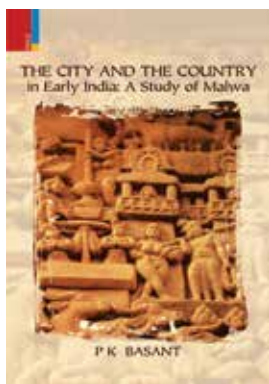
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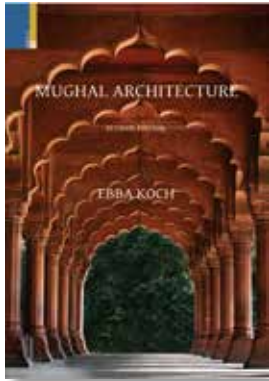
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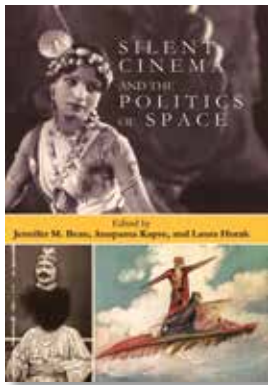
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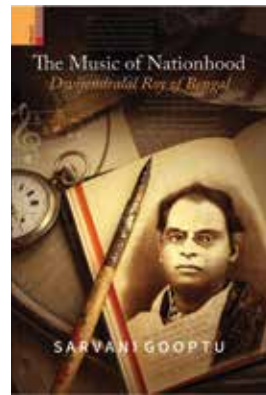
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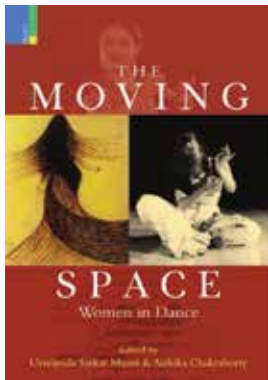
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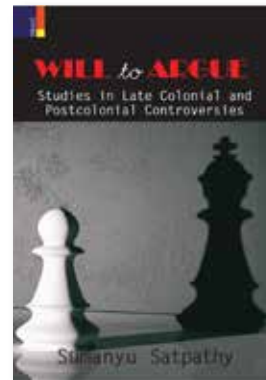
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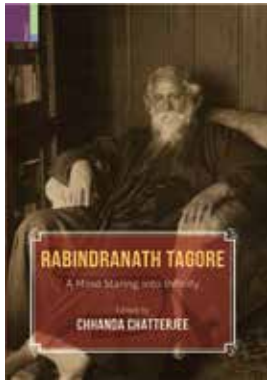
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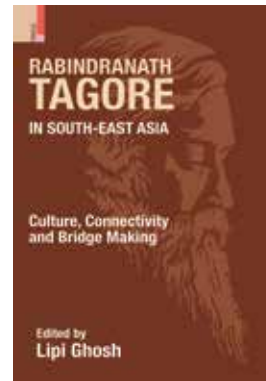
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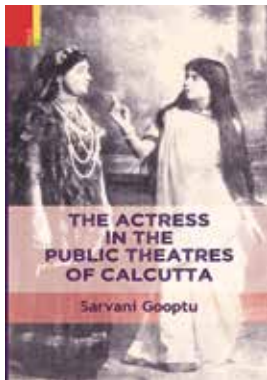
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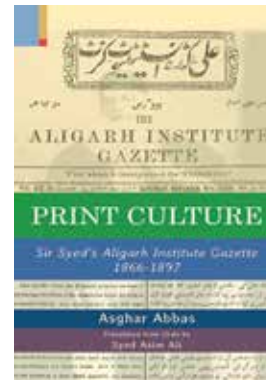
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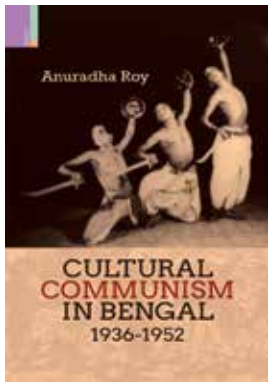
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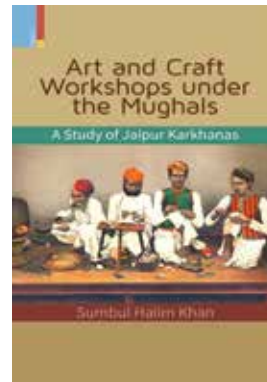
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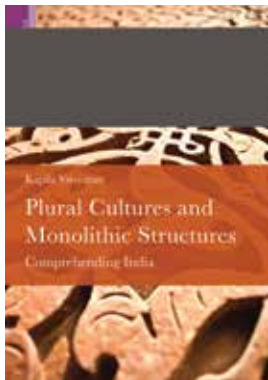
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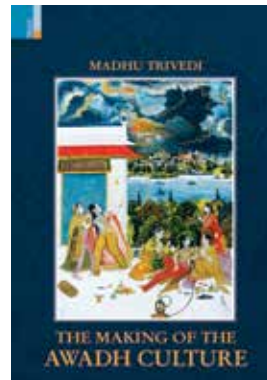
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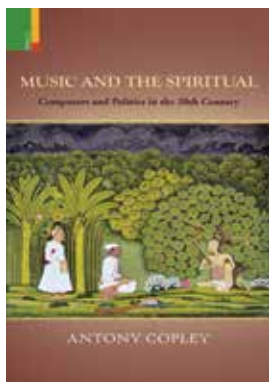
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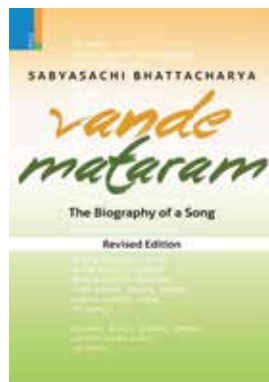
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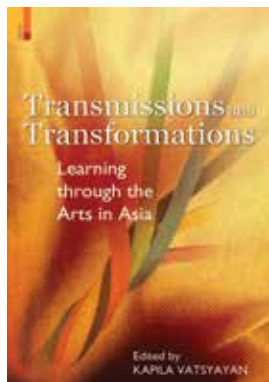
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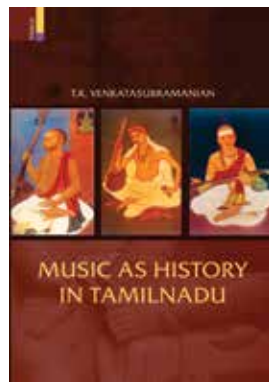
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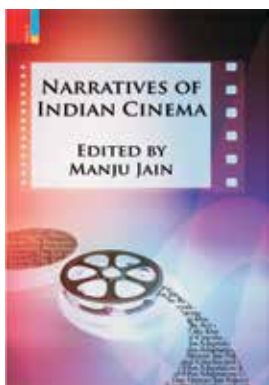
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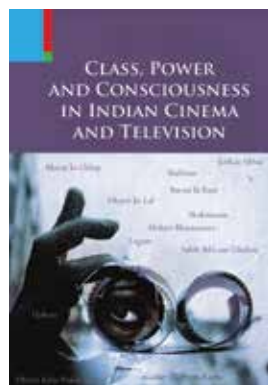
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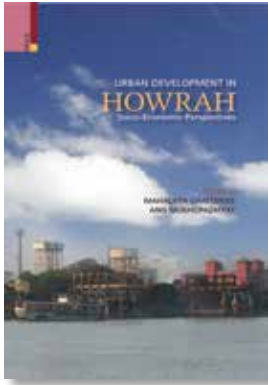
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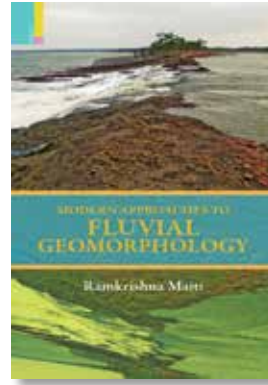
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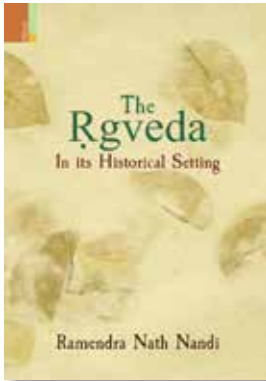


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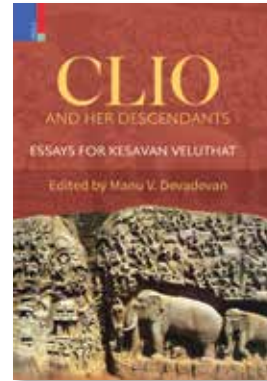
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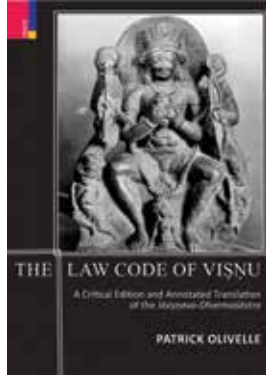
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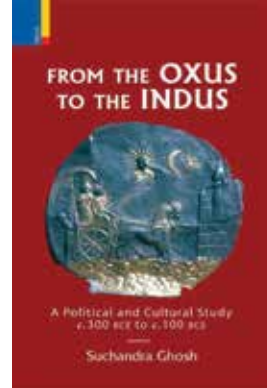
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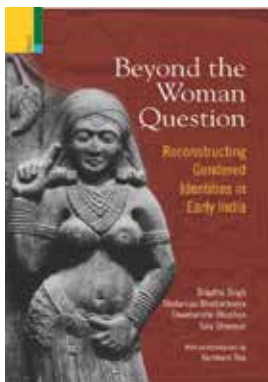


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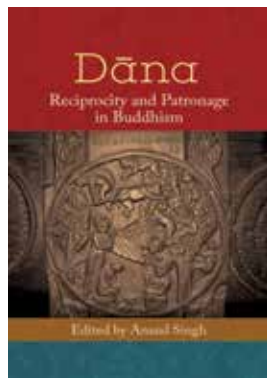
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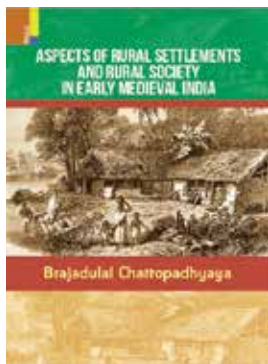
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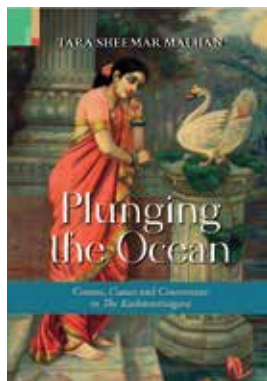
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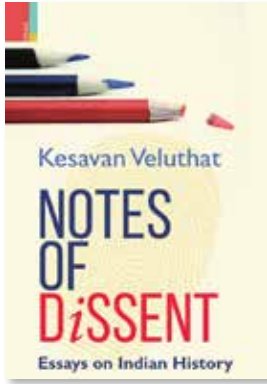
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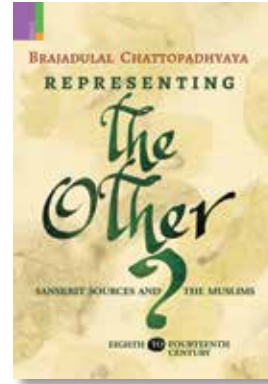
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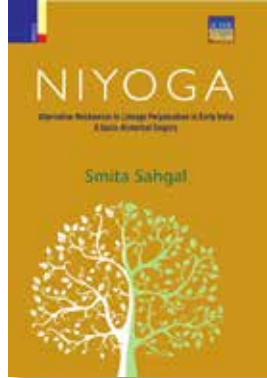
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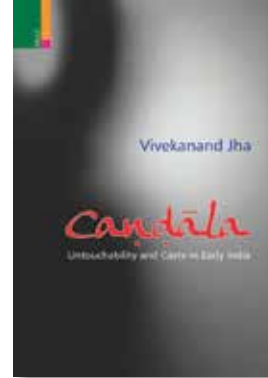
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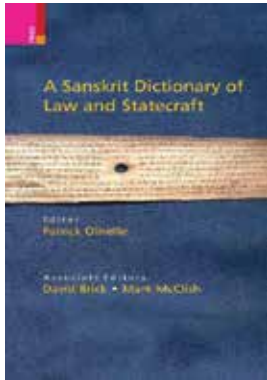
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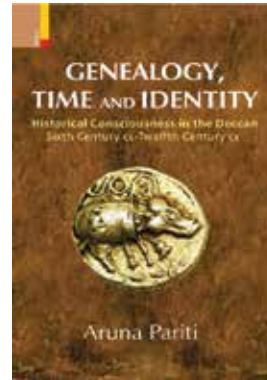
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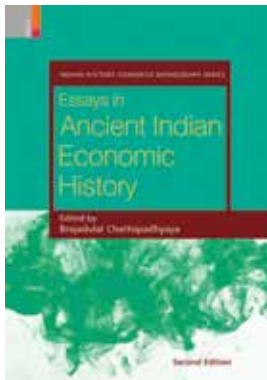
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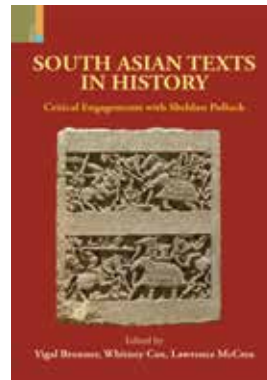
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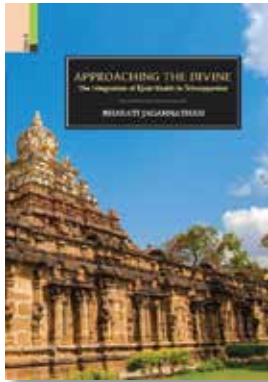
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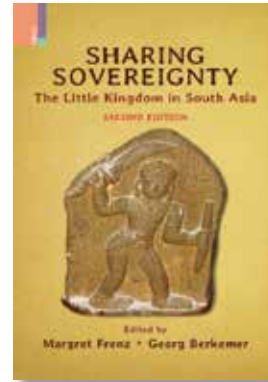
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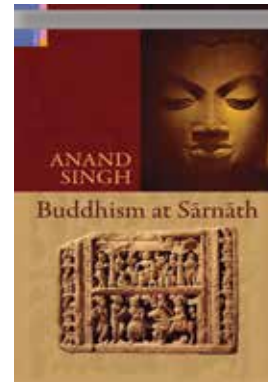
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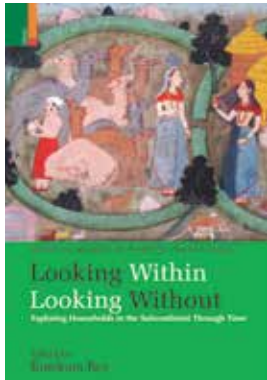
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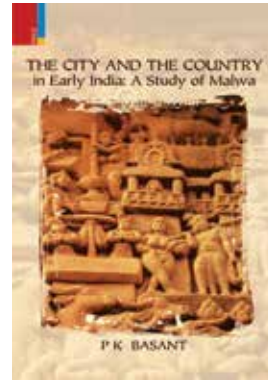
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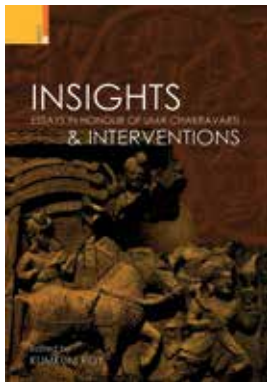
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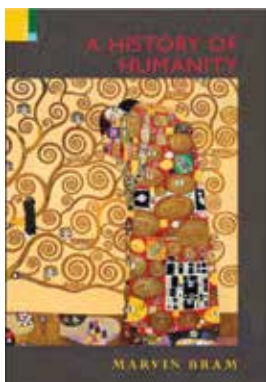
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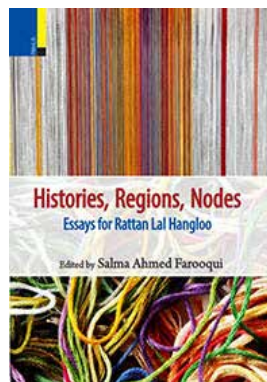


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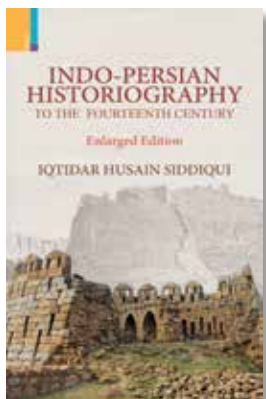
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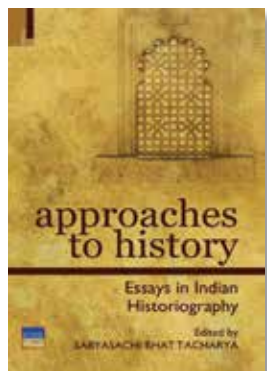


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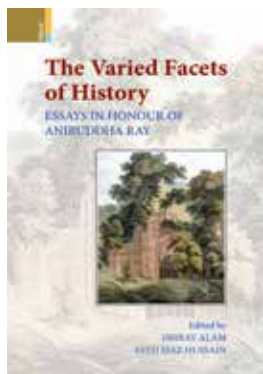
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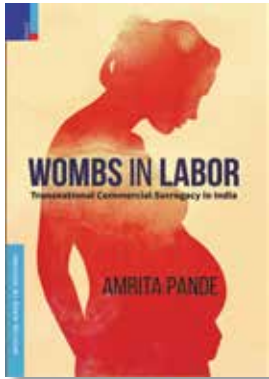
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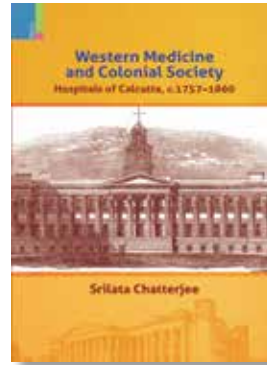
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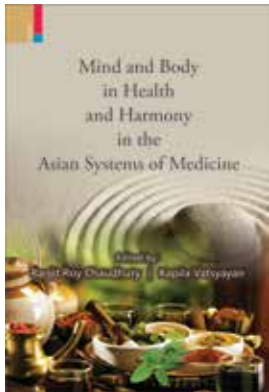
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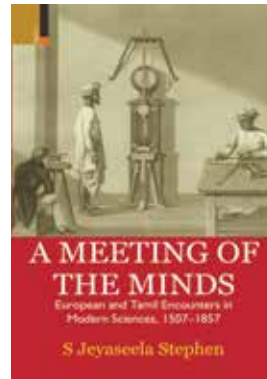
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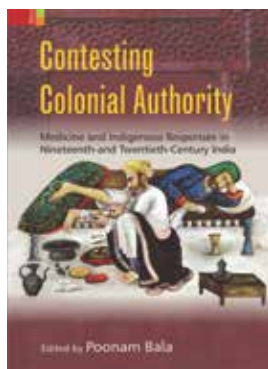
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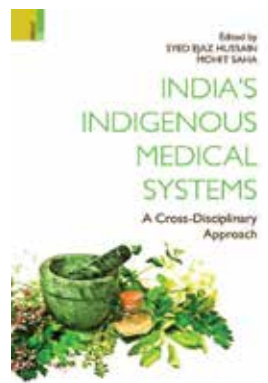
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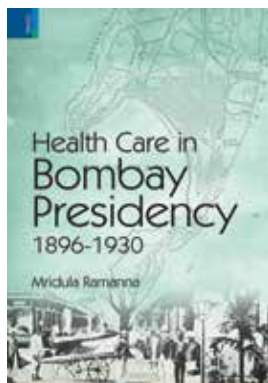
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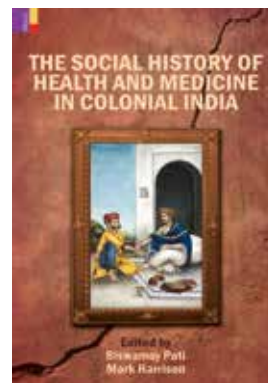
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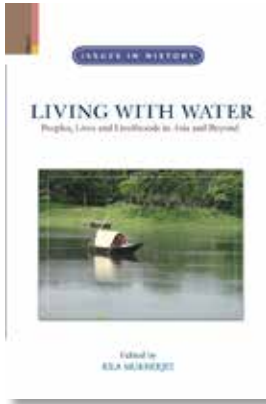
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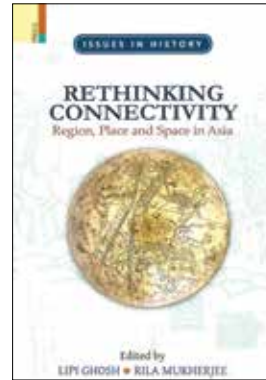
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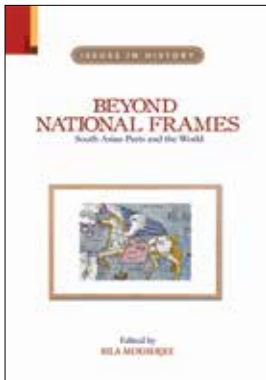
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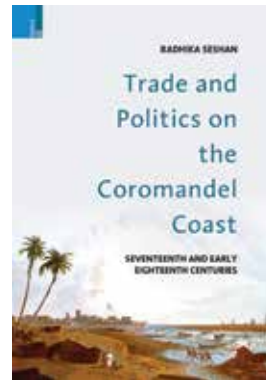
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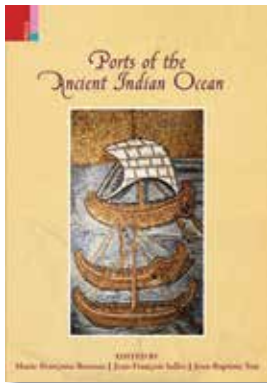
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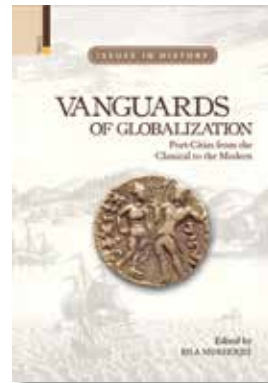
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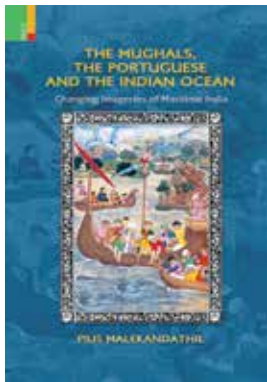
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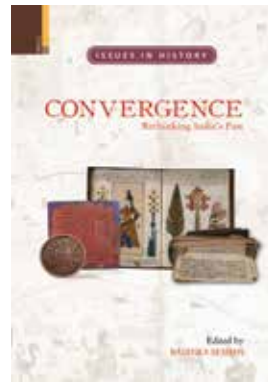
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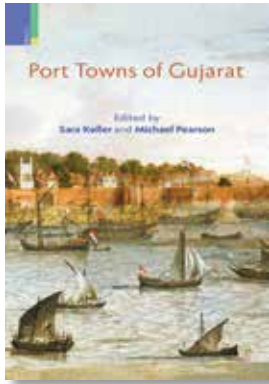
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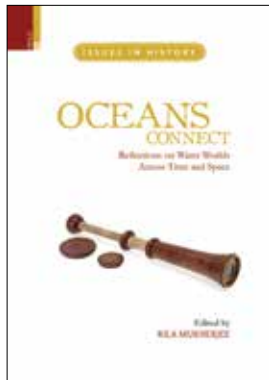
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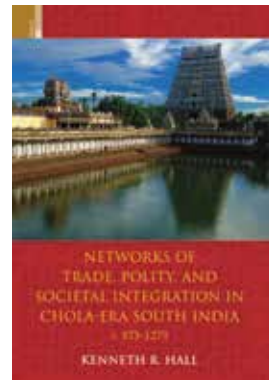
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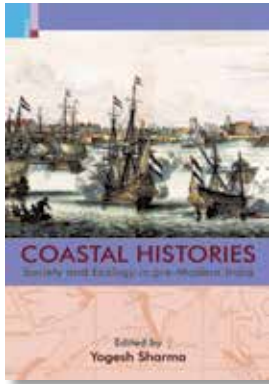
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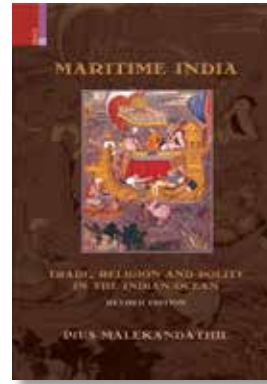
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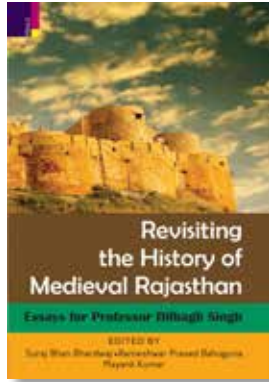
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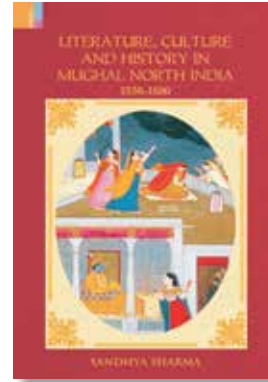
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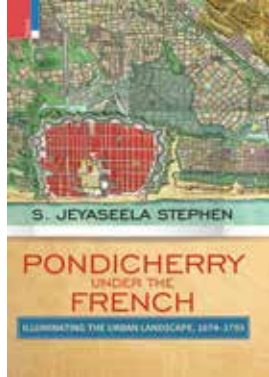
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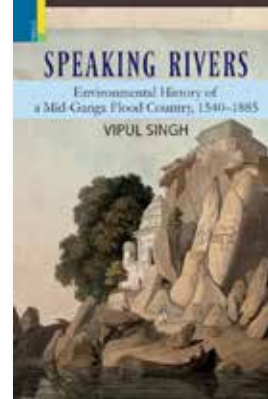
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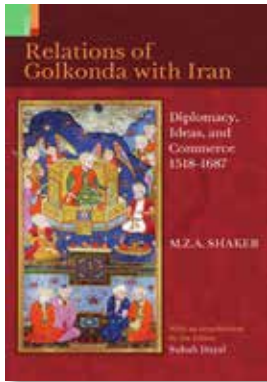
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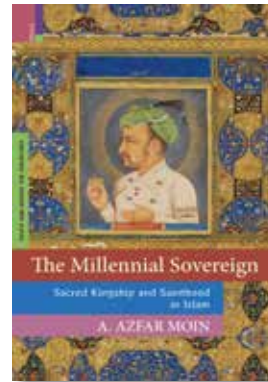
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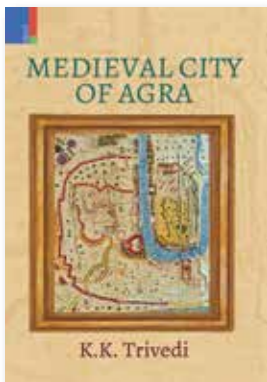
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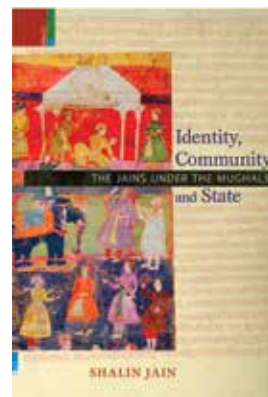
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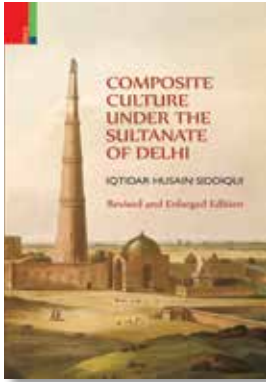
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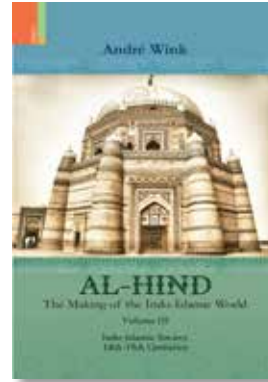
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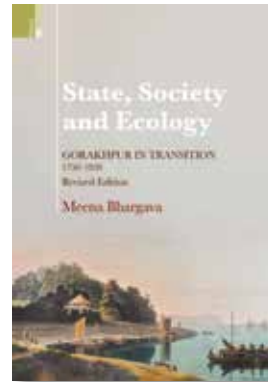
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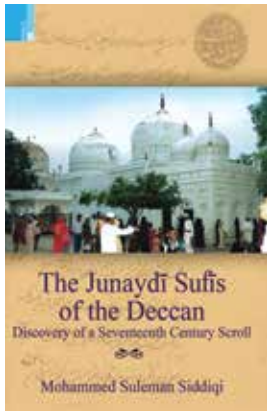
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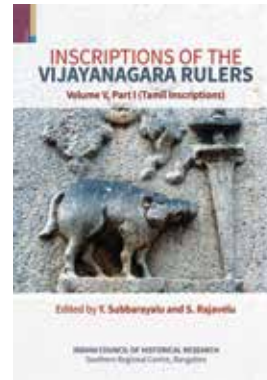
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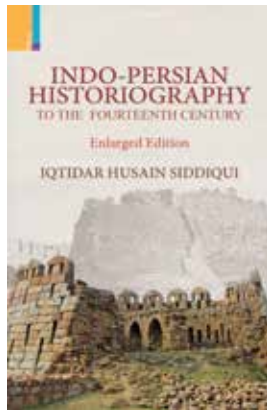
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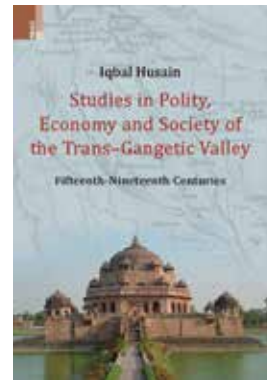
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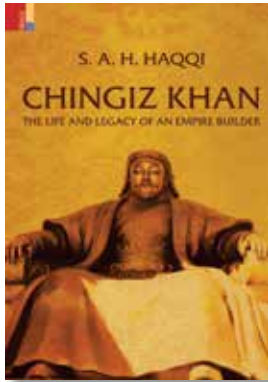
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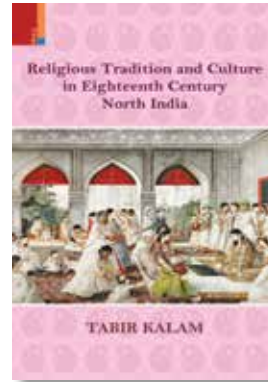
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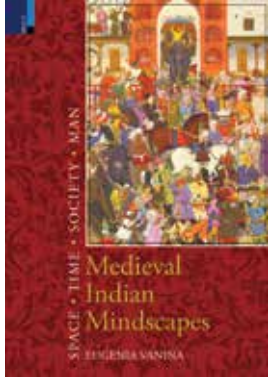
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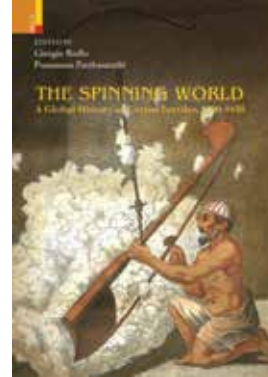
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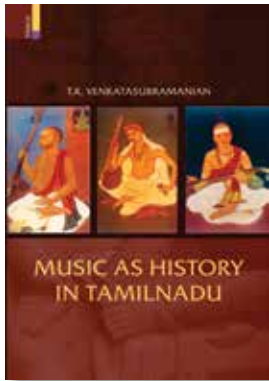
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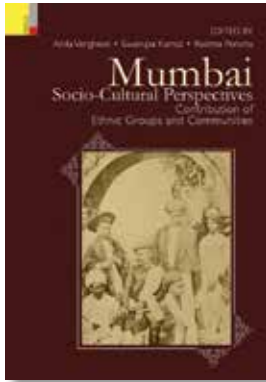
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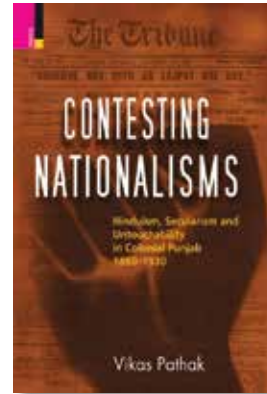
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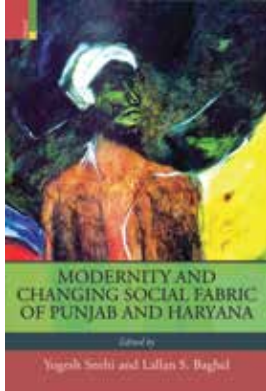
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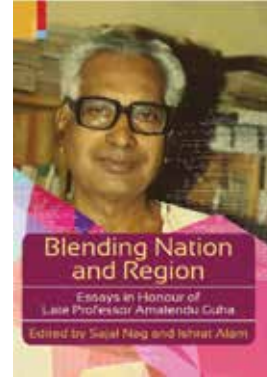
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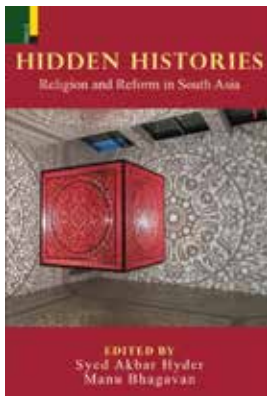
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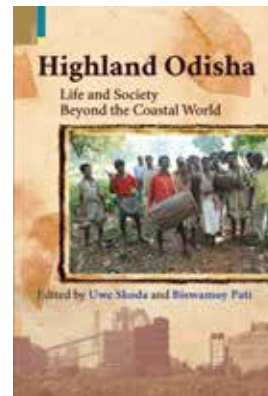
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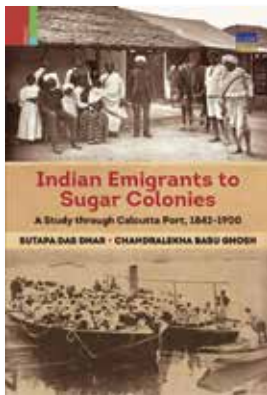
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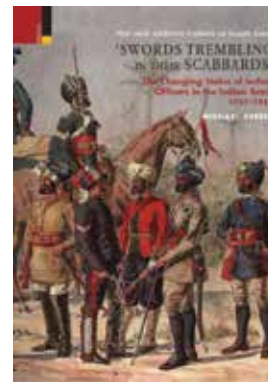
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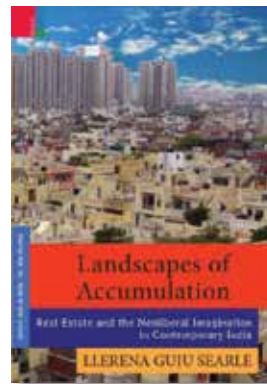
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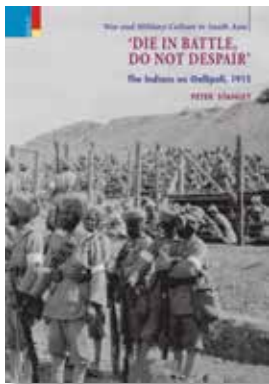
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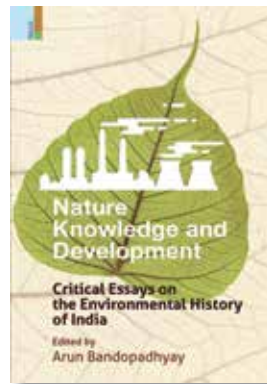
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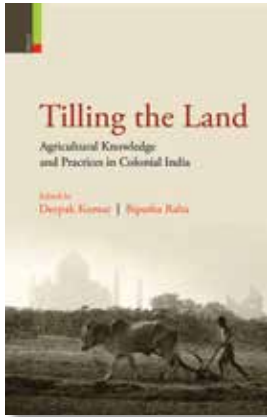
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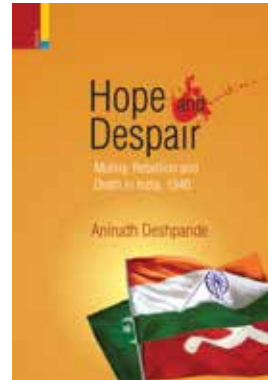
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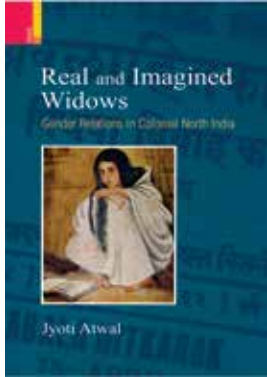
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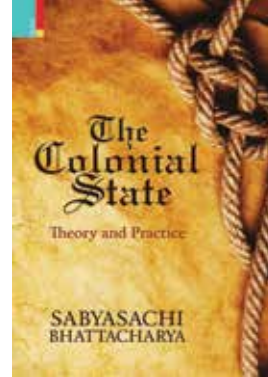
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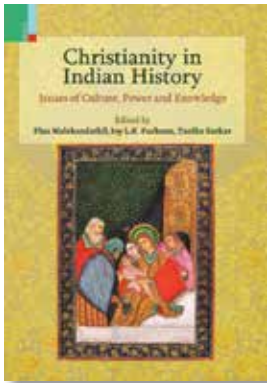
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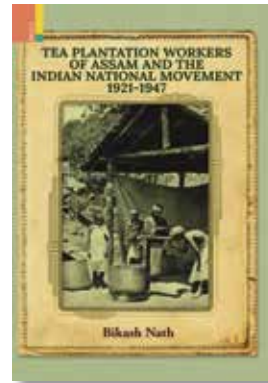
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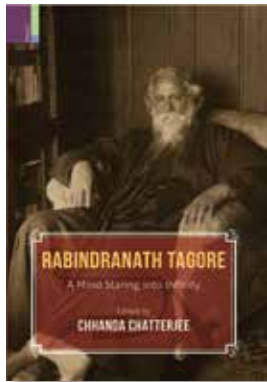
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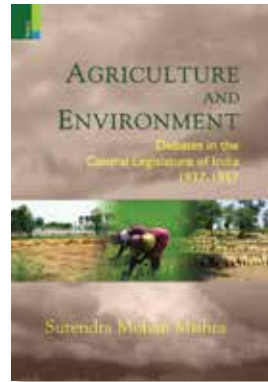
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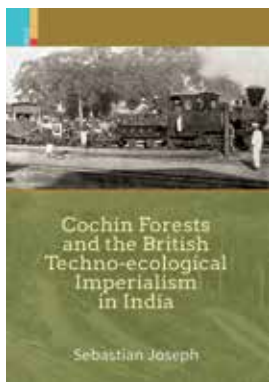
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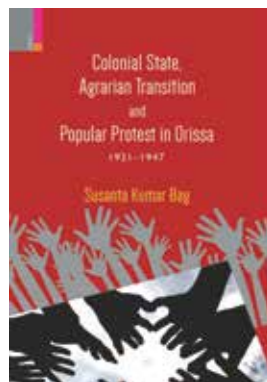
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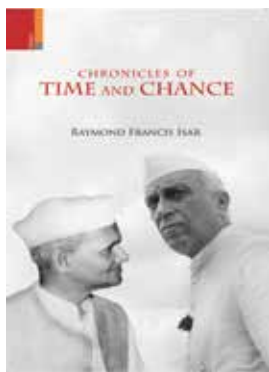
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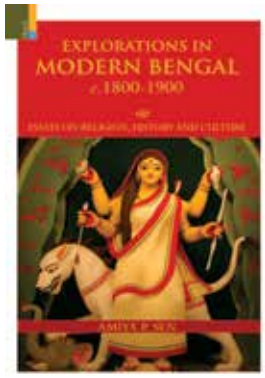
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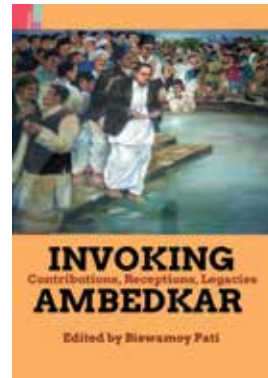
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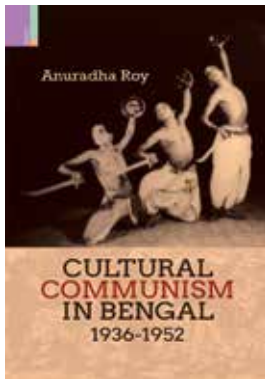
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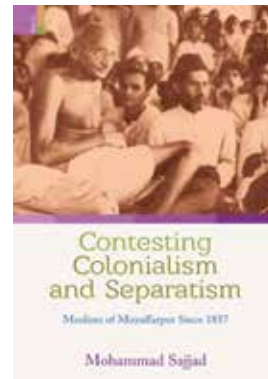
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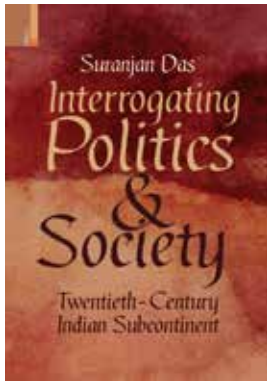
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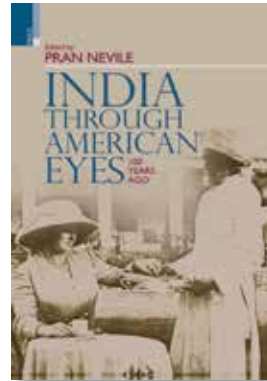
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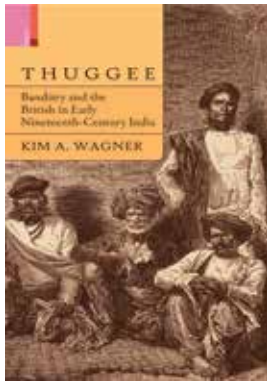
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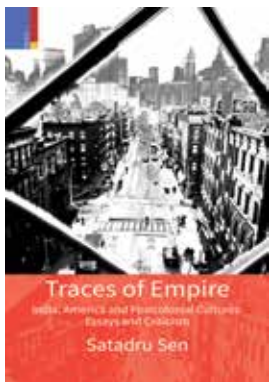
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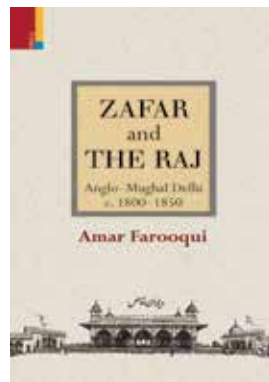
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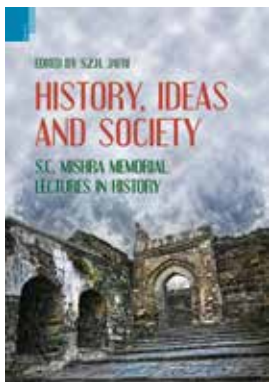
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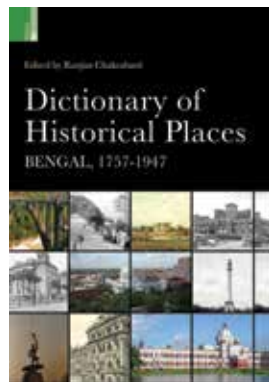
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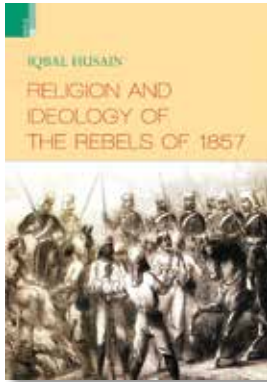
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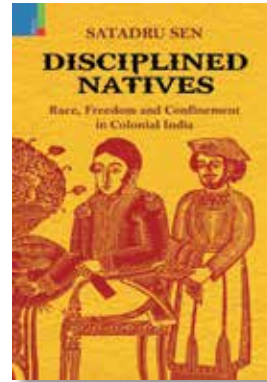
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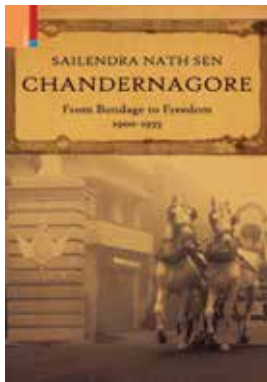
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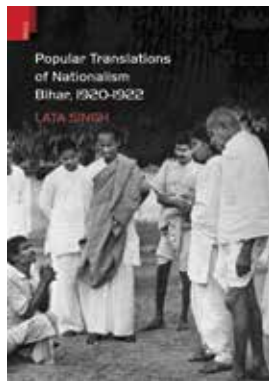
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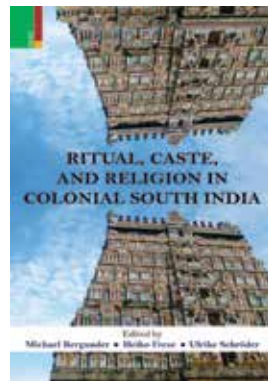
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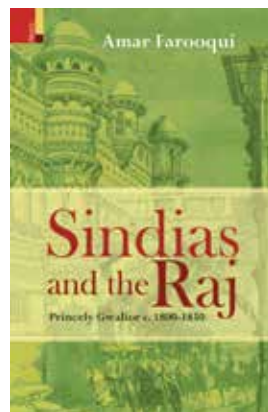
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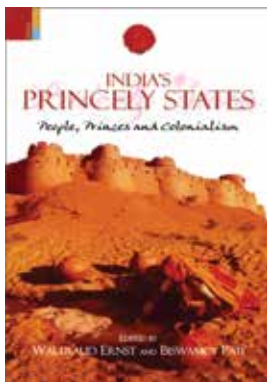
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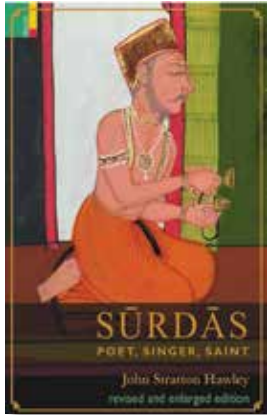
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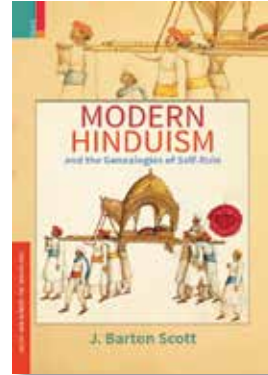
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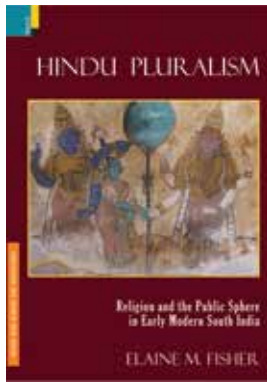
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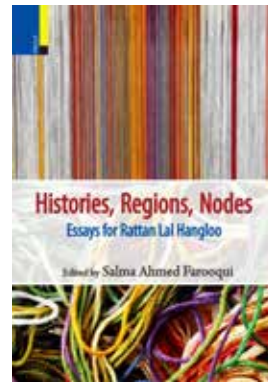
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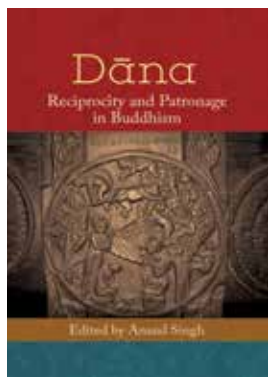
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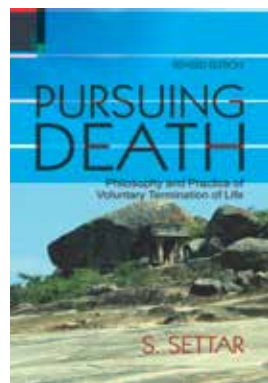
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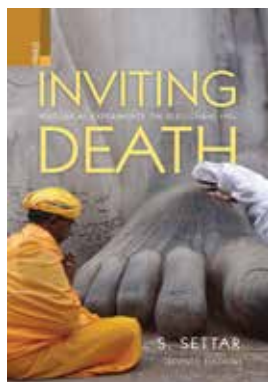
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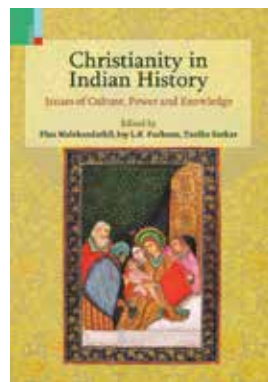
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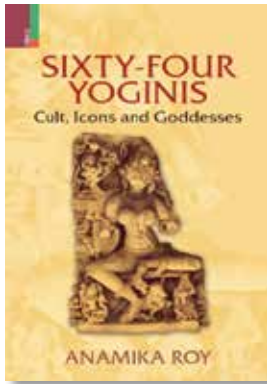
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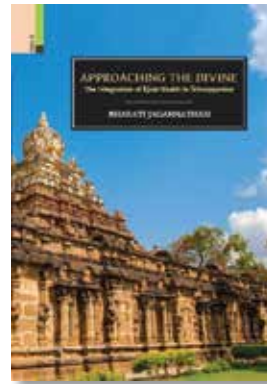
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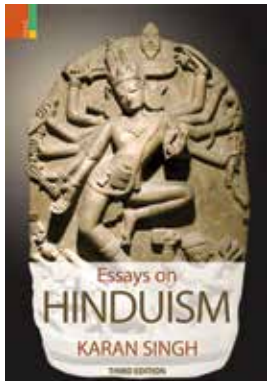
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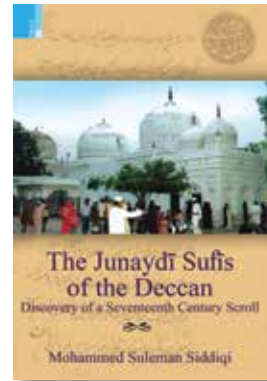
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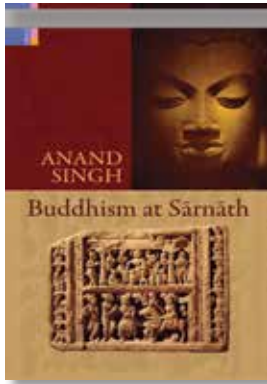
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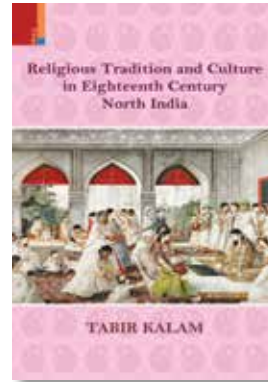
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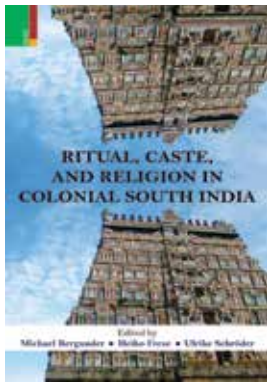
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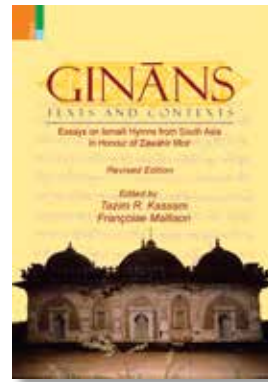
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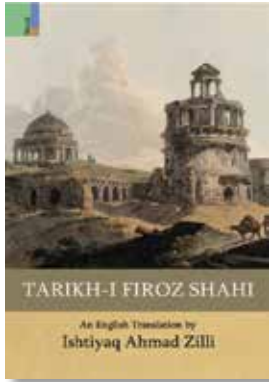
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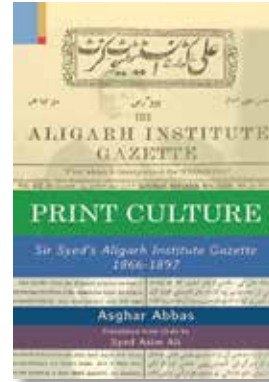
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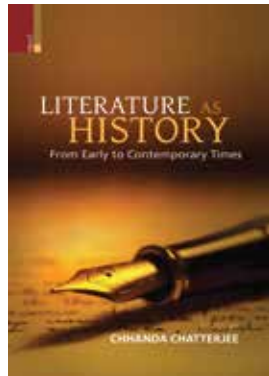
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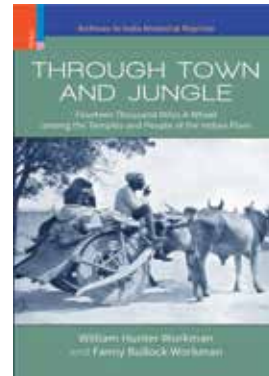
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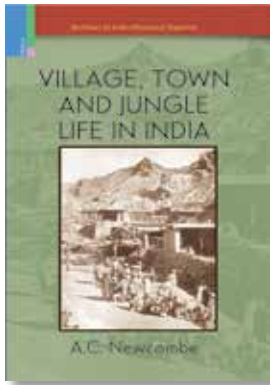
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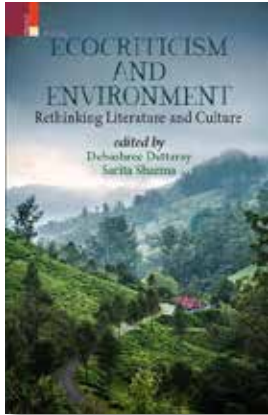


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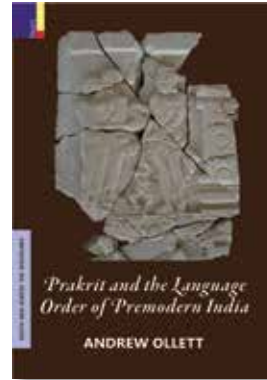
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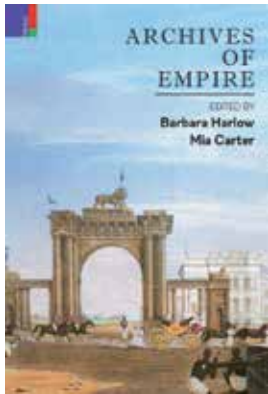
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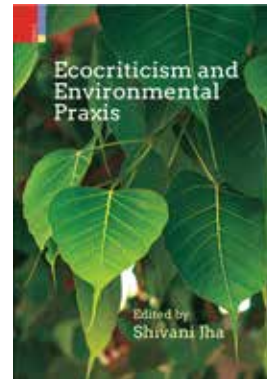
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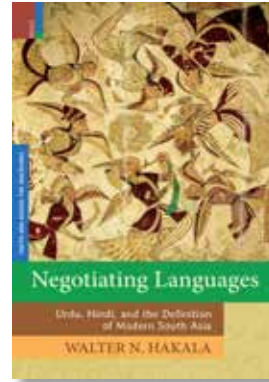
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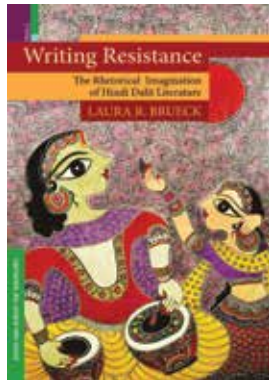
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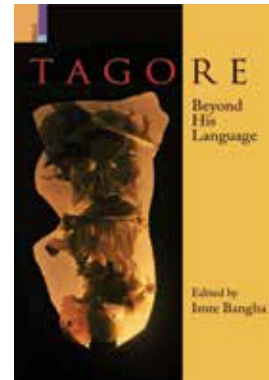
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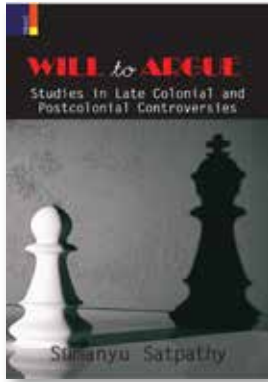
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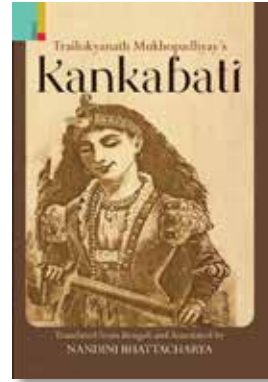
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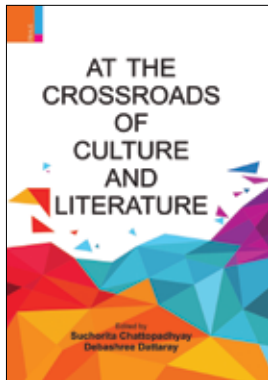
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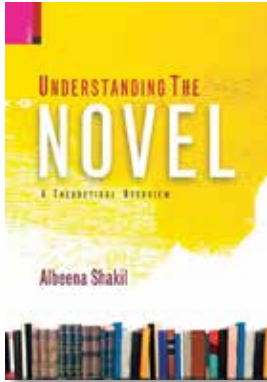
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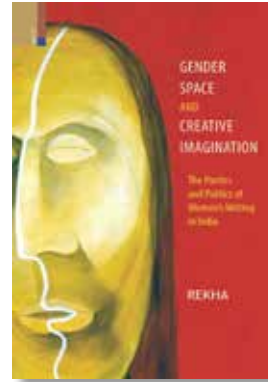
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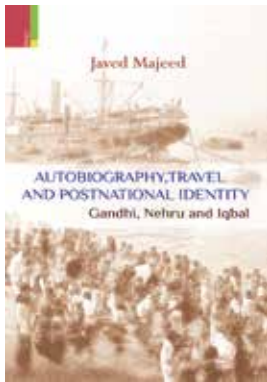
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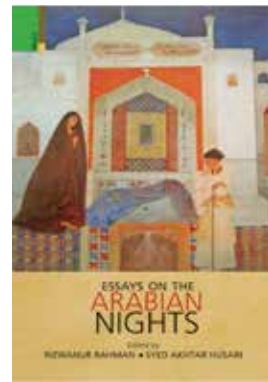
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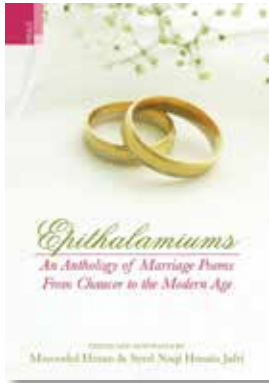
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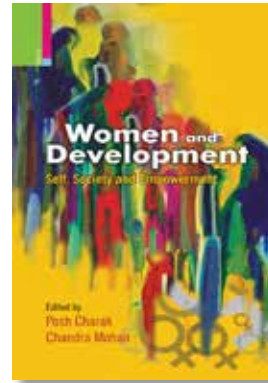
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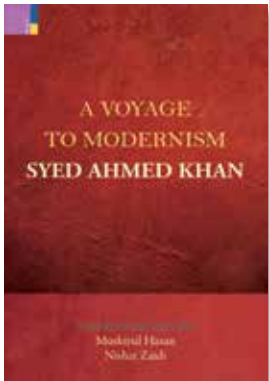
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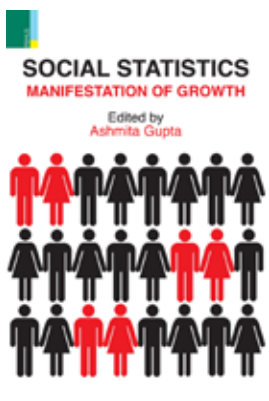
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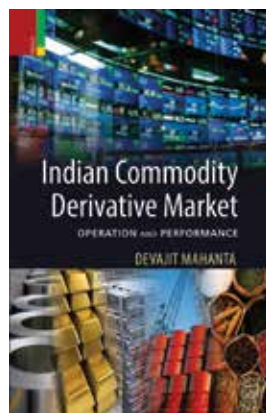
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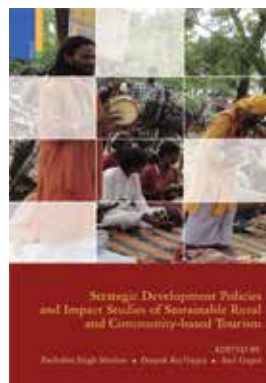
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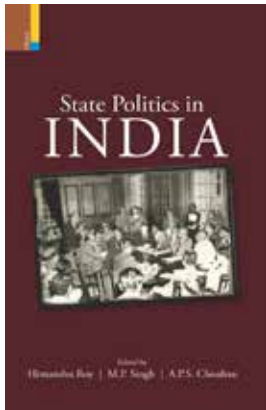
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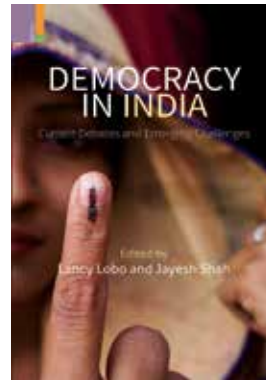
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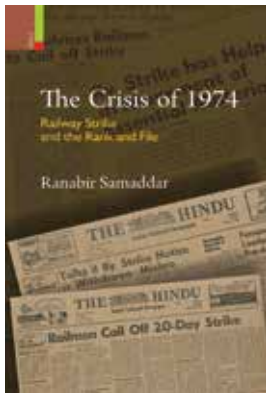
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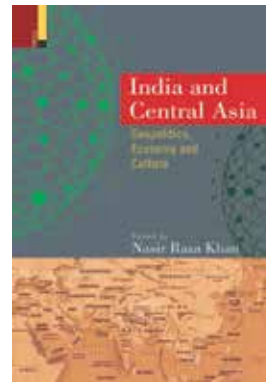
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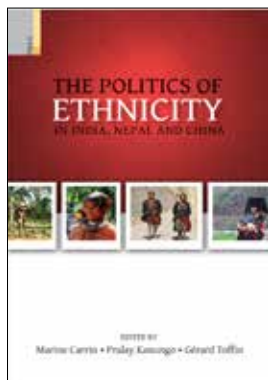
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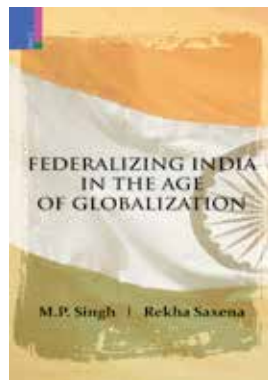
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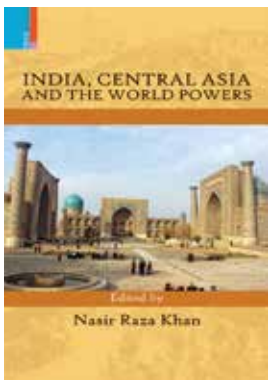
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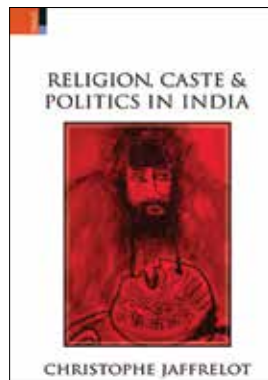
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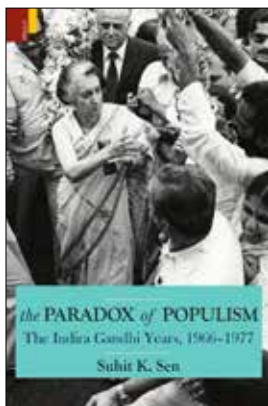
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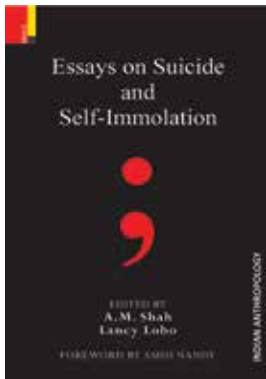
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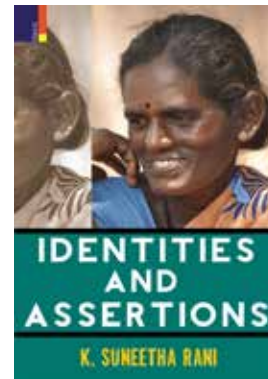
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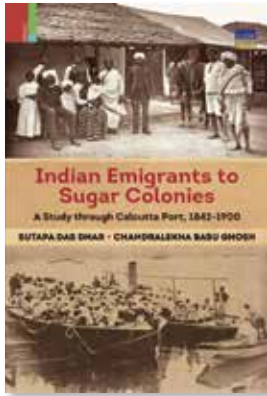
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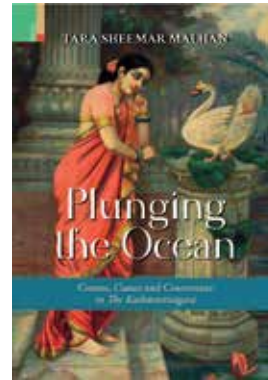
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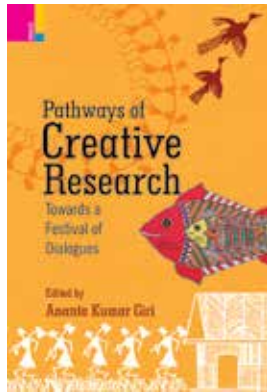
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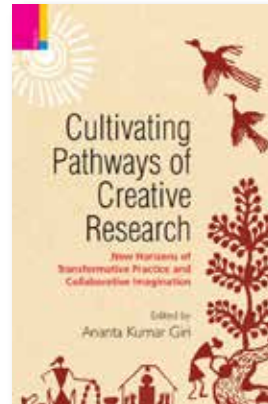
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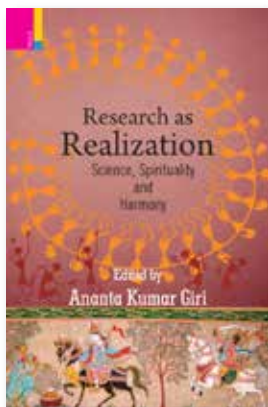
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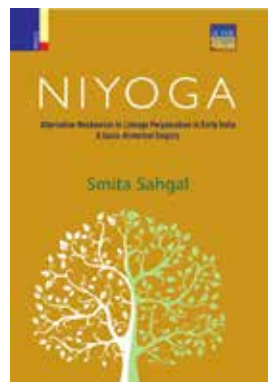
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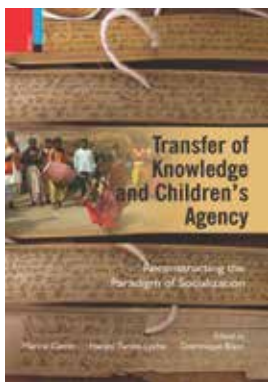
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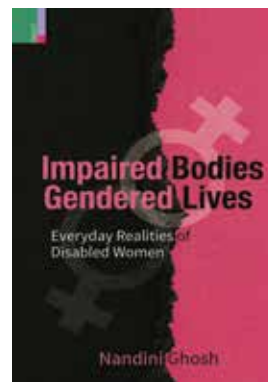
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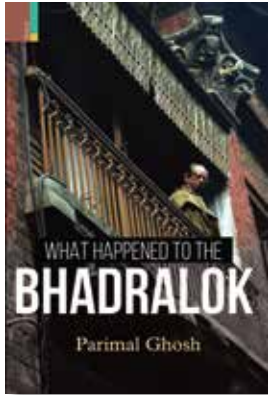
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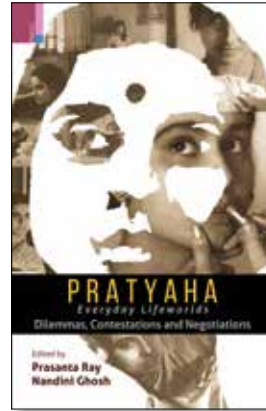
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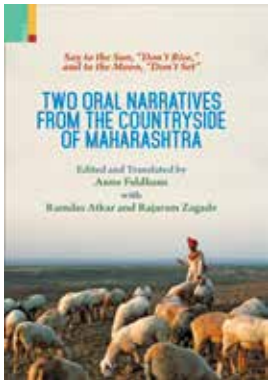
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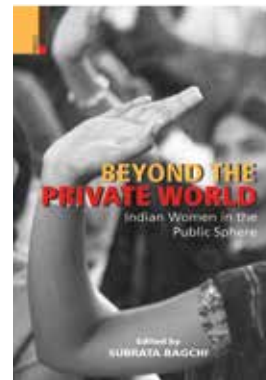
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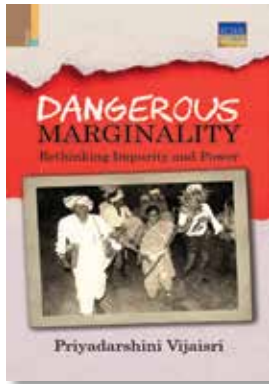
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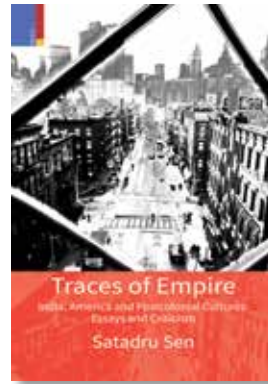
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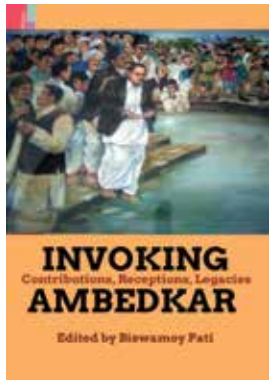
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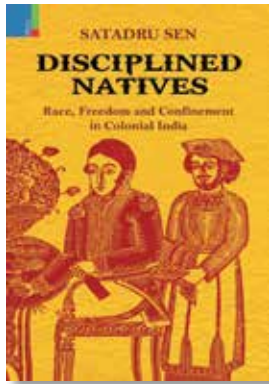
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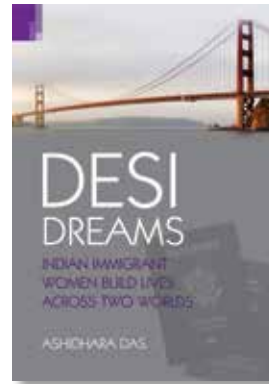
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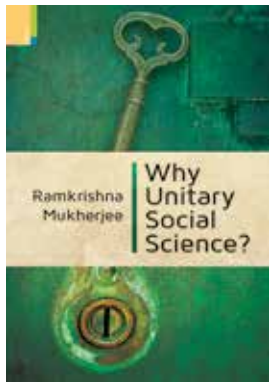
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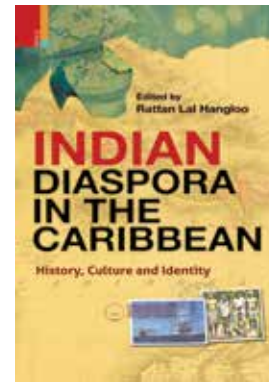
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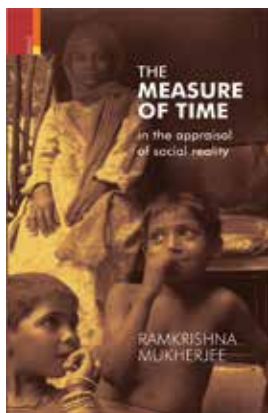
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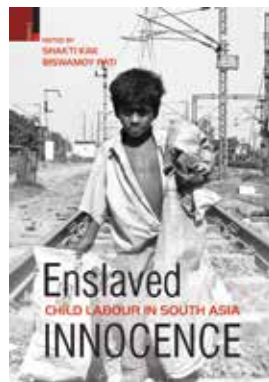
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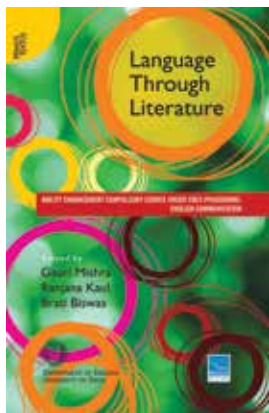
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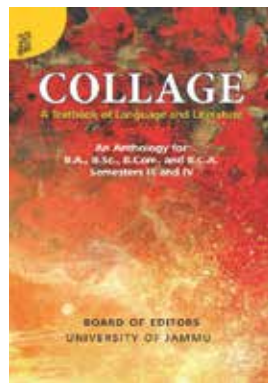


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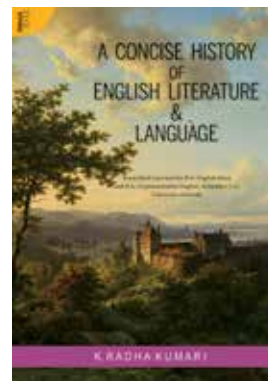
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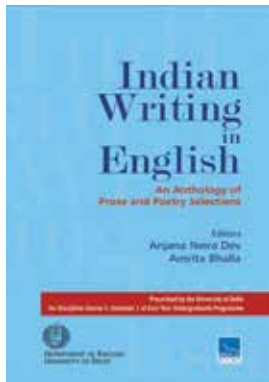
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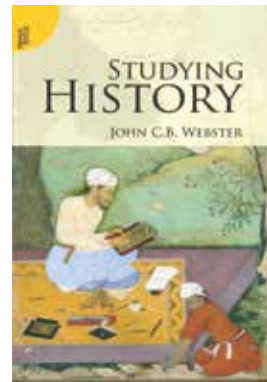
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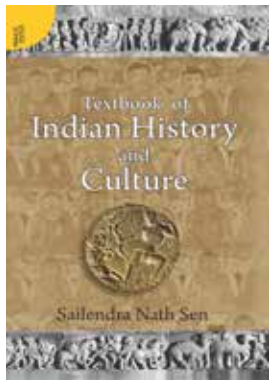
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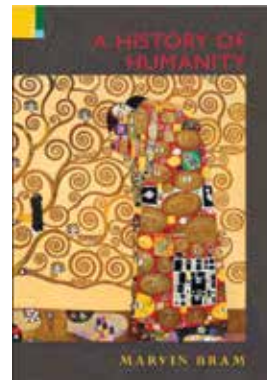
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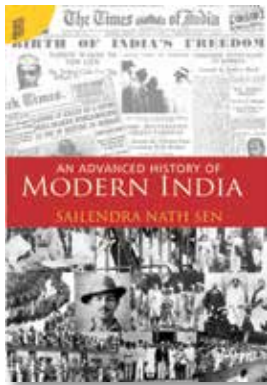
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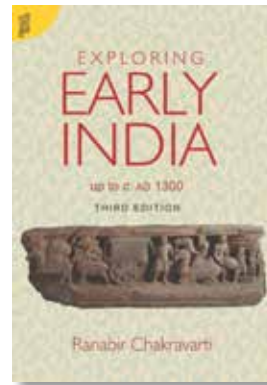
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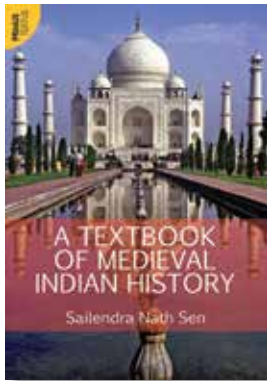
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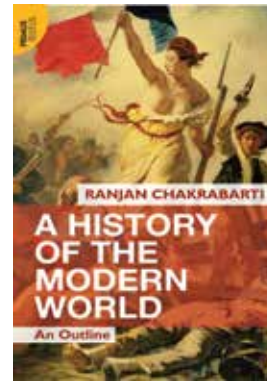
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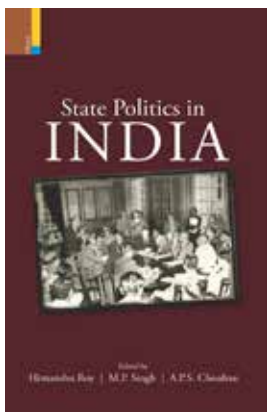
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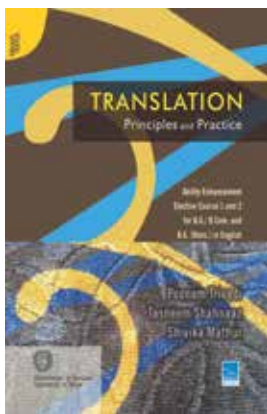
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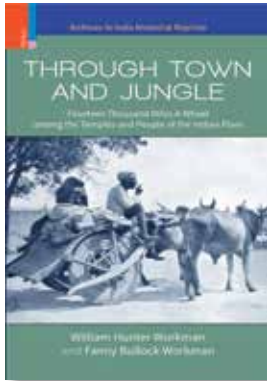


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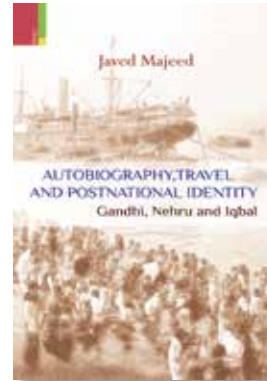
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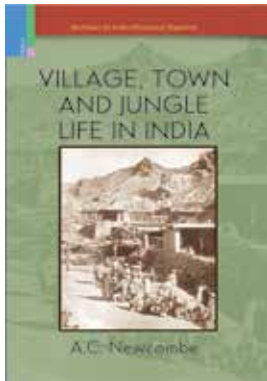
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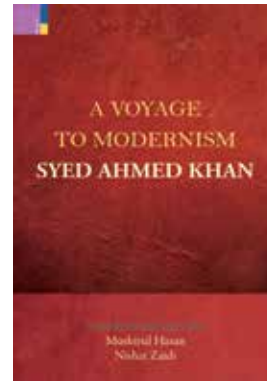
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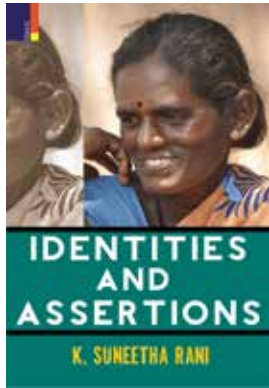
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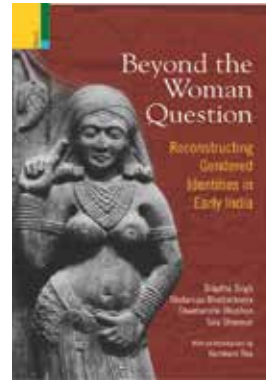
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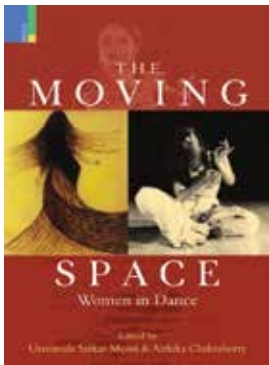
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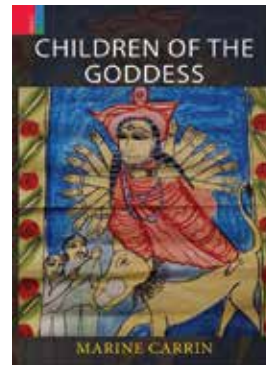
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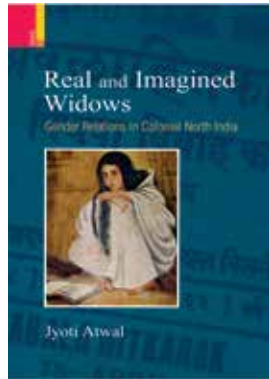
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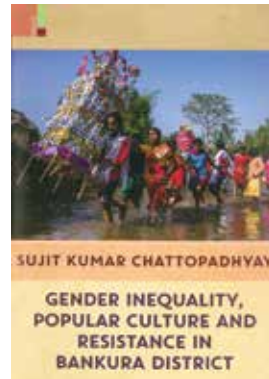
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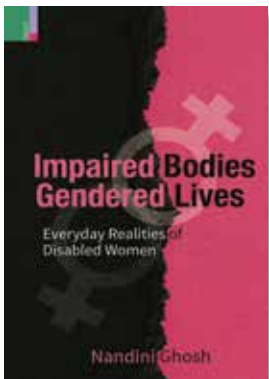
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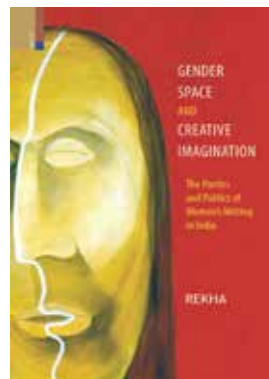
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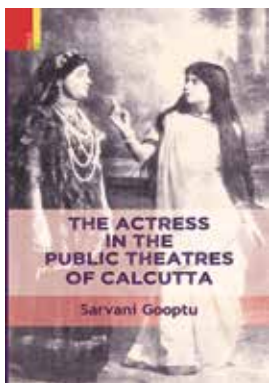
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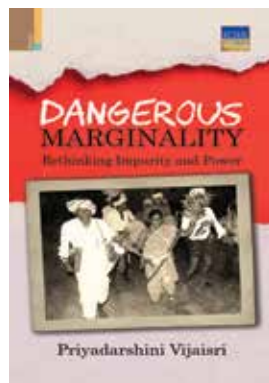
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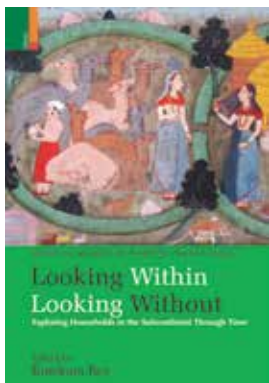
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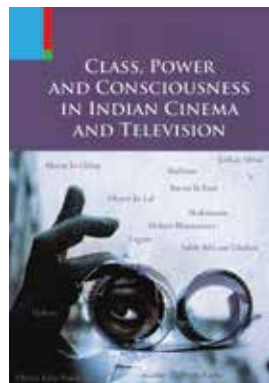
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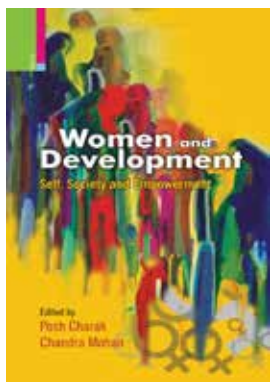
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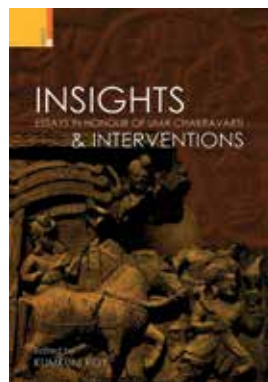
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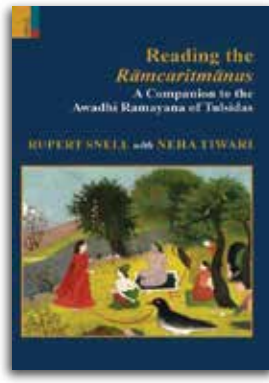
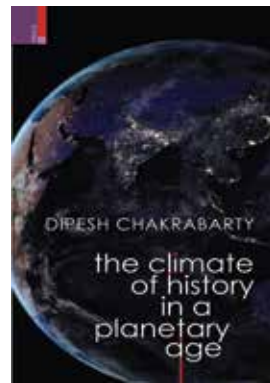
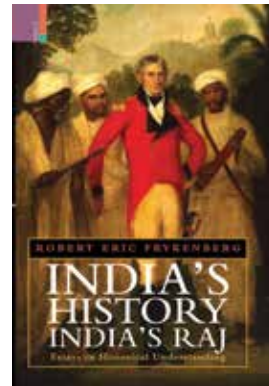
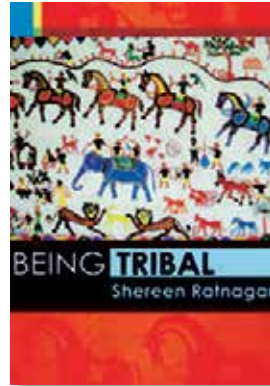
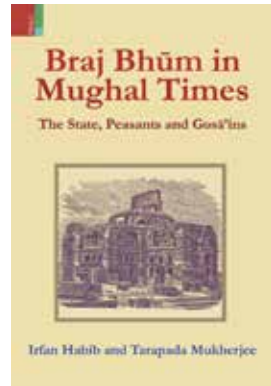
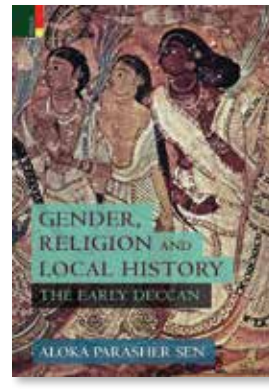
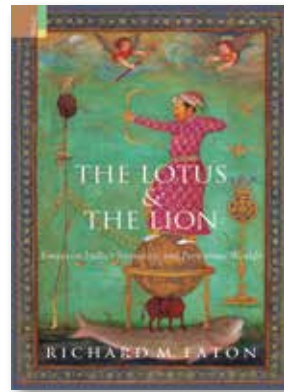
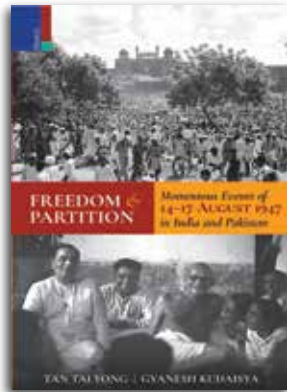
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