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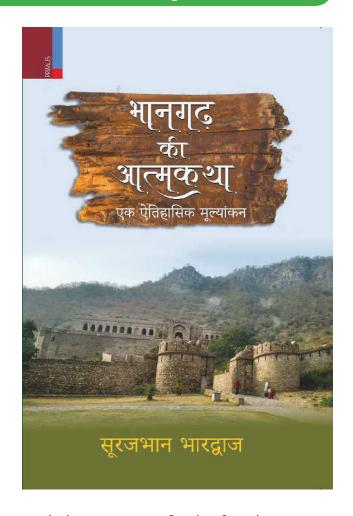
## भानगढ़ की आत्मकथा एक ऐतिहासिक मूट्यांकन

Authored by: Surajbhan Bhardwaj

ISBN: 978-93-6627-387-7

Year: 2024 Pages: 200 Price: ₹800/-

Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Demy 8vo



#### THE BOOK

लोगों का मानना है कि अंधेरा होने के बाद भानगढ़ भूत प्रेतों का आवास बन जाता है और यह शहर एक तांत्रिक के अभिषाप के कारण उजड़ गया था। इस अवधारणा को दूरदर्शन की दुनियां ने और पुख्ता कर दिया है। दरअसल इस संकतथना ने भानगढ़ के इतिहास को गौण बना दिया है और भूत प्रेतों की कहानियां इस उजड़े शहर की जीवन रेखा बन गई हैं। इस पुस्तक में भानगढ के इतिहास का संक्षिप्त विवरण है। भानगढ़ 17वीं सदी में एक फलता फूलता वाणिज्यिक शहर होता था, जो 18वीं सदी के प्रारंभिक वर्षों में राजनैतिक कारणों से उजाड़ दिया गया था। 20वीं सदी के प्रारंभ में भानगढ की उजड़ी हुई विरासत को लोगों से बचाने के लिए भूत प्रेतों की कहानियों का प्रचलन शुरू हो गया। इन कहानियों में दो भिन्न धाराओं का विवरण मिलता है— भानगढ का विनाश नाथपंथियों के अभिषाप के कारण हुआ है जबिक वैष्णव धर्म सुखशांति व सम्पनता का प्रतीक है।

#### THE AUTHOR

सूरजभान भारद्वाज ने तीन दशक से अधिक दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय से संबंधित मोतीलाल नेहरू महाविद्यालय, नई दिल्ली में अध्यापन कार्य किया है। वह महाविद्यालय से कार्यवाहक प्रिंसिपल के पद से सेवा निवृत हुये हैं। उन्होंने सन् 1992 में जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय, नई दिल्ली से पी.एच.डी. की उपाधि प्राप्त की। विशेष रूप से उनकी रूचि मध्यकालीन भारतीय लेखन में रही है। उनका शोधकार्य का क्षेत्र मध्यकालीन राजस्थान रहा है। उनकी प्रकाशित पुस्तकों में Contestations and Accommodations: Mewat and Meos in Mughal India (2016); State and Peasant A Society in Medieval North India: Essays on Changing Contours of Mewat (2019) बेहद प्रसिद्ध हैं। इन पुस्तकों के अलावा उन्होंने दो और पुस्तकें राजस्थान के इतिहास से संबंधित सह लेखक के रूप में प्रकाशित की है। इनके अतिरिक्त एक दर्जन से अधिक शोध पत्र लिखे हैं जो राष्ट्रीय व अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पत्रिकाओं में प्रकाशित हुये है।

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Medieval Indian History, Popular History, Regional Studies etc.



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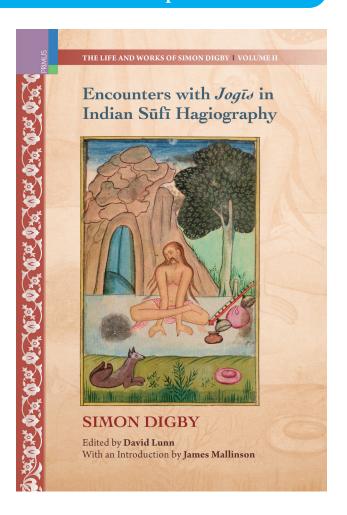
## **ENCOUNTERS WITH** IOGĪS IN INDIAN SŪFĪ **HAGIOGRAPHY**

**Author: Simon Digby Edited By: David Lunn** 

ISBN: 978-93-6883-046-7

Year: 2025 Pages: 328 Price: ₹1550/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

Encounters with Jogis in Indian Sūfi Hagiography is a meticulous and magisterial analysis of myriad anecdotes from early medieval Indian Sūfī 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 Sūfī 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.

#### THE AUTHOR

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

#### THE EDITOR

David Lunn was the Simon Digby Postdoctoral Fellow at SOAS University of London, where he also taught extensively between 2007 and 2023.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Medieval Indian Literature, Sufism, Religious History, Islamic History etc.



#### PRIMUS BOOKS

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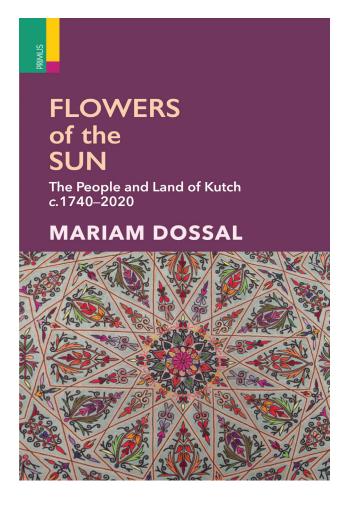
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## FLOWERS OF THE SUN The People and Land of Kutch, c.1740–2020

**Author: Mariam Dossal** 

ISBN: 978-93-6883-866-1

Year: 2025 Pages: 472 Price: ₹1995/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

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.

Special attention is paid to Kutch's participation in the Indian national movement, hitherto almost absent from history books. The role of important leaders, notably, Yusuf Meherally, K.T. Shah, M.M Mehta, Jilubha Jadeja among others, reveal the dominant concerns of the people of Kutch. This historical study concludes with the devastating earthquake of 26 January 2001 and the significant changes that have taken place thereafter.

#### THE AUTHOR

Mariam Dossal is former Professor at the Department of History, University of Mumbai.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of History of Kutch, History of Gujarat, Cultural History, History of Sufism, Maritime History, Political History, Indian History etc.



#### PRIMUS BOOKS

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## GOVERNING WATER IN INDIA

Inequality, Reform, and the State

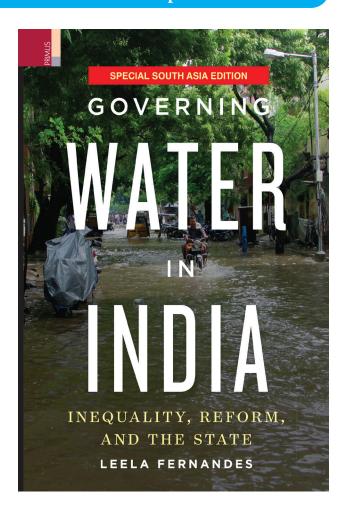
**Author: Leela Fernandes** 

ISBN: 978-93-6883-425-0

Year: 2025 Pages: 296 Price: ₹1495/-

Format: Hardback Territory: South Asia Category: Academic

Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

Intensifying droughts and competing pressures on water resources foreground water scarcity as an urgent concern of the global climate change crisis. In India, individual, industrial, and agricultural water demands exacerbate inequities of access and expose the failures of state governance to regulate use. State policies and institutions influenced by global models of reform produce and magnify socio economic injustice in this "water bureaucracy."

Drawing on historical records, an analysis of post-liberalization developments, and fieldwork in the city of Chennai, Leela Fernandes traces the configuration of colonial historical legacies, developmental-state policies, and economic reforms that strain water resources and intensify inequality. While reforms of water governance promote privatization and decentralization, they strengthen the state centralized control over water through city-based development models. Understanding the political economy of water thus illuminates the consequent failures of the state within countries of the Global South.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Leela Fernandes** is Professor of International Studies at the University of Washington and author of *India's New Middle Class*: Democratic Politics in an Era of Economic Reform and Transnational Feminism in the United States: Knowledge, Ethics, Power.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Water Management, Development Studies, History of Chennai, Environmental Studies and Environmental History etc.



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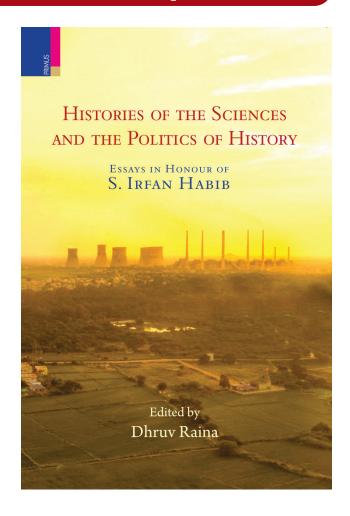
## HISTORIES OF THE SCIENCES AND THE POLITICS OF HISTORY

**Essays in Honour of S. Irfan Habib** 

**Edited by: Dhruv Raina** 

ISBN: 978-93-6883-869-2

Year: 2025 Pages: 340 Price: ₹1350/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

The history and politics of the pursuit of the numerous disciplines of the sciences is enmeshed with debates about the impact of colonialism and decolonization, their relationship with emerging 'global' concerns, popular and state-driven science policies of governments, as well as their linkages of languages and cultural expressions. All these have been concerns for research in the academic life of Professor S. Irfan Habib. In his honour, *Histories of the Sciences and the Politics of History* presents contributions by scholars who have associated and worked with him 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.

#### THE EDITOR

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

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Indian History, History of Science, Global History, Political History, etc.



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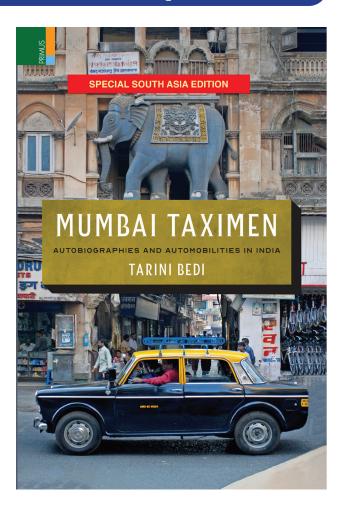
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# MUMBAI TAXIMEN Autobiographies and Automobilities in India

Author: Tarini Bedi

ISBN: 978-93-6883-750-3

Year: 2025
Pages: 244
Price: ₹1295/Format: Hardback
Territory: South Asia
Category: Academic
Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

In this first book-length study of Mumbai's taxi industry and of the livelihoods that surround it, Tarini Bedi draws from the lives and voices of chillia taxi drivers who have sustained a hereditary trade for more than a century. Bedi considers the Bombay taxi in all its forms: a material object that is driven, an economic and political connection, an expression of kinship, an embodiment of urban time and technology, and more. She illustrates how the accumulation of capital in this masculinized and mobile trade depends on forms of fixed domestic labor and an ethics of care, and how connections among these factors impact the production and reshaping of working-class personhood and laboring subjects. From beginning to end, the world of Mumbai automobility unfolds through depiction of the sensory, embodied, and political domains of taxi drivers' work. While most understandings of automobility remain tied to Western assumptions, patterns of driving, (sub)urbanization, and engagements with the road, realities in the Global South differ. *Mumbai Taximen* provides a correction to this imbalance through a timely exploration of South Asian social, material, political, labor, and technological histories and practices of motoring.

#### THE AUTHOR

Tarini Bedi is Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Social Anthropology, Urban History, Cultural Studies, Economic History, Social History and Sociology.



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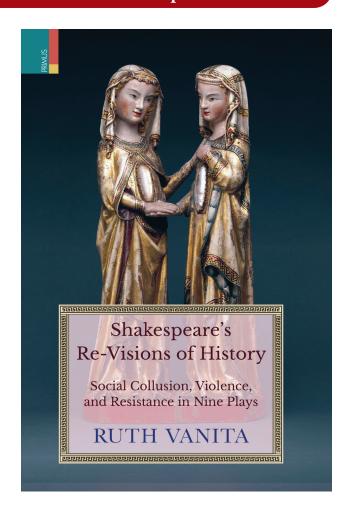
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## SHAKESPEARE'S RE-VISIONS OF HISTORY Social Collusion, Violence, and Resistance in Nine Plays

**Author: Ruth Vanita** 

ISBN: 978-93-6627-400-3

Year: 2025 Pages: 286 Price: ₹1195/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

Shakespeare's Re-Visions of History 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.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Ruth Vanita** is currently Professor Emerita, University of Montana and the author of two novels and many non-fiction works.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of English Literature and Drama, researchers working on Shakespeare and Sixteenth & Seventeenth Century British Literature.



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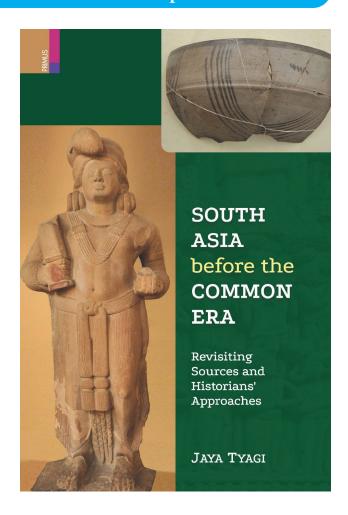
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## SOUTH ASIA BEFORE THE COMMON ERA

Revisiting Sources and Historians' Approaches

**Author: Jaya Tyagi** ISBN: 978-93-61778-92-6

Year: 2025 Pages: 892 Price: ₹2500/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

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.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Jaya Tyagi** has been teaching history in the University of Delhi for over three decades and is presently Professor in the Department of History.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Archaeology, Ancient History, Prehistory, Historiography, South Asian History, etc.



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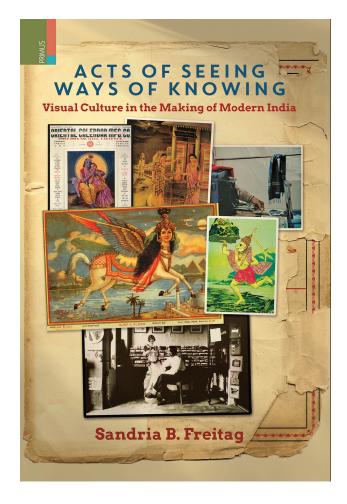
## ACTS OF SEEING, WAYS OF KNOWING

Visual Culture in the Making of Modern India

**Author: Sandria B. Freitag** 

ISBN: 978-93-6627-188-0

Year: 2025 Pages: 436 Price: ₹1995/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

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.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Sandria B. Freitag** teaches History at North Carolina State University and received her PhD from the University of California-Berkeley.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Visual History, Cultural History, Social History, Mass Communication, Modern Indian History, etc.



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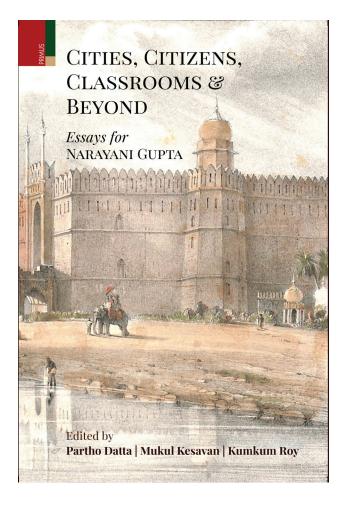
## CITIES, CITIZENS, CLASSROOMS AND BEYOND

**Essays for Narayani Gupta** 

## Edited by: Partho Datta, Mukul Kesavan and Kumkum Roy

ISBN: 978-93-6627-004-3

Year: 2025 Pages: 416 Price: ₹1295/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

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.

#### THE EDITORS

**Partho Datta** taught undergraduate history and now teaches music studies at the School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

**Mukul Kesavan** is a 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.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of History of Delhi, History of Towns, Urbanisation, Pedagogy, Education and Learning, Historiography etc.



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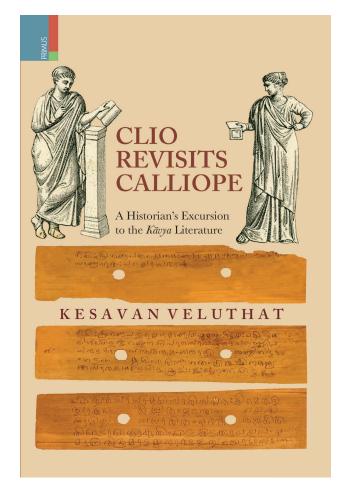
## CLIO REVISITS CALLIOPE A Historian's Excursion to the Kāvya Literature

**Author: Kesavan Veluthat** 

ISBN: 978-93-6883-199-0

Year: 2025 Pages: 258 Price: ₹995/-

Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

The essays included in *Clio Revisits Calliope: A Historian's Excursion to the Kāvya Literature* analyze *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 partake of all features of Sanskrit *kāvyas*. The burden of argument in these essays is that even when the theme taken up by two texts are the same, each has a different flavour and character and that it is the social formation which produced 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 in appreciating poetry; so also, a literary sensibility is a desideratum in understanding the past. It emphasizes that one will be able to understand by reading poetry what a thousand volumes of history books could not possibly tell us, i.e. it is possible to *feel* history rather than *know* it.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Kesavan Veluthat** has taught history at the Universities of Calicut, Mangalore and Delhi. He has been a Visiting Professor at many universities in India and abroad.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will attract scholars, students, and general readers interested in Ancient Indian History, Literary Texts and Indology.



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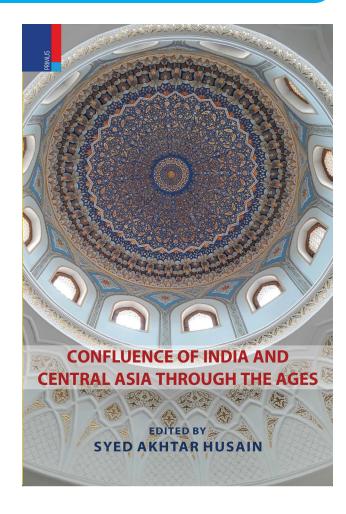
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## CONFLUENCE OF INDIA AND CENTRAL ASIA THROUGH THE AGES

**Edited by: Syed Akhtar Husain** 

ISBN: 978-93-6883-941-5

Year: 2025 Pages: 376 Price: ₹1450/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

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, crisscrossing Asia, in this book. The volume also deals with Persian and Urdu texts which demonstrate the cultural richness of the regions. Other 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.

#### THE EDITOR

**Syed Akhtar Husain** is 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. He has published articles in leading journals of Persian studies in India and abroad and has two books to his credit. He has also co-edited *Essays on the Arabian Nights* (2015) and *Revisiting Sadeq Hedayat's* Blind Owl: *Writings on a Modern Persian Novel* (2023).

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will attract scholars, students, and general readers interested in Economic History, History of Trade & Commerce, Cultural Studies, International Relations, Religious Studies, Travelogues and Literature.

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## DILEMMAS OF A TRISHANKU Memory, Self and Society in Contemporary India

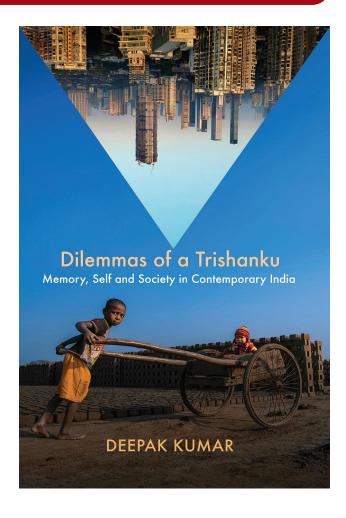
**Author: Deepak Kumar** 

ISBN: 978-93-6177-161-3

Year: 2024 Pages: 292 Price: ₹695/-

Format: Paperback Territory: Global Category: Academic

Size: Demy 8vo



#### THE BOOK

**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.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Deepak Kumar** has worked and popularized research and teaching on the history of science in India for almost five decades. In 2017 he retired as Professor of History of Science and Education from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Post-Independence Indian History, Indian Polity, Social History, Sociology, History of Science and Medicine, and Development Studies.



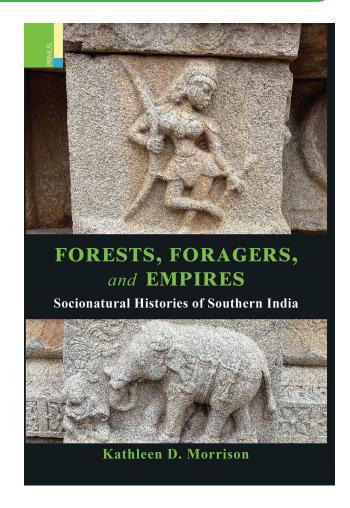
An Imprint of Ratna Sagar P. Ltd.

## FORESTS, FORAGERS, AND EMPIRES Socionatural Histories of Southern India

Author: Kathleen D. Morrison

ISBN: 978-93-5852-034-7

Year: 2024 Pages: 459 Price: ₹1695/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

Forests, Foragers, and Empires: Socionatural Histories of Southern India 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.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Kathleen D. Morrison** is the Sally and Alvin V. Shoemaker Professor of Anthropology and Lead Curator, Asian Section, at the University of Pennsylvania Museum. Her research focuses on the historical ecology of Southern Asia, integrating paleoenvironmental analysis, archaeology, and history.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Environmental History, Anthropocene, South Indian History, Colonial History and Forestry.

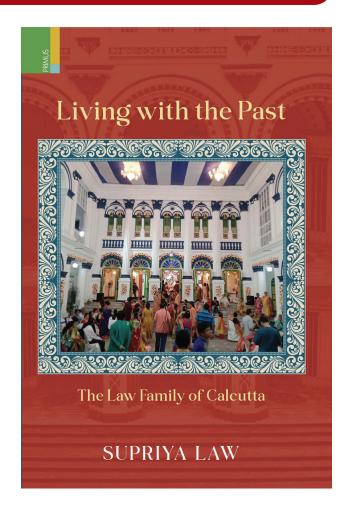


An Imprint of Ratna Sagar P. Ltd.

## LIVING WITH THE PAST The Law Family of Calcutta

Author: Supriya Law ISBN: 978-93-6177-909-1

Year: 2025 Pages: 378 Price: ₹1995/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

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.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Supriya Law** is currently pursuing her doctoral degree at the University of Calcutta. She has conducted in-depth research into the history of the Law family and is, at present, working on the Subarnabanik community in West Bengal with a focus on the family history of Mutty Lall Seal (1792–1854) and Prawn Kissen Law (1790–1853).

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will attract scholars, students, and general readers interested in Colonial History of Bengal, Modern Indian History, Cultural History, and History of Trade and Commerce.



#### PRIMUS BOOKS

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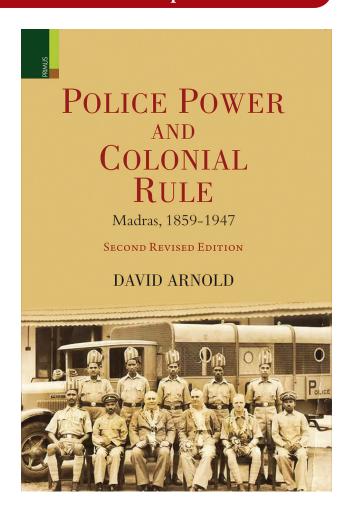
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POLICE POWER AND COLONIAL RULE Madras, 1859–1947 (Second Revised Edition)

**Author: David Arnold** 

ISBN: 978-93-6177-667-0

Year: 2024
Pages: 408
Price: ₹1150/Format: Hardback
Territory: Global
Category: Academic
Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

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.

#### THE AUTHOR

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

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Colonial History, Police System, History of Crime, Administrative History, History of the Madras Presidency and Modern Indian History.



#### PRIMUS BOOKS

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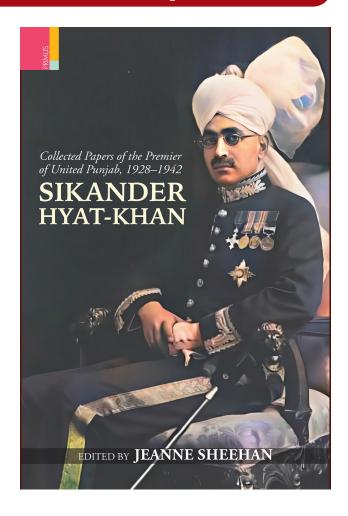
## SIKANDER HYAT-KHAN Collected Papers of the Premier of United Punjab, 1928–1942

Edited by: Jeanne Sheehan

ISBN: 978-93-6177-530-7

Year: 2024 Pages: 811

Price: ₹Awaited/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

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.

#### THE EDITOR

**Jeanne Sheehan** is Professor of Political Science and International Studies at Iona University, a Bloomberg Politics contributor, and author.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of South Asian History, Modern Indian History, Colonialism, and Political & Social History.



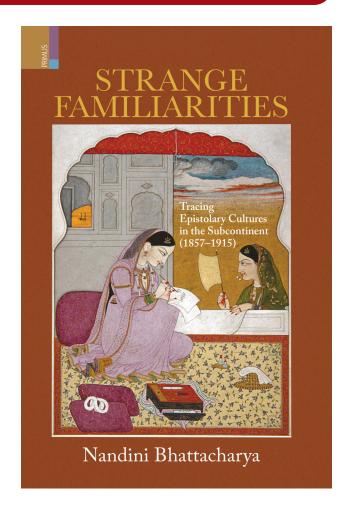
An Imprint of Ratna Sagar P. Ltd.

## STRANGE FAMILIARITIES Tracing Epistolary Cultures in the Subcontinent, (1857–1915)

Author: Nandini Bhattacharya

ISBN: 978-93-6883-430-4

Year: 2025 Pages: 340 Price: ₹1450/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

*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.

#### THE AUTHOR

Nandini Bhattacharya is Professor, Department of English and Culture Studies, The University of Burdwan, West Bengal.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will attract scholars and students and general readers interested in Literature, English Literature, Bengali Literature, Comparative Literature, Cultural Studies and Linguistics.

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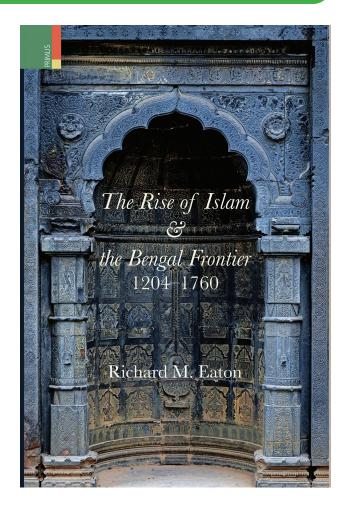
## THE RISE OF ISLAM AND THE BENGAL FRONTIER, 1204–1760

**Author: Richard M. Eaton** 

ISBN: 978-93-5852-718-6

Year: 2024 Pages: 388 Price: ₹650/-

Format: Paperback Territory: South Asia Category: Academic Size: Demy 8vo



#### THE BOOK

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? And, more broadly, how does the religious transformation of an entire population take place? Richard Eaton's study examines the unique processes that shaped Bengal's cultural landscape, focusing on the dynamics of moving frontiers and the long historical encounter between Islamic and Indic civilizations.

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.

#### THE AUTHOR

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

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Medieval Indian History, History of Medieval Bengal, History of Bengal Sultanate, Mughal History, History of Sufism, etc.



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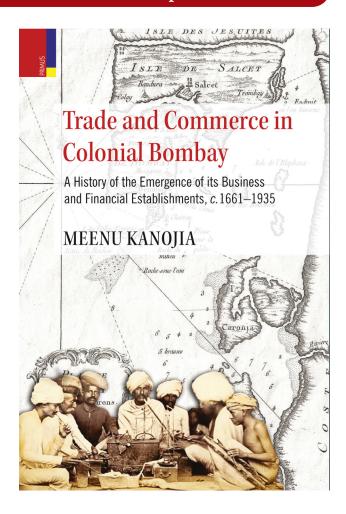
## TRADE AND COMMERCE IN COLONIAL BOMBAY

A History of the Emergence of its Business and Financial Establishments, c.1661–1935

Author: Meenu Kanojia

ISBN: 978-93-6627-219-1

Year: 2025 Pages: 350 Price: ₹1495/-Format: Hardback Territory: Global Category: Academic Size: Royal 8vo



#### THE BOOK

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. Given the dynamic role that the British Government and Indian merchants played, the period between 1661 and 1935 constituted a critical phase in transforming Bombay into a leading entrepôt for international trade as well as a thriving cosmopolitan city in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

#### THE AUTHOR

**Meenu Kanojia** is an independent historian. Her areas of specialization include history of western India under the Portuguese and development of banking and commerce, in the specific context of Bombay.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of History of Bombay, Maritime History, History of Trade and Commerce, Economic History and Modern Indian History.



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## TRANSCENDING BOUNDARIES

**Premodern Cultural** 

Transactions across Asia: Essays

in Honour of Osmund

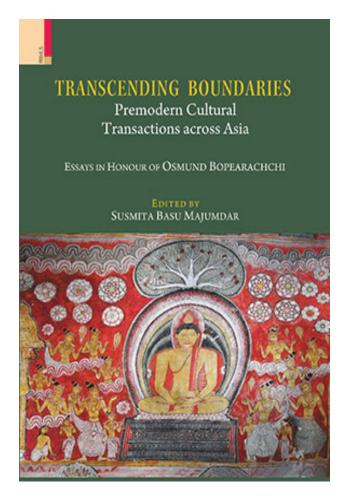
Bopearachchi

#### Edited by Susmita Basu Majumdar

ISBN: 978-93-6177-059-3

Year: 2024
Pages: 863
Price: ₹6500/Format: Hardback
Territory: Global
Category: Academic

Size: A4



#### THE BOOK

*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. Going beyond the traditional approach of cataloguing coins, Professor Bopearachchi has worked to link numismatics with sculptural and pictorial iconography. Across his decades-long career, he has transcended the boundaries of academic disciplines to carry out path-breaking research.

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

#### THE EDITOR

**Susmita Basu Majumdar** is Professor and Head of the Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture, University of Calcutta, India. She specializes in Indian epigraphy and numismatics. Her other areas of interest are history of medicine and surgery and early Indian religion.

#### **READERSHIP**

This book will be of interest to scholars and students of Archaeology, Ancient Indian History, Art History and Religious Studies.



#### PRIMUS BOOKS

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