



catalogue 2024–25

Street 
GENDER STUDIES

Samya 
CULTURAL STUDIES



ABOUT US



STREE and SAMYA are two imprints of Bhatkal and Sen, a joint partnership of Harsha Bhatkal of Popular Prakashan, Mumbai, founded in 1926, and Mandira Sen of Calcutta, who is the director. She has worked in publishing for many years, in Boston, the UK and in Calcutta.

Established in 1990, STREE is one of the leading publishers of women's studies, focussing on the status of women in diverse contexts at the workplace, class relations, politics, marriage, family, the impact of religion, culture and ideology. It also translates women's writings in Indian languages into English and takes special interest in women's autobiographies and memoirs.

STREE takes pride in being perhaps the first publisher of women's studies to consider a social science list that addresses caste seriously. This became an entry point to feminist concerns that led to the inauguration of our imprint SAMYA in 1996.

SAMYA publishes on culture and identity, taking a critical look at privilege and oppression, the ensuing debates on caste, contemporary issues and those of the past, particularly stressing on Dalit writings and related translations to examine the roots of injustice. It weaves together scholarly analysis and the everyday experiences of activists, presenting a deeper understanding of the social changes taking place today.

From 2017–2022, selected social science books were published jointly as SAGE-STREE and SAGE-SAMYA.

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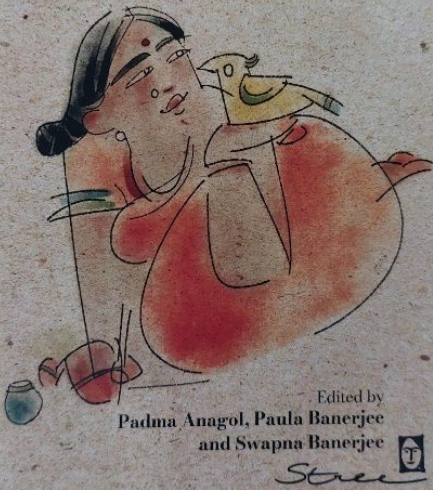
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Mapping Women's History

Recovery, Resistance, and Activism
in Colonial and Postcolonial India



MAPPING WOMEN'S HISTORY: RECOVERY, RESISTANCE AND ACTIVISM IN COLONIAL AND POSTCOLONIAL INDIA

Edited by Padma Anagol, Paula Banerjee
and Swapna Banerjee

8.5"x5.5" pb, 322 pp,
978-93-81345-85-6,
Printbook: Rs. 899, ebook: Rs700,
August 2022

The legacy of Professors Barbara Ramusack and Geraldine Forbes is delineated in their pioneering work in charting Indian women's history for a global audience. Restoring women to history and recuperating their voices were a challenging task for feminist historians of the earlier generations. Ramusack and Forbes worked with Indian historians to reclaim the history of Indian women: together they helped put women in the map of Indian history and culture. Their tireless efforts to uncover Indian women's stories laid the foundation and opened the floodgate for researchers to launch investigations in new territories. Two pieces by Barbara Ramuseck and Geraldine Forbes describe their education and decisions that led them to be the first generation of western women to have scholarly careers of distinction. Amongst the eminent contributors are Gail Minault, Durba Ghosh, Elena Borghi, Padma Anagol, Siobhan Lambert-Hurley, Sanjam Ahluwalia, Paula Banerjee, and Priyanka Srivastava. Mrinalini Sinha and Antoinette Burton provide a reflective Afterword.

Padma Anagol is Reader in History Department of History, Director, Centre for Asian Studies, Cardiff University; **Paula Banerjee** is Professor of South and Southeast Asian Studies, University of Calcutta; **Swapna Banerjee** is Professor of History, Endowed Chair, Women's and Gender Studies (2016-18) Brooklyn College of the City University of New York.

Gender Studies/History/Cultural Studies

Her-Self

Gender and Early Writings of
Malayali Women, 1898–1938

Translated from
the Malayalam
and edited by
J. Devika

HER-SELF: EARLY WRITINGS ON GENDER BY MALAYALI WOMEN 1898–1938 (Revised Edition)

Translated from Malayalam and edited by J. Devika
Foreword by V. Geetha

8.5" x 5.5" pb. 230pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-67-2,
Rs. 695
July 2021

This collection of early writings by Malayali women, translated for the first time into English, gives us, in the words of V. Geetha, 'texts that dazzle'. Written between 1898–1938, they reveal the vigorous debate over modern gender relations that was taking place in this period. Women reflected on what was 'Womanly', on education, duties, vocation and civil roles, an ongoing discussion, first influenced by reformism and later by nationalist and communist ideas, which remain alive today.

The anthology contains many spirited rejoinders to distinguished male intellectuals who opposed women's employment or 'intrusion' into public space. J. Devika also discusses what is excluded from the Womanhood as well as a need to define what is non-Womanly.

In her new Preface for this reprint, the editor-translator talks of how the collection offers many genealogies for Malayali feminism, making it both local and cosmopolitan. She addresses many of the challenges that mainstream feminism in India now faces, for example, that of developing intersectional analysis of patriarchal oppression.

J. Devika is Professor, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram. **V. Geetha** is an independent scholar.

Gender/Cultural Studies/History

A joint publication with SAGE

TALKING OF POWER: EARLY WRITINGS OF
BENGALI WOMEN
(Revised Edition)

Edited by Malini Bhattacharya and Abhijit Sen

8.5" x 5.5" pb. Approx. 196 pp
ISBN 978-93-81345-81-8,
Rs. 750,
July 2021.

Editors: Malini Bhattacharya and Abhijit Sen

These writings translated for the first time from the Bengali are by women who were amongst the earliest to receive a modern education and become members of a reading and writing public. Women wrote on a wide variety of concerns in many journals that had come into being because of the tremendous growth of vernacular print culture. These were often edited by women, including some of the writers in the anthology, *Bharat Mahila*, *Bharati o Balak*, *Antahpur Mahila* and *Bharati* to mention just a few.

The writers' contributions helped build the image of the new educated woman: self-confident, opinionated and transgressive. Who were these writers? They came as expected from elite backgrounds; most were from families that belonged to the Brahmo Samaj such as Bamasundari Devi, Saratkumari Chaudhurani, Hemantakumari Chaudhuri, Kumudini Mitra, Kamini Roy, and Swarnakumari Devi and her two daughters, Hiranmoyee Devi and Sarala Devi, members of the family of Debendranath Tagore of Jorasanko. Some were Hindus like Kailashbasini Devi, Girindramohini Dasi, Krishnabhabini Das, and Anindita Devi.

Two Muslim writers of this period have also been included: the remarkably erudite and pioneering Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain and the lesser known Khairunnissa Khatun, a social reformer in her own right.

No information could be found on Jagadishwari Devi or Kusumkumari Devi. The former debunked the notion that tradition demanded that the Hindu women abjure wearing shoes and that if they did, they were westernized, and the latter argued for consensual marriage well ahead of her time.

The articles cover women's social powerlessness which gets intertwined with the powerlessness of the colonized to the need to participate in the growing nationalist protest against the first Partition of Bengal 1905, and the ensuing Swadeshi movement. The early writings speak of the home as the proper domain for women; the later pieces persuade women to enter the public domain. Thus, there is much interest in what would be a suitable dress to wear outside, how to help women gain some financial independence, how to rouse their patriotism, the wish to earn a living, and so on. Most interesting perhaps is the manner in which perceptions of patriarchy change and women discover a new role for themselves in the construction of the nation.

Malini Bhattacharya retired as Professor, Department of English, Jadavpur University and was a former Director, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University; **Abhijit Sen** retired as Publication Officer, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University.

Gender/Culture Studies/History
A joint publication with SAGE



THINKING WOMEN: A FEMINIST READER

Edited by Navaneetha Mokkil and Shefali Jha

Foreword by Susie Tharu

8.5"x5.5" pb, 524 pp, black and white illustrations.
ISBN 978-81-906760-0-7,
Rs 999.

This reader gives a fascinating glimpse into the workings of gender in day-to-day lives, the site for complicated gender negotiations. The selection is wide-ranging, including creative writing in English and translations from the other Indian languages, autobiographies, newspaper articles, theoretical pieces and visual material like advertisements and cartoons. The editors foreground differences and show how caste, class, sexuality and religion complicate the experiences of gender, offering a different perspective but no neat resolutions.

Navaneetha Mokkil is Assistant Professor, Centre for Women's Studies, School of Social Sciences, JNU; **Shefali Jha** is Assistant Professor, Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology, Ahmedabad; **Susie Tharu** is Professor Emerita, Department of Cultural Studies, EFLU, Hyderabad; all are members of Anveshi, Hyderabad.

Gender Studies/Sociology/Cultural Studies/History

MAPPING DALIT FEMINISM: TOWARDS AN INTERSECTIONAL STANDPOINT

Anandita Pan

8.5"x5.5" hb, 280 pp,
 ISBN 978-93-81345-55-9 (HB). Rs. 1150,
 imprint: Rights available other than in English.

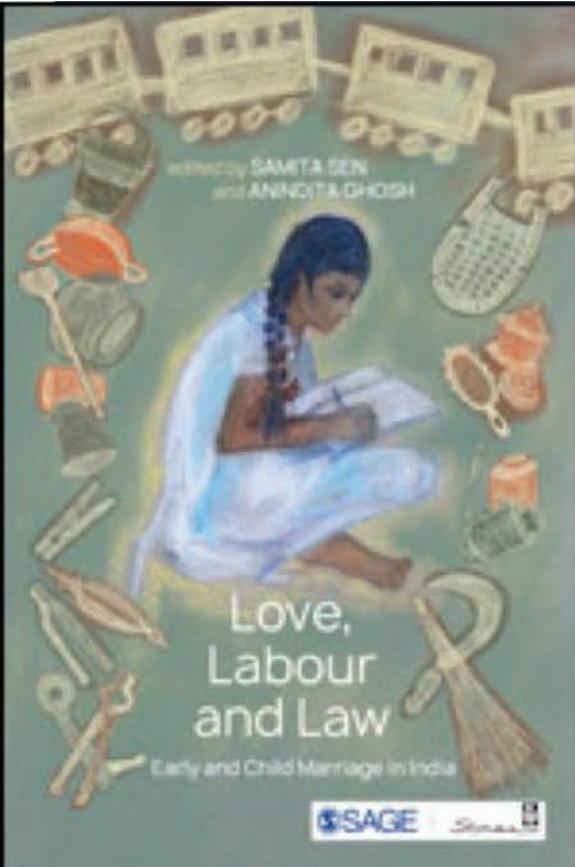
In this path-breaking study, a first in many ways, Anandita Pan argues that Dalit women are an intersectional category, simultaneously affected by caste and gender. The use of intersectionality permits observation of the ways in which different forms of discrimination combine and overlap, challenging the apparent homogeneity of the categories 'woman' and 'Dalit' as seen by mainstream Indian Feminism and Dalit Politics. This points to the difference between women and Dalit women and the latter with Dalit men, which leave them unrepresented.

The book investigates the questions of 'selfhood', identity, representation and epistemology which reveal the 'savarnanization' of 'Indian woman' and the masculinization of 'Dalit'. There is an incisive discussion of knowledge produced about Dalit women and the intervention and contribution of Dalit Feminism therein. The book concludes with the question of who can be or become a Dalit feminist, intriguingly, not a limited category.

Anandita Pan is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IISER Bhopal. She obtained her PhD from IIT Kanpur. Her research explores the myriad way in which 'Feminism' is viewed and practised in India, and puts special emphasis on women and nature, women and labour, and speculative narratives by women.

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/Sociology/ History/Literature

A joint publication with SAGE



LOVE, LABOUR AND LAW: EARLY AND CHILD MARRIAGE IN INDIA

Edited by Samita Sen and Anindita Ghosh

8.5"x5.5" hb, 306 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-58-0 (HB).
Rs. 1295.

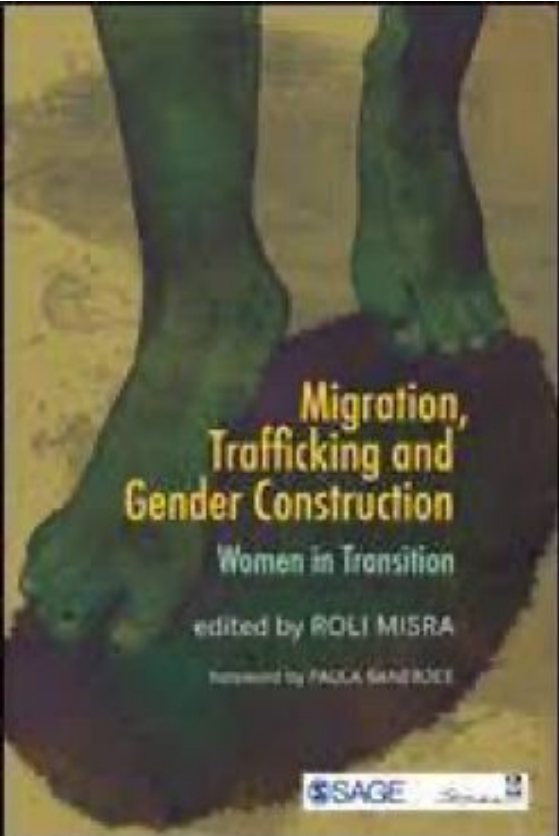
Love, Labour and Law: Early and Child Marriage in India is a path-breaking book on an issue that has not been analysed in depth for a while, perhaps since it does not affect the elite. Today, the child brides are usually from poor families. They are of 15–17 years as compared to much younger brides in the earlier times. The book discusses why child marriages persist despite numerous legislative and policy initiatives to 'eliminate' the practice. The chapters examine social and legal reforms to raise the age of marriage; contemporary education and health-related policy attempts at prevention; relationship of child marriage with child sex work, human trafficking and other issues.

Increasingly, there is greater resistance to marriages arranged by parents from the 'child' brides themselves who can now access institutional and bureaucratic support. How hopeful are these developments? The book goes beyond a simple policy focus on 'elimination' and provides a much-needed understanding of marriage and women's agency within the context of the Indian marriage system.

Samita Sen is Vere Harmsworth Professor in Imperial and Naval History at the University of Cambridge. She was the first Vice Chancellor, Diamond Harbour Women's University, West Bengal. Her book *Passage to Bondage: Labour in the Assam Tea Plantations* was published by Stree (2016). **Anindita Ghosh** received her Ph.D. from Jadavpur University and worked with research projects of the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University and is a consultant for Headword publishers.

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/Sociology/ History/Literature

A joint publication with SAGE



MIGRATION, TRAFFICKING AND GENDER CONSTRUCTION: WOMEN IN TRANSITION

Edited by Roli Misra

8.5"x5.5"hb, 254 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-47-4.
Rs. 1095.

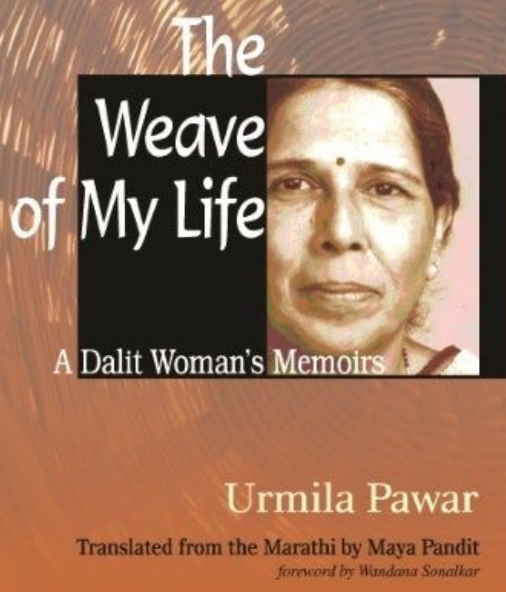
Bringing together essays on India, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Europe, this book offers valuable insights on women's migration and demonstrates how tremendous political upheavals—the partition of India, the creation of Burma or the breakup of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia—bring about new geography, demography and economics that are conducive to people's displacement. Immigrants face racial-ethnic stratification, location segregation in ghettos or camps and find it difficult to access economic opportunities, leading usually to downward assimilation. Emphasizing intersectionality between gender and migration, the book highlights women's experiences holistically and also shows how migration is closely aligned to trafficking.

Through narratives, case studies and secondary data from different regions and countries the book points out the very different significance of female labour migration compared to male. Ongoing conflicts and forcible displacement of 'newcomers', where women are particularly vulnerable, are discussed, as are the complexities of ethnic identity. The book gives readers a comprehensive idea of the scale and complexity of women's migration today.

Roli Misra is Professor in the Department of Economics, University of Lucknow. Her areas of interests are gender studies, migration and agricultural economics. A recent book was *Agricultural Income and Terms of Trade* (Kunal 2018). Among the documentary films she has made are: *Waste-Full Lives: Hardships in Waste-Pickers Life*, *Child Labour and Magical Hands*; *Wounded Identities*, which is based on the problem of identity and migration in Assam, has been screened in leading universities of India, the University of Colombo and the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/Sociology/ History/Literature

A joint publication with SAGE



THE WEAVE OF MY LIFE: A DALIT WOMAN'S MEMOIRS

Urmila Pawar

Translated from the Marathi by Maya Pandit

Afterword by Sharmila Rege

8.5"x5.5" pb, 382 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-90-9,
Rs. 800.
Rights available.

'Unlike many Dalit narratives, Pawar's work is a testimony of not only a lived experience but is also a source of articulating theory.'

~ *The Telegraph*

Aaydan, Urmila Pawar's thought-provoking memoir, spares no one, including herself. The author links her mother's act of weaving baskets, *aaydans*, to her own 'act of writing'. Translated for the first time into English, the memoirs describe the long journey from a Konkan village to Mumbai, bringing to fruition the struggle of three generations for a Dalit modernity, about which readers have hitherto heard so little.

Urmila writes frankly of the 'private' and 'public' aspects of her life: of falling in love with Harishchandra as a young teenager, and marrying him in the teeth of family opposition, of young couple and their children moving to Mumbai, of her many sustaining friendships with women and her work. Her talking openly about familial and marital conflicts, of the grievous shocks that life dealt her outraged male Dalit writers.

A long-term member of the Dalit and women's movements, Urmila Pawar offers a cogent critique of feminist and Dalit-politics. Her account of how she began to write, to participate in Dalit literary conferences and founded a women's literary conference is engaging.

Sharmila Rege provides an incisive Afterword, placing the book within its tumultuous social context.

Urmila Pawar is a distinguished writer of fiction in Marathi. *Aaydan* received major awards, Maharashtra Foundation, USA, Padmashree Vikhe Patil; Matoshree Bheemabai Ambedkar; Priyadarshini Academy.

Maya Pandit retired as Professor, Department of ELT, EFLU, Hyderabad.

The late **Sharmila Rege** was Professor of Sociology, University of Pune.

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/Sociology/ History/Literature

In the Path of Service

Memories of a
Changing Century

Ashoka Gupta

Translated from the Bengali by
Sipra Bhattacharya with Ranjana Dasgupta

IN THE PATH OF SERVICE: MEMORIES OF A CHANGING CENTURY

Ashoka Gupta

Translated from the Bengali by Sipra Bhattacharya with
Ranjana Dasgupta

8.5"x5.5" hb, 268pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-56-8,
Rs. 450.

'The book also shows the transition of the situation of women in India, especially in Bengal, during the author's lifetime. I would recommend it heartily for anybody interested in Indian womanhood.'

~ Googlebooks review

Ashoka Gupta (1912-2008) bore witness to an account of her life and times. These were decades, she says, 'of new beginnings and new learning. These were also nine decades of turbulent change in the life of a nation-in-in-the-making eager to find its place in the sun'. Thus, she knitted her personal and public life together. Of particular interest is her narrative of the Bengal Famine of 1943, of Noakhali where she undertook relief work in 1946, under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi, and her work after Independence. She was a former President of the All India Women's Conference and its Patron. She was a member of many social welfare organizations and spent her life in social work.

Sipra Bhattacharya teaches history and is a translator;

Ranjana Dasgupta is programme officer, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta.

Anthropology/Sociology/History/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies

Women in Concert

An Anthology of
Bengali Muslim
Women's Writings,
1904-1938

Edited by Shaheen Akhtar
and Moushumi Bhowmik

Translated from the
Bengali by Stree

NONFICTION / BACKLIST

WOMEN IN CONCERT: AN ANTHOLOGY OF BENGALI MUSLIM WOMEN'S WRITINGS, 1904-38

Edited by Shaheen Akhtar and Moushumi Bhowmik
Foreword by Firdous Azim

8.5"x5.5" hb, 444 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-57-6,
Rs. 600.

'Rarely does one come across an anthology of women's writing that serves a larger cause, that of constructing women's literary history virtually from scratch and that too in a sphere so circumscribed by religious and linguistic differences as that occupied by Bengali Muslim women over a century ago.'

~ Rakshanda Jalil, *The Hindu*

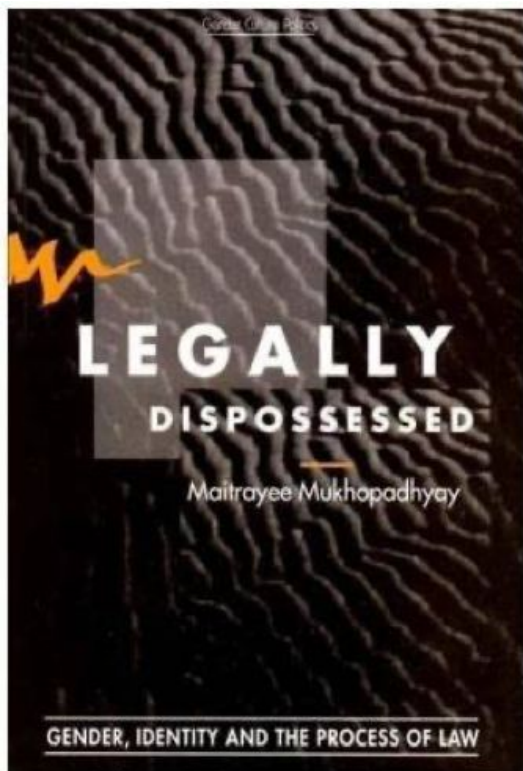
Translated into English from the original Bengali anthology, *Zenana Mehfil* (Stree 1998), this collection of the early writings of Bengali Muslim women helps to make visible women writers of undivided Bengal. Why was so little known about these writers? Do dominating interests 'marginalize, sometimes even obliterate other histories'?

Part I, *Women's Writings*, offers the contributions of eleven women: Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain and her contemporaries like Khairunnesa Khatun, Mrs M. Rahman, M. Fatema Khanam and Nurunnesa Khatun Vidyavinodini. About twenty years later, came Akhtar Mahal Syeda Khatun, Fazilatunnesa, Mahmuda Khatun Siddiqua and Razia Khatun Chowdhurani. Two women who were associated with Begum Rokeya were Shamsunnahar Mahmud and Sufia Kamal. Part II, *Conversations*, presents discussions with Sufia Kamal, family members and relatives of the writers and eminent people who shared the political and literary concerns of those times. Firdous Azim has provided an insightful Foreword.

Firdous Azim is Chairperson, Department of English and the Humanities, BRAC University, Dhaka; **Shaheen Akhtar** is a well-known Bangladeshi writer who has five collections of short stories and three novels, one of which, *Talaash*, won the Pro award (2004);

Moushumi Bhowmik is a writer, researcher, composer and singer based in Kolkata. She is a co-founder of the Travelling Archive on folk music of Bengal, Bangladesh, and Assam.

Literature/History/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies



LEGALLY DISPOSSESSED: GENDER, IDENTITY AND THE PROCESS OF LAW

Maitrayee Mukhopadhyay

8.5 x 5.5" 258pp
ISBN 81-85604-39-8
Rs 400.

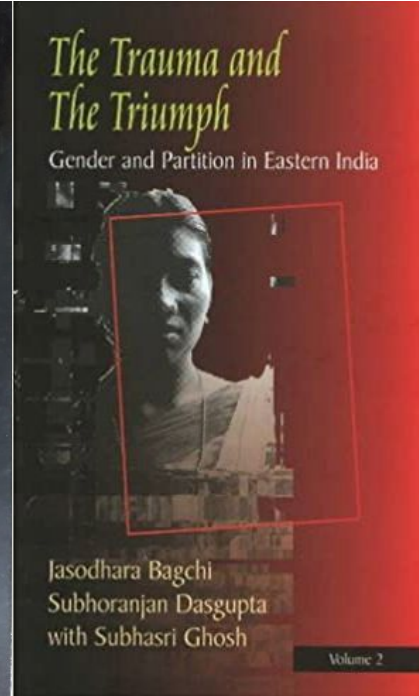
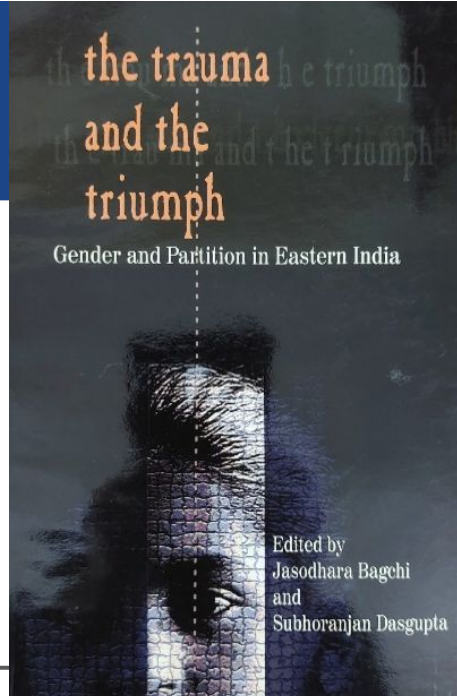
This path-breaking study of women's experience of litigation under personal laws (those that cover marriage and inheritance) raises vital questions of identity and citizenship in India and throws new light on the uniform civil code debate. The author asks why is it so difficult to disentangle woman 'as subject/citizen imbued with rights from that of being a daughter, sister, wife, widow and the symbol of a community? Why is it that both Hindu and Muslim women are usually unsuccessful in their claims for property despite appealing to different personal laws?

By shifting focus from the text of the law to an ethnography of litigation, the nature of disputes, the attitudes of lawyers, the experiences in court, the logic of judgements, and so on, the analysis brings into play the crucial factors that are obscured in abstract discussions of 'rights'.

Maitrayee Mukhopadhyay is Area Leader, Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam.

THE TRAUMA AND THE TRIUMPH: GENDER AND PARTITION IN THE EASTERN REGION VOLS. I & II

Edited by Jasodhara Bagchi and Subhoranjan Dasgupta



Vol1: 8.5"x 5.5" pb, 284pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-64-9,
Rs. 350

Vol2: 8.5"x5.5" hb, 298 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-98-3,
978-81-85604-98-5,
Rs.550.

'Weaving together the voices of many women with compassion and incisive analysis, this book brings to the fore the tragedy and triumph of the displaced women of Bengal. It is a rare chronicle of women's suffering.'

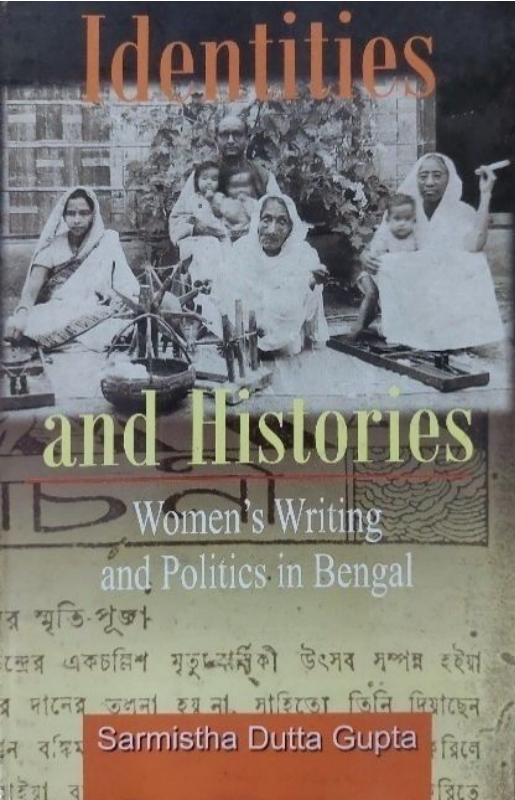
~ Kanchi Dasgupta, *The Sunday Statesman Magazine*

The trauma of the Partition in Eastern India is discussed explicitly in a way that has not happened earlier. Drawing upon interviews with women who were uprooted from old East Bengal in 1947, on diaries, memoirs and creative literature, the editors lift the 'veil of silence' that has surrounded Partition. The lack of overt public discourse has meant that people outside Bengal have tended to believe that the impact was very much less on the people in the eastern region. In truth, the sufferings, the loss of life and livelihoods and of shelter were very real but of a different nature from the fast-moving horror of the Punjab. It was more like an oozing wound that seemed not to heal than a one-time severance of a limb.

Continuing the discussion on Partition in the Eastern Region in volume 2, the editors present another portrait through literature, interviews, surveys and documents. Much of the material has been translated for the first time from Bengali. What is particularly interesting is that contributions, whether in fiction, interviews, or memoirs, are from both sides of the border so that the full force of what Partition wrought is revealed.

Jasodhara Bagchi (1937–2015) was Founder Director of School of Women's Studies; **Subhoranjan Dasgupta** formerly Professor, Human Sciences, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata, now an independent scholar and reviewer.

Gender Studies/History/Political Science/Women's Studies



NONFICTION / BACKLIST

IDENTITIES AND HISTORIES: WOMEN'S WRITINGS AND POLITICS IN BENGAL

Sarmistha Dutta Gupta

8.5"x5.5" hb, 306pp,
ISBN 978-81-906760-2-1; 81-906760-2-4,
Rs. 700
2010
reprint in November 2023.

'The author here insists upon the importance of non-fiction writings by women . . . because non-fiction genres such as journalistic pieces and essays have been historically produced as a masculinized, rational and objective form.'

~ Prathama Banerjee, *The Book Review*

Dutta Gupta explores the interface between women's writings and cultural politics, focusing on what Bengali middle-class women wrote in the leading literary and political journals of the 1920s to the mid-1960s: *Prabasi*, *Saogat*, *Jayashree*, *Mandira*, *Ghare Baire* and in a daily newspaper of the Communist Party of India, *Swadhinata*. Middle-class Bengali women had emerged as political actors in the 1920s, as followers of Gandhi, Subhash Chandra Bose and the revolutionary terrorist movement, which encompassed groups like *Jugantar* and later as Communists. The author interrogates the fashioning of different kinds of selfhood and the creation of different gender identities that also interrelated with other categories like class and religion.

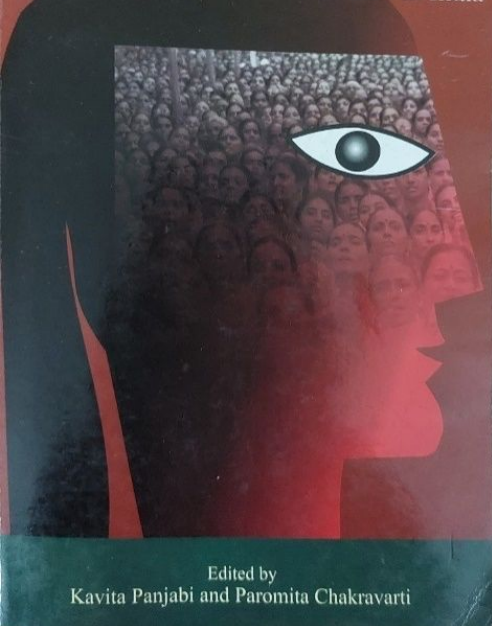
Exposing hitherto neglected aspects of cultural politics in Bengal, the book reveals the complexities of these Bengali women's concerns beyond reform, revival and colonization, the diversity of their struggles against the empire and their disparate roles in the new nation-State.

Sarmistha Dutta Gupta is an independent researcher, translator and one of the founder-members of the activist-publishing group, *Ebong Alap*; she has co-edited with Swati Ganguly, *The Stream Within: Short Stories by Contemporary Bengali Women* (Stree, 1999).

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/History/Sociology

Women Contesting Culture

Changing Frames of Gender Politics in India



NONFICTION / BACKLIST

Readers in Women's Studies

WOMEN CONTESTING CULTURE: CHANGING FRAMES OF GENDER POLITICS IN INDIA

Edited by Kavita Panjabi and Paromita Chakravarti

8.5"x5.5" pb, 460 pp
ISBN 978-81-906760-8-3;
Rs 500.
Reprint forthcoming

'The finest scholarship has come out of the convergence of the women's movement and women's gender studies research. The Reader reflects this celebration. This rich collection provides a tantalizing gateway into a dynamic and complex field.'

~ Sumi Krishna, *The Book Review*

This is one of the four readers compiled by the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, for the new Masters' level courses in women's studies, also enabling the introduction of gender into undergraduate curricula in general. As the editors say, 'Culture is both a constraint and an enabling context through which women express themselves'. Those relegated to the margins by patriarchy, the masses and women, had their contributions 'invisibilized'. The book grapples with the dialectical nature of culture, how its dichotomies become most evident in its gendered and gendering manifestations, through material and aesthetic practices.

There are six parts: Part I Cultural Expressions; Part II Institutions, Canons and Feminist Cultures; Part III Sexuality and Body Cultures; Part IV Political Cultures and the Culture of Politics; Part V Theoretical and Methodological Approaches; and Part VI Bibliographical Essay.

Kavita Panjabi retired as Professor of Comparative Literature and Coordinator of the Centre for Studies in Latin American Literatures and Cultures, Jadavpur University;

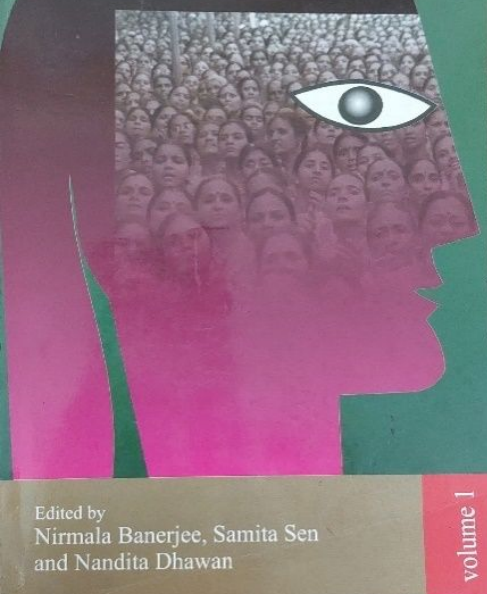
Paromita Chakravarti is Professor, Department of English.

Contributors: Flavia Agnes, Purushottam Agrawal, Jasodhara Bagchi, Krishna Bandyopadhyay, Sivaji Bandhyopadhyay, Urvashi Butalia, Uma Chakravarti, Supriya Chaudhuri, Amlan Das Gupta, Nabaneeta Dev Sen, Anita Ghai, Tapati Guha-Thakurta, Mary E. John, K. Lalita, Anjum Katyal, Modhumita Roy, Kumkum Sangari, Rajeswari Sundar Rajan, Susie Tharu, Rosie Thomas, V. Geetha and Ruth Vanita.

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/ Sociology/History

MAPPING THE FIELD

Gender Relations in Contemporary India



NONFICTION / BACKLIST

*Readers in Women's Studies***MAPPING THE FIELD: GENDER RELATIONS IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA , Vol. 1**

Edited by Nirmala Banerjee, Samita Sen
and Nandita Dhawan

8.5" x 5.5" pb, 306 pp,
ISBN 81-906760-6-7; 978-81-906760-6-9,
Rs. 400.

'Times have changed but not these facts of women's lives... This book with its chapters on women's health, education or labour would certainly be of help to students.'

~ *The Telegraph*

This is one of the four readers compiled by the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, for the new Masters' level courses in women's studies, also enabling the introduction of gender into undergraduate curricula in general. Together with volume 2, the Reader reflects many of the concerns that have come up in women's studies across two decades. This volume focuses on some of the major economic and social debates in women's studies, accompanied by reflections on the women's movement which may be said to be behind its very conception. It tackles questions of women and work, women in agriculture, the education of girls and issues of health. Students will receive a cogent understanding of women's issues.

Nirmala Banerjee retired as Professor of Economics, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta; **Samita Sen** is Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History at the University of Cambridge; **Nandita Dhawan** is Assistant Professor, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University.

Contributors:

Nirmala Banerjee, Kusum Datta, Nandita Dhawan, Aruna Kanchi, Manabi Majumdar, Samita Sen, Krishna Soman and Jeemol Unni.

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/ Sociology/History/Political Science

*Readers in Women's Studies***MAPPING THE FIELD: GENDER RELATIONS IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA , Vol. 2**

Edited by Nirmala Banerjee, Samita Sen
and Nandita Dhawan

8.5" x 5.5" pb, 374 pp,
ISBN 81-906760-6-7; 978-81-906760-6-9,
Rs. 475.

'Covers a whole lot of issues from plurality, citizenship rights, natural resource management, religion, caste identities and caste politics, law and legal positions, to sexuality, reform and the politics of sex work. Each of the contributors is an authority in her field of interest.'

~ Jasbir Jain, *The Book Review*.

Together with its companion volume 1, this is the first Reader of the four prepared for students of women's studies, particularly for Masters' level courses, and more generally, across undergraduate and certificate courses as the concept of 'gender' has been introduced at all levels of curricula.

Volume 2 comprises insightful essays by Kumkum Sangari, Flavia Agnes, Archana Parashar, Anupama Rao, Nivedita Menon, Janaki Nair and Sumi Krishna. Students will find in the two volumes problems and contexts, theoretical and historical analyses, as well as comprehensive surveys of specialized fields.

Nirmala Banerjee retired as Professor of Economics, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta; **Samita Sen** is Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History at the University of Cambridge; **Nandita Dhawan** is Associate Professor, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University.

Contributors:

Kumkum Sangari, Flavia Agnes, Sumi Krishna, Nivedita Menon, Janaki Nair, Archana Parashar, and Anupama Rao.

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/ Sociology/History/Political Science

Shaping the Discourse

Women's Writings in
Bengali Periodicals 1865-1947



Edited by
Ipshita Chanda and Jayeeta Bagchi

NONFICTION / BACKLIST

Readers in Women's Studies

SHAPING THE DISCOURSE: WOMEN'S WRITINGS IN THE BENGALI PERIODICALS 1864-1947

Edited by Nirmala Banerjee, Samita Sen
and Nandita Dhawan

8.5"x 5.5" pb, approx. 468 pp,
ISBN 978 81-906760-5-2, 81-906760-6-9,
Rs. 550.

'A judicious attempt to bring together writings of women, capturing the time of change in Indian political and social scenarios in pre-Partition Bengal. ... to bring out gender relations along with women's questions in the era of social reforms and on-going debates in Bengal.'

~ Ruchika Sharma, *The Book Review*

'An excellent document for those who plan to research the early years of the Indian women's movement.'

~ Rina Mukherji, www.womensweb.in

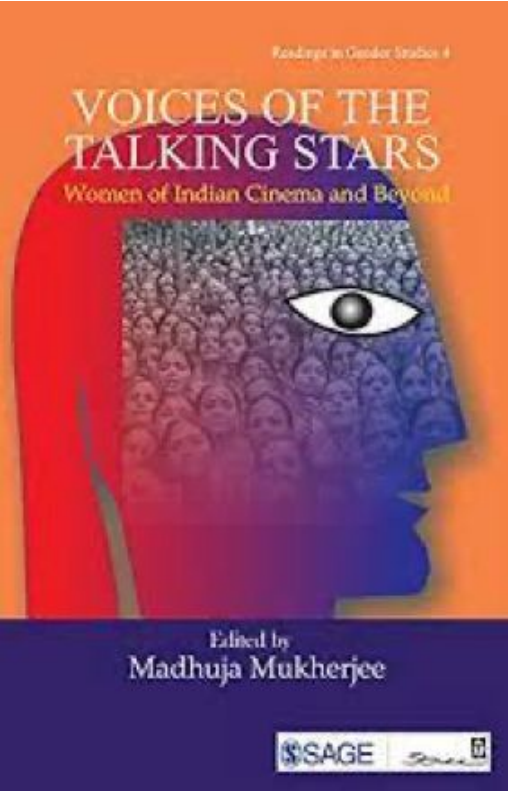
This is one of the four readers compiled by the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, for the new Masters' level courses in women's studies, also enabling the introduction of gender into undergraduate curricula in general.

These translations explore the process by which the discourse of gender is formed and actualized in society through practice. The essays were written by women in well-known periodicals such as *Bamabodhini Patrika*, *Prabasi*, *Antahpur*, *Bharati*, *Mahila*, and so on, and include contributions by Brahmo, Hindu and Muslim women. Some essays were signed and some anonymous.

Ipshita Chanda is Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University.

Jayeeta Bagchi is Assistant Professor in English, National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi.

Gender Studies/Literature/Cultural Studies/History/Sociology



Readers in Women's Studies

VOICES OF THE TALKING STARS: WOMEN OF INDIAN CINEMA AND BEYOND

Edited by Madhuja Mukherjee

8.5"x5.5"pb, 212pp, black and white photographs,
ISBN 978-93-81345-03-0,
Rs. 450;
All rights available

'A new compilation of diverse writings and images of women from the early cinema...revisits well-known archival resources with concern...open[s] a new dimension to a very under-discussed and under-researched area of film history.'
~ Ashish Rajadhyaksha

Madhuja Mukherjee's feminist historiography on films, the Fourth Reader compiled by the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, for undergraduate and postgraduate courses, examines frameworks of film history, culture and politics through articles and interviews published in popular Bengali and English journals on the cinema, and essays and autobiographies written by women actors. A career in films was complicated for women, was not seen favourably, as reflected in the letters by Ratan Bai to New Theatres where she emphasizes emphatically that it was her talent and not where she came from that mattered. Accompanied by many rare black and white photographs and material found through extensive research, Mukherjee analyses the role and place of women in a burgeoning industry. It weaves in reproduction of poems by Meena Kumari Naz, an open letter by Mae West titled 'I Am a Bad Girl,' an extract of the script from her film 'I Am No Angel', a rare interview with Jamuna Barua, and a translation from Kanan Devi's remarkable autobiography, as well as extracts on censorship from the Indian Cinematograph Committee Report (1927–1928).

Madhuja Mukherjee is Professor, Department of Film Studies, Jadavpur University.

Film Studies/History/Cultural Studies/Gender Studies/Literature

A joint publication with SAGE

FEMINISTS AND SCIENCE

Critiques and Changing Perspectives in India

Vol I

Edited by Sumi Krishna and Gita Chadha

NONFICTION / BACKLIST

FEMINISTS AND SCIENCE: CRITIQUES AND CHANGING PERSPECTIVES IN INDIA, Vols.1 and 2

Edited by Sumi Krishna and Gita Chadha

8.5"x5.5" pb, 348pp
ISBN 978-93-81345-07-8;
Rs. 500

'The essays in this volume ... will be a crucial entrant into the transnational feminist conversation about science and modernization and their impacts.'

~ Helen E. Longino, Clarence Irving Lewis Professor of Philosophy, Stanford University

'This volume exposes brilliantly limitations in the very philosophical basis of science.'

~ Maithreyi Krishnaraj, Senior Honorary Fellow, RCWS, SNDT Women's University

'A must-read for scientists and feminists around the world.'

~ Geraldine Forbes, Distinguished Teaching Professor Emerita, Department of History, State University of New York Oswego

Feminists and Science brings critical voices to bear upon the relationship between science, gender and patriarchies that critique science and reclaim it with equal passion. Feminist critiques of science have uncovered the ideological biases in scientific discourse and begun reforming and reinventing disciplinary canons. Many such critiques have been developed in the West; the significance of the Indian contribution to this debate is that it offers a perspective drawing upon the experience of how science and technology have impacted the lives of Indian women, their work, and their bodies. The contributors, from different disciplinary locations in the social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences, raise issues in science criticism, presenting feminist positions in fields including health, livelihood and sexuality. With volume 2 (published as Sage-Stree) the editors offer a pioneering and valuable contribution to science studies and women's studies in India.

Sumi Krishna, is a distinguished independent scholar, and former President of the Indian Association for Women's Studies.

Gita Chadha is a faculty member at the Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai.

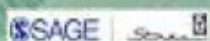
Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/Sociology/History

FEMINISTS AND SCIENCE

Critiques and Changing Perspectives in India

Vol 2

Edited by:
Sumi Krishna and Gita Chadha



FEMINISTS AND SCIENCE: CRITIQUES AND CHANGING PERSPECTIVES IN INDIA, Vol. 2

Edited by Sumi Krishna and Gita Chadha

8.5"x5.5"pb, 374 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345- 19-1,
Rs. 895

'...a powerful indictment of the practice of science.'

~ Geraldine Forbes, Distinguished Teaching Professor, State University of New York, Oswego

'...provide the basis to reimagine ways forward.'

~ Vineeta Bal, Staff Scientist, National Institute of Immunology, *Journal of Gender Studies*.

Feminists and Science critiques the relationship between science, gender and patriarchies in the Indian context from different disciplinary locations. Volume 2 addresses the complexity of local knowledges and the politics of knowledge-making; interrogates how creativity and the practices of science are gendered; explores methodologies of doing science differently, moving towards a more inclusive pedagogy.

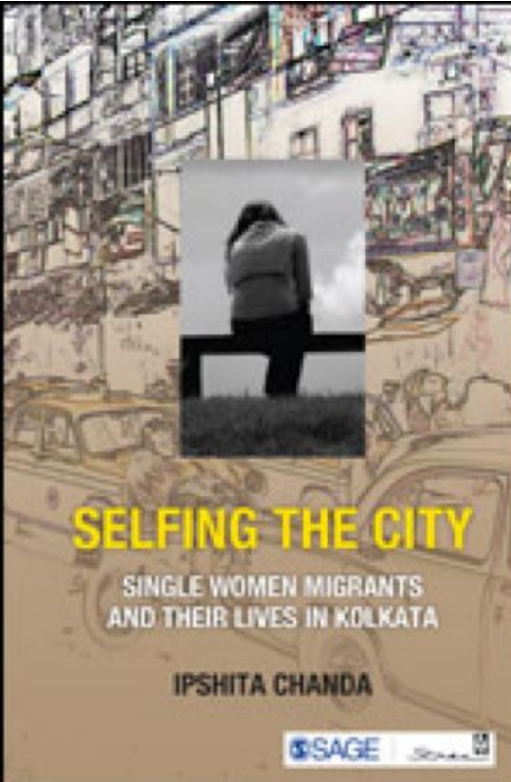
Contributors draw upon theoretical and empirical research, from different disciplinary locations in the social sciences/natural sciences/humanities, showing how science and technology have impacted women's bodies, lives and work. The volume critiques the politics of science as a knowledge-making system in post-colonial India, as an institution and as a paradigm for progress and development. It addresses feminist approaches to local/community knowledges and explores alternative, inclusive and democratic ways of doing science that are alert to differences and discrimination, of gender/ethnicity/caste. Together with volume 1, this volume is a pioneering and valuable contribution to the debates on gender, science and society in India, and to the global literature in science studies and women's studies.

Sumi Krishna, is a distinguished independent scholar, and former President of the Indian Association for Women's Studies.

Gita Chadha is Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai.

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/Sociology/History

A joint publication with SAGE



SELFING THE CITY: SINGLE WOMEN MIGRANTS AND THEIR LIVES IN KOLKATA

Ipshita Chanda

8.5"x5.5" hb, 336 pp,
ISBN 978-81-906760-4-5,
Rs.995.

'Extremely well-written...originality of the project is clearly argued.'

~ Samita Sen, Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History, University of Cambridge

'An interesting reading...ethnographic accounts of...women who have become a part of the city of Kolkata and that city gets portrayed through interviews.'

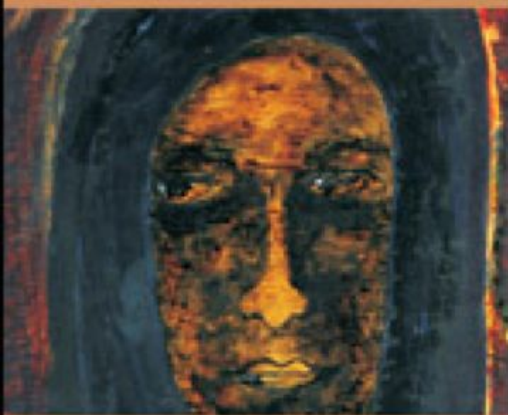
~ Rukmini Sen, Professor of Sociology, School of Liberal Arts, Ambedkar University, Delhi

Based on a survey conducted among middle-class single women, who have come to Calcutta/Kolkata from its outskirts, this ethnographical study throws insights on the connection between women and city spaces, exploring the process of migration and its economic, social and psychological dimensions. An unusual and thoughtful book on the way middle-class women are changing and finding ways of negotiation with the city. The city, whether seen as a goal, a dream, or a necessity, is also a participant in this survey.

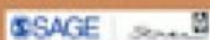
Ipshita Chanda is Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, University of Hyderabad.

Gender Studies/Sociology/Cultural Studies/History

A joint publication with SAGE



Edited by
CHANDRAVA CHAKRAVARTY
SNEHA KAR CHAUDHURI



**TAGORE'S IDEAS OF THE NEW WOMAN:
THE MAKING AND UNMAKING
OF FEMALE SUBJECTIVITY**

Edited by Chandrava Chakravarty
and Sneha Kar Chaudhuri

8.5"x5.5"hb, 312pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-16-0,
Rs. 850

'Throughout this volume, I came across essays that indicate that this book has done what such volumes can or should do at their best: make us re-examine a writer who has achieved canonical status, reveal how his works have become classics because of his ability to delve into contemporary reality and represent what he finds there in arresting words and images, relating them to readers in such a way that they speak to us...the essayists of the volume because of the ingenuity they have shown...[take] the subject of Tagore and woman to new and unexpected areas.'

~ Fakrul Alam, Professor of English, University of Dhaka

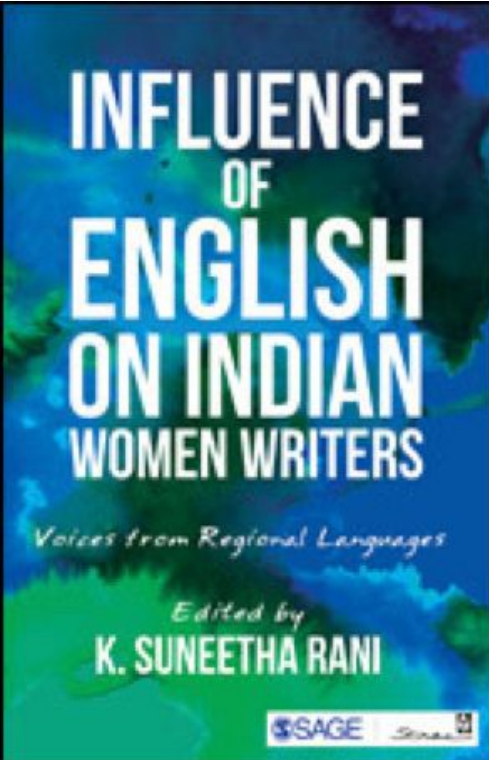
This book discusses Tagore's multifaceted engagement with the women's question as it first emerged in India, enabling the twenty-first century reader to engage critically with his - worldview that was made of broad humanism, an appreciation of other cultures versus narrow nationalism, which are highly relevant today. This was controversial at the time of his writing and today could lead to resonance or disagreement. His placement of women as subjects who questioned their lives, rebelling or acquiescing, or even ambivalent on the large questions of life, shows the complexities of his attempt to understand the struggles and dilemmas that women facing modernity for the first time underwent; just as today, the dilemmas remain sharp and uncertain of resolution. The book's title indicates how women advance, change, and even retreat in the struggle for emancipation.

Chandrava Chakravarty is Associate Professor of English at West Bengal State University; **Sneha Kar Chaudhuri** is Assistant Professor of English at West Bengal State University.

Contributors: Jasodhara Bagchi; Uma Dasgupta; Mandakranta Bose; Malini Bhattacharya; Supriya Chaudhuri; Sanjukta Dasgupta; Nandini Bhattacharya; Tirthankar Bose; Chandrava Chakravarty; Dipannita Datta; Jayati Gupta; Amrit Sen; Debashish Ray Chaudhuri; Tapati Gupta; Sneha KarChaudhuri; Amita Dutt.

Literature/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies

A joint publication with SAGE



**INFLUENCE OF ENGLISH ON INDIAN WOMEN
WRITERS: VOICES FROM
REGIONAL LANGUAGES**

Edited by K. Suneetha Rani

8.5"x5.5" pb, 222pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-15-3,
Rs.595.

'Fascinating theme on the relationship between English learning, gender and social reform (and nationalism).'

This anthology of articles on women and English is a unique collection capturing diverse backgrounds and voices from Indian languages. It studies English not only as a language but also as a medium, culture, politics, movement, lifestyle, writing and social change. The most important aspect of this book is that it focuses on the English debates but as expressed in the Indian languages. Most of the women writers and activists whose writings form the subject of the articles argue that education, especially English education, can be liberating for women not only because it provides employment but also because its politics can emancipate women caught in the patriarchal traditions. However, the articles do not make categorical and biased statements. They attempt to debate how the discourse of English gradually evolved and how writing women engage with identities such as caste, class, gender, religion, region and language in relation to women and English.

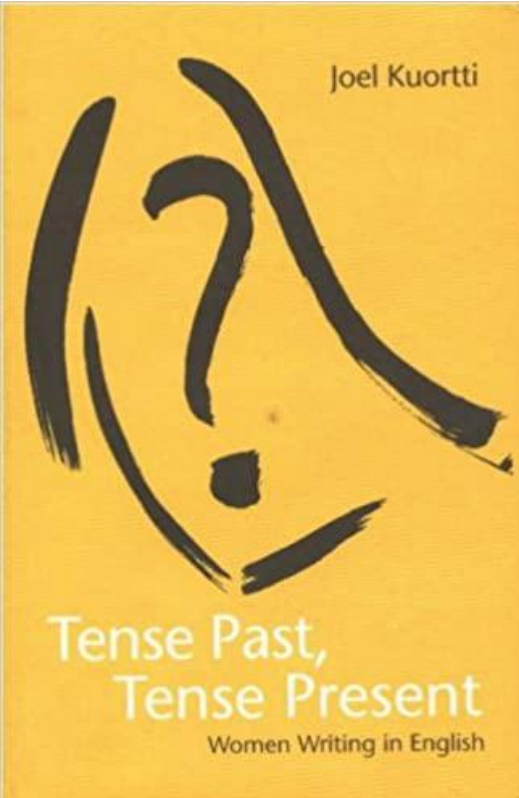
K. Suneetha Rani is Professor, Centre for Women's Studies, University of Hyderabad.

Contributors:

Jasbir Jain; C. Vijayasree; Nikhila H; Somadatta Bhattacharya;
Jinju. S; BharathiHarishankar; Paromita Bose; YogithaShetty; Sowmyam
Dechamma; Meera Kosambi; Omprakash Manikrao Kamble; Sanjukta
Dasgupta; Alladi Uma

Gender Studies/Sociology/History/Cultural Studies

A joint publication with SAGE



**TENSE PAST, TENSE PRESENT:
WOMEN WRITING IN ENGLISH**

Joel Kuortti

8,5"x5.5", 250pp,
ISBN 81-85604-58-4
Rs 450

Writing in English cannot be neutral. As a colony the language was inescapably associated with class, race and power; after independence, it has grown in power and status yet the problematic of it being the language of the hegemonic West remains. Even so, a new canon of women writing in English is being formed. Interviewing seven women writers: Shashi Deshpande, Shama Futehally, Gita Hariharan, Lakshmi Kannan, Sujatha Mathai, Anuradha Marwah Roy and Mina Singh, Kuortti also presents extracts from their writings. He elicits intriguing responses on why they choose to write in English, their difference from Indian writing from abroad and of their views on women writing in the regional languages.

Joel Kuortti is Professor of English at the University of Turku, Finland. His research interests are in post-colonial theory, Indian literature in English, transnational identity, diaspora, hybridity, gender and cultural studies.

Literature/Cultural Studies/Sociology



**A HISTORY OF ADIVASI WOMEN IN
POST-INDEPENDENCE EASTERN INDIA:
THE MARGINS OF THE MARGINALS**

Debasree De

8.5x5.5" hb, 338 pp,
ISBN978- 93-81345-38-2
Rs. 995.

A path-breaking book that explores the current status of Adivasi women in the four states of eastern India, with high percentages of Adivasis – Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal – Debasree De engages with the recent paradigm of 'development and displacement' and Adivasi women's marginalization and cultural silencing. Extensive field surveys are used covering tea gardens, stone-crusher and brick kiln and construction industries. New material is available on the extremist villages of Jangal Mahal, Koraput, Malkangiri, and Niyamgiri Hills. Linking tribe and gender, the author points to the Adivasi forest economy as the women's economy, and forcible eviction for new industries led by multinationals that has led to severe displacement and the near destruction of the tribal world, along with intensification of witch hunting and trafficking of girls.

Debasree De is Assistant Professor, Department of History, Maharaja Srishchandra College, University of Calcutta

Anthropology/History/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies

A joint publication with SAGE

Means of Awakening

Gender, Politics and
Practice in Rural India

Sirpa Tenhunen

NONFICTION / BACKLIST

MEANS OF AWAKENING: GENDER, POLITICS AND PRACTICE IN RURAL INDIA

Sirpa Tenhunen

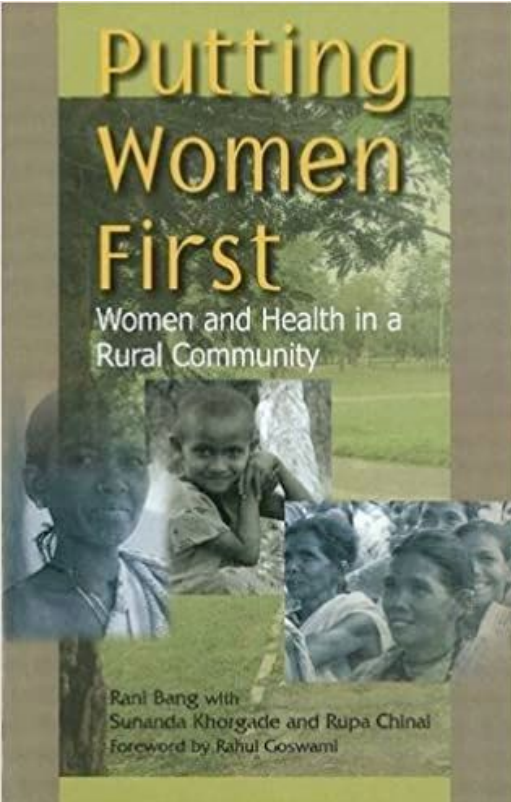
8.5", pb, 250pp,
ISBN 81-85604-97-5
Rs 345

Providing an ethnographically rich study of local politics and gender in rural India, this book is based on the author's extensive fieldwork in Janata, a village near Vishnupur in Bankura, West Bengal. She documents how women are emerging in the forefront of political struggles.

The book explores both women's political participation and agency, including marriage, dowry and women's role in the panchayats. She notes how building of mobile networks has led to the intensification of rural networks. Tenhunen argues that the gendered understanding of politics not only limits women's political participation but also enables and shapes women's political action and critical discourses because the local concept of politics does not exclude home kinship and the women's domain.

Sirpa Tenhunen is Senior University Lecturer of Anthropology at the University of Jyväskylä. She has co-edited with Lina Fruzzetti, *Culture, Power and Agency: Gender in Indian Ethnography* (Stree 2006).

Anthropology/Sociology/History/Political Science/Gender Studies



**PUTTING WOMEN FIRST: WOMEN AND
HEALTH IN A RURAL COMMUNITY**

Rani Bang with Sunanda Khorgade and Rupa Chinai
Foreword by Rahul Goswami

8.5 x 5.5" pb, 312pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-96-1,
Rs 700

'Based on her experience and her meticulous case studies, gynaecologist Rani Bang's book, ... tells us all that is wrong with our public health policy. Although her findings relate to rural Gadchiroli,, they could apply anywhere.'

~ Rina Mukherjee, *D-Sector.org*, 18 Feb 2011.

Trained in India and at Johns Hopkins University where Dr.Rani Bang and her husband, Dr. Ajay Bang, studied public health and research methodologies, the couple returned to India to set up a health clinic in Maharashtra's neglected Gadchiroli district, about 170 km from Nagpur, where the Gonds are the dominant tribal group. Dr, Rani Bang and her husband started the Society for Education, Action and Research in Community Health (SEARCH) and practised medicine that explicitly catered to the tribal ad non-tribal poor people who live in that area.

Rani Bang's research found that 92 percent of women had no access to treatment for gynaecological disorders in the absence of women doctors. In their own way, the Bangs have set in motion a revolution that equips people, communities, and administrators with the tools to build an indigenous expression of development. The last chapter of the book summarizes the author's recommendations for policy makers.

Rani Bang has run a health clinic in Gadchiroli for over thirty years.

Rupa Chinai writes on developmental journalism with a focus on health.

Sunanda Khorgade works with the women's health programme at SEARCH.

Rahul Goswami is a policy analyst ad writer, based in Goa and Delhi.

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/History/Literature

women workers and globalization

Emergent contradictions in India



WOMEN WORKERS AND GLOBALIZATION: EMERGENT CONTRADICTIONS IN INDIA

Indrani Mazumdar

8.5 x 5.5" hb, 374pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-84-8,
Rs. 600.
2007

'The findings are likely to upset some current views about the degree of female work participation in industries most subject to globalization . . . the book substantiates its conclusion: "Globalization has only added more tiers to the layers of exploitation, the forms of discrimination and inequality faced by women workers of India.'" ~ *The Statesman*, 20 January 2008

Demystifying the phenomenon of globalization, this book offers an overview of its prime drivers, processes and forces. Four sectoral studies of women workers are provided: two on factory women in garment exports and electronics; the third on home-based workers in a range of manufacturing processes and industries; and the fourth on middle-class women working in Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES). An incisive guide to the impact of globalization on women's work for scholars, activists, the general public, whose very livelihood is at stake, and indeed for policy makers.

Indrani Mazumdar is Senior Fellow, Centre for Women's Development Studies, Delhi and a long-time activist in the women's movement.

Anthropology/Sociology/History/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies



The Road Less Travelled

The Life and Writings of Vinodinee Neelkanth



Biographical Sketch
Aparna Basu
Shailaja Kalelkar Parikh

and
Translated Works

THE ROAD LESS TRAVELLED: THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF VINODINEE NEELKANTH

Biographical Sketch by Aparna Basu and
Shailaja Kalelkar Parikh

Translations by Jagadeep Parikh, Rohini Patel, Ranjana
Pendharkar, Sohan Nilkanth, Shailaja Kalelkar Parikh and
Rita Kothari

8.5"x5.5" pb, 336 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-71-8,
Rs 375.

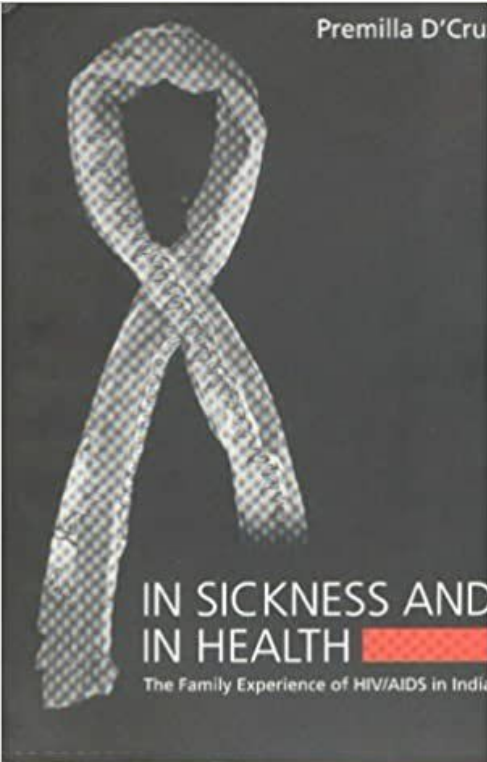
This work charts the life and works of Vinodinee Neelkanth (1907-1987) who was a social activist, a feminist, a Gandhian, a journalist, and a prolific writer in Gujarati. She was born in a progressive, reformist, and westernized Gujarati family that strongly supported intellectual and artistic endeavours. The text charts her childhood, youth, education, travels, and a controversial marriage as well as her career as a writer.

The first part of the book entitled 'Biographical Sketch' charts Vinodinee's life through the perspectives of her children, daughter-in-law, nieces, and nephew. The second part entitled 'Translated Works' includes her journalistic writings, essays, short stories and a chapter from her novel *Kadaleevan*. She depicted the conflicts and concerns that women faced in India in the early decades of the twentieth century and emphasized on the importance of women's freedom. She took a critical view of family, educational institutions, domestic life, and professions. Thus, Vinodinee was an early feminist writer of Gujarat and by mapping her life and work, this book captures the immense changes that were caused by nationalist movements, women's increased social and political participation, the impact of colonial modernity, and the proliferation of an urban, educated, and westernized elite in the early twentieth century.

The late **Aparna Basu** was formerly Professor of History, University of Delhi, and past president of the All-India Women's Conference.

Shailaja Kalelkar Parikh, was also a lecturer in political science, a writer, and former Journalist.

Literature/History/Women's Writings/Sociology



IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH: THE FAMILY EXPERIENCE OF HIV/AIDS IN INDIA

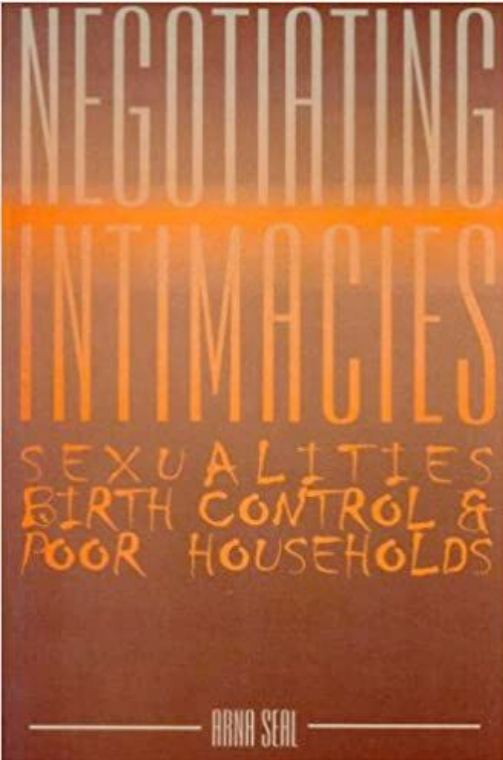
Premilla D'Cruz

8.5 x 5.5" pb 126 pp.
ISBN: 978-81-85604-59-6,
Rs 400

Wives receive profound physical and emotional burdens as the prime caregivers of spouses who are HIV-positive or suffering from AIDS. The stigmatizing nature of the infection compounds the stress and stops infected individuals and families looking for support. The result is loneliness and isolation. Moreover, gender biases ensure that women who have been diagnosed with AIDS cannot expect to receive care in the same measure. At the same time, they remain responsible for the survival of the family. This pioneering book makes recommendations to alleviate the situation.

Premilla D'Cruz is Professor, Organizational Behaviour, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

Sociology Gender Studies Cultural Studies



NEGOTIATING INTIMACIES: SEXUALITIES, BIRTH CONTROL AND POOR HOUSEHOLDS

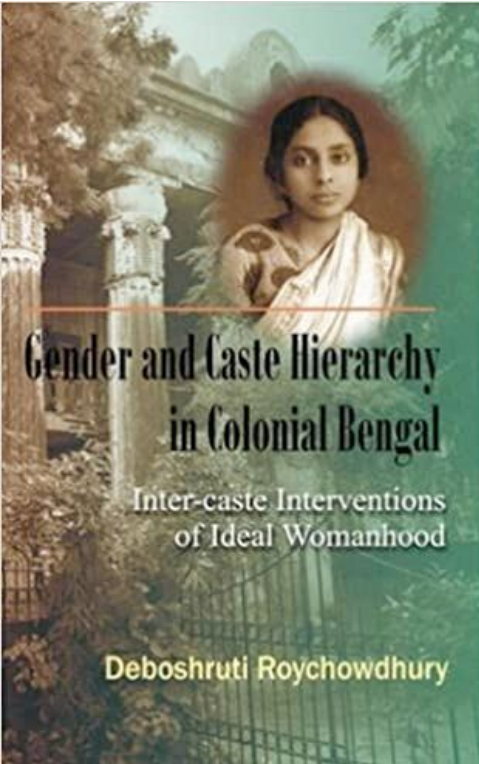
Arna Seal

8.5"x5.5" hb, 150pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-29-9,
Rs 400.
2000

In this book, a hundred women who live in Calcutta's slum talk directly about their sexual and birth control experiences. As the facts and stories accumulate, we get a picture of these women's lives that is frighteningly bare of choice. The author asks how women's income-earning capacities as well as those of their men, their status in their families and their relations with otherkin affect their social and sexual autonomy. Seal goes on to consider whether their interests conform to the ideals of feminist liberation and how far has the movement been able to address their concerns.

Arna Seal is a children's activist and lyricist. She received her masters and doctoral degrees in sociology from Tulane University, New Orleans.

Gender Studies/Cultural Studies/Sociology



GENDER AND CASTE HIERARCHY IN COLONIAL BENGAL: INTER-CASTE INTERVENTIONS OF IDEAL WOMANHOOD

Deboshruti Roychowdhury

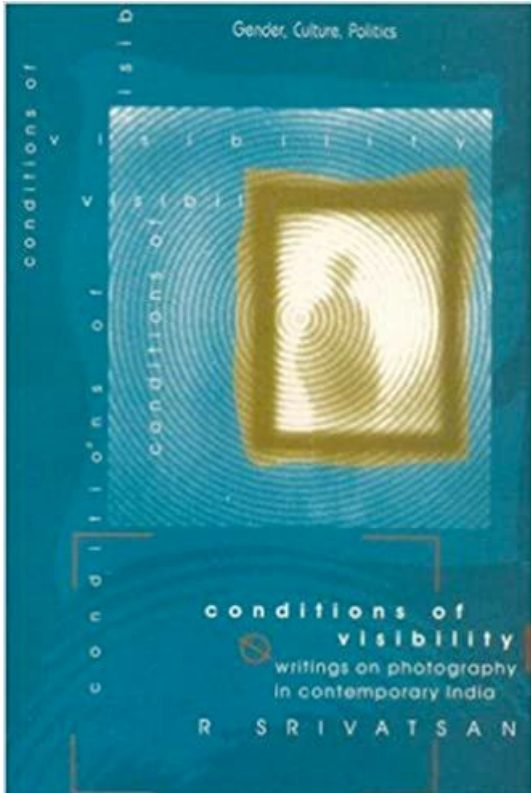
8.5"x 5.5" pb, approx. 200pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-05-4,
Rs 600.
2014.
All rights available.

'Based on her experience and her meticulous case studies, gynaecologist Rani Bang's book, ... tells us all that is wrong with our public health policy. Although her findings relate to rural Gadchiroli,, they could apply anywhere.'
~ Rina Mukherjee, *D-Sector.org*, 18 Feb 2011.

This book breaks new ground in perceiving the interrelations among class, caste, religious and gender identities to grasp the complex notion of ideal womanhood in the nineteenth century. High-caste hegemony contributed to its formulation, adoption and alteration amongst low-caste Hindus such as gandhabaniks, subarnabaniks, telis, sadgopes and mahishyas. British rule had introduced significant socio-political and economic changes leading to upward mobility among the lower and middle castes, which modified their status with reference to caste principles and the high-caste ideal of womanhood. Roychowdhury reveals the strategically veiled relationships between caste and women, within which all women of all strata were arguably locked. She has consulted low-caste journals that represent an ostensibly marginal culture, showing how women lost their autonomy and felt pressured to re-mould their identity within the normative structures of predominantly brahminical culture. This is perhaps the first time that inter-caste identity and its ensuing effect on gender identity, specifically, caste politics, in developing an ideal of womanhood been examined closely.

Deboshruti Roychowdhury received her Ph.D. from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London. She is Dean of Student Affairs, Ashoka University.

History/Anthropology/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies



CONDITIONS OF VISIBILITY: WRITINGS ON PHOTOGRAPHY IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA

R. Srivatsan

Series editor Susie Tharu

8.5"x5.5", 200pp,
ISBN 81-85604-28-2,
Rs 450

'This book will provoke and stimulate much debate among scholars working on contemporary visual cultures in India.'

—Arjun Appadurai, Professor of Anthropology,
University of Chicago

'A breathtaking tour through advertisements, news photographs, film hoardings and police mugshots that shows us what we never knew we had seen.'

—Partha Chatterjee, Honorary Professor of Political Science,
CSSSC

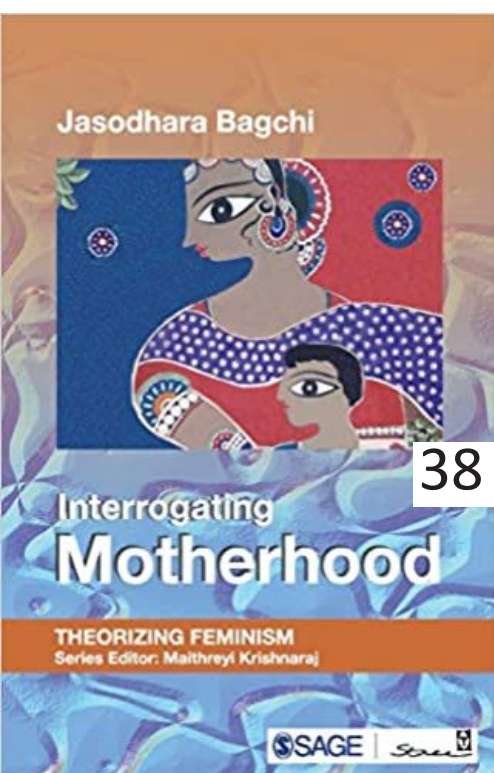
Elaborating new theoretical perspectives on visual hegemony, this book addresses the political processes of the photographic image. How does photography invoke an epistemology that subtly determines the scope and limit of what can be understood, said or done with images? Srivatsan uses gender, caste and class to serve as frames of reference for this very original and stimulating analysis. He takes into consideration a range of visual material: handpainted cinema hoardings, the modernism of Henri Cartier-Bresson, photographs in police records and the visual politics of advertising and news photography.

R. Srivatsan is a senior fellow at Anveshi Research Centre for Women's Studies, Hyderabad since 2004. He works in the Critical Development Studies, Health and Healthcare Systems, Visual Culture and Media Studies and Public Domain and Outreach Initiatives.

THEORIZING FEMINISM

Introducing key concepts in feminist theory, this series makes them accessible to students and the general reader. Defining the concepts as 'thinking tools', the authors explain how these built a new knowledge system that challenged existing patriarchal theories. Thus any reader will find the series vitally useful for understanding the new theories, their usage and their evolution.

Maithreyi Krishnaraj is the series editor. A pioneering scholar in Women's Studies, Krishnaraj is senior honorary fellow, Research Centre for Women's Studies, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai, and steering committee member of the Dr Avabai Wadia Archives.



INTERROGATING MOTHERHOOD

Jasodhara Bagchi

8.5"x5.5"pb, approx. 136 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-17-7 (PB),
Rs. 295

'Given her ability to straddle different disciplinary genres and sources, Bagchi displays a characteristic élan and deftly weaves in folklore, mythology and historical research to explore the linkages of approaches to motherhood within an appropriate theoretical framework.' ~ Indu Agnihotri, *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*

Interrogating Motherhood, the fourth title in the *Theorizing Feminism* Series, reveals that an understanding of motherhood is vitally important to understanding Indian society. The ideas and practice of motherhood changed once India became a part of a global capitalist system. The book analyses motherhood both as ideology and as practice, and the complexities between motherhood and mothering where the concepts are glorified but the women remain subordinate. It further explores Indian and western feminists' insights, examines the significance of mother goddesses, discusses regulations on motherhood in the wake of nation-building, and reveals the vulnerability of motherhood to the coercion of invasive technology and pressures of patriarchy where a woman must not only be a mother but also the mother of a son.

Jasodhara Bagchi (1937–2015) retired as Chairperson of the West Bengal Commission for Women. **Maithreyi Krishnaraj**, senior honorary fellow, Research Centre for Women's Studies, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai.

Gender Studies /History/Sociology/Cultural Studies

A joint publication with SAGE

*Theorising Feminism Series***PATRIARCHY**

V. Geetha

8.5"x 5.5" pb, 228pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-46-0,
Rs. 500

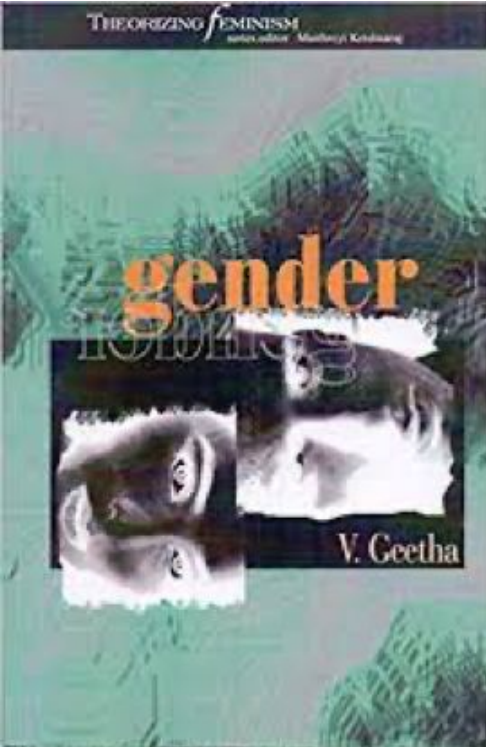
'The book is no doubt a brilliant compendium and a skilful weaving together of the diverse social and cultural contexts in which patriarchy functions.'

~ Padmini Swaminathan, *The Hindu*

V. Geetha provides a 39-page overview of the origin of the term 'patriarchy', its historical 'evolution', and, more importantly, the consolidation of patriarchy, over time, as a system impacting all aspects of women's lives and lived experiences whatever be the changes in material conditions, cultural practices and sexual orientation, all of which may appear to challenge patriarchy but nevertheless fail to dislodge it. The book deals with the nature, origin, hermeneutics and sociology of patriarchy. Reviewing the sources available, it discusses the historical contexts which have nurtured patriarchal societies. Finally, it applies these ideas to Indian history and sociology and examines how caste has interacted synergistically with patriarchy in India. This is a useful text for students as well as for the general reader.

V. Geetha writes in Tamil and in English on history, culture and gender. She has co-authored with S.V. Rajadurai, *Towards a Non-Brahmin Millennium: From Iyothee Thass to Periyar* (Stree, rev ed 2008), and *Gender* (Stree, 2003).

Gender Studies /History/Sociology/Cultural Studies



STREE

Theorizing Feminism Series

GENDER

V. Geetha

8.5"x5.5" pb, 168 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-45-2,
Rs.500

'[The book] conveys some of the essential points about the concept of gender that one would wish students to understand, illustrating with appropriate examples; it attempts to negotiate between standard western theories and feminist theorizing in the Indian context.'

~ Carol Upadhy, *Economic and Political Weekly*

Gender is not merely a methodological category but a way of signifying relationships of power (p. 135). In her incisive discussion, V. Geetha points out that 'gender is everywhere', and when we allocate to the male and female sexes, specific and distinctive attributes and roles, we are 'doing' gender. She suggests insightfully that gender 'is both part of the world we live in as well as a way of understanding that world'.

Provocative and jargon-free, the book shows how gender identities mesh with those constituted by caste, class, religion, and sexual preferences, forming a set of arrangements that have evolved through history. It enables the reader to undertake a fresh and critical look of what we consider to be normal and given to take stock of the self and the world.

V. Geetha writes in Tamil and in English on history, culture and gender. She has co-authored with S. V. Rajadurai, *Towards a Non-Brahmin Millennium: From Iyothee Thass to Periyar* (Stree, 2008), and the author of *Patriarchy* (Stree, 2007).

Gender Studies /History/Sociology/Cultural Studies

GENDERING CASTE

through a feminist lens

REVISED EDITION

UMA CHAKRAVARTI

Theorizing Feminism Series

GENDERING CASTE: THROUGH A FEMINIST LENS

Uma Chakravarti

8.5"x5.5" pb, 222 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-44-3,
Rs. 495.

Examining the crucial linkages between caste and gender, undertaken, perhaps for the first time, Uma Chakravarti unmask the mystique of consensus in the workings of the caste system to reveal the underlying violence and coercion that perpetuate a severely hierarchical and unequal society. The subordination of women and the control of female sexuality are crucial to the maintenance of the caste system, creating what feminist scholars have termed 'brahmanical patriarchy'. She discusses the range of patriarchal practices within the larger framework of sexuality, labour and access to material resources, and also focuses on the centrality of endogamous marriages that maintain the system. Erudite yet accessible, this book enables the reader to understand the interface of gender and caste and to participate in its critical analysis.

Uma Chakravarti taught history at Miranda House, University of Delhi, from 1966–98. She has long been associated with the women's movement and the democratic rights movement.

Gender Studies /History/Sociology/Cultural Studies
A joint publication with SAGE



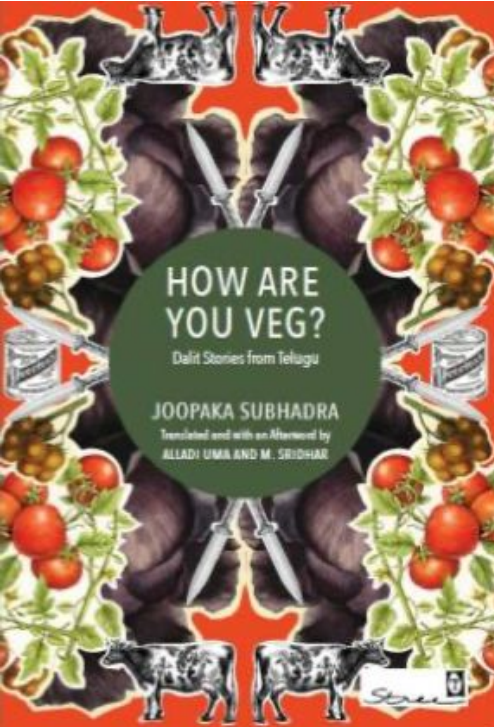
DALIT LEKHKA: WOMEN'S WRITINGS FROM BENGAL

Edited by Kalyani Thakur Charal and Sayantan Dasgupta

8.5"x5.5" pb, 214 pp.,
ISBN 978-93-81345-12-2,
Rs 500,
October 2020.
All rights available.

It is rare to have Bengali Dalit women's writings presented in an English translation. Among the contributors are poets Shyamali Ray, Kanika Sarkar, Simly Majumdar, Shefali Debbarma, Pratima Sarkar, Bibha Biswas, Sujata Biswas, Lily Haldar, Smritikana Haoladar and Kalyani Thakur Charal. Contributors of short stories are Saptadwipa Adhikari, Manju Bala, Mita Das, Kalyani Thakur Charal, Jaya Gowala, Ratna Ray, Alakananda Ray, Kanan Boral, Ranu Biswas and Sanju Sikdar. Kalyani Thakur Charal presents a piece on her childhood. This selection also serves as an introduction to the writers' struggle in fighting the exclusionary mainstream to find a space for themselves.

Kalyani Thakur Charal is a poet and writer who founded the Dalit women's journal *Neer*; **Sayantan Dasgupta** is Associate Professor, the Department of Comparative Literature and Coordinator, Centre for Translation of Indian Literature (CENTIL), Jadavpur University.



HOW ARE YOU VEG? DALIT STORIES FROM TELUGU

By Joopaka Subhadra
Translated by Alladi Uma and M. Sridhar

8.5"x5.5" pb, 256 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-26-9
Rs. 500.

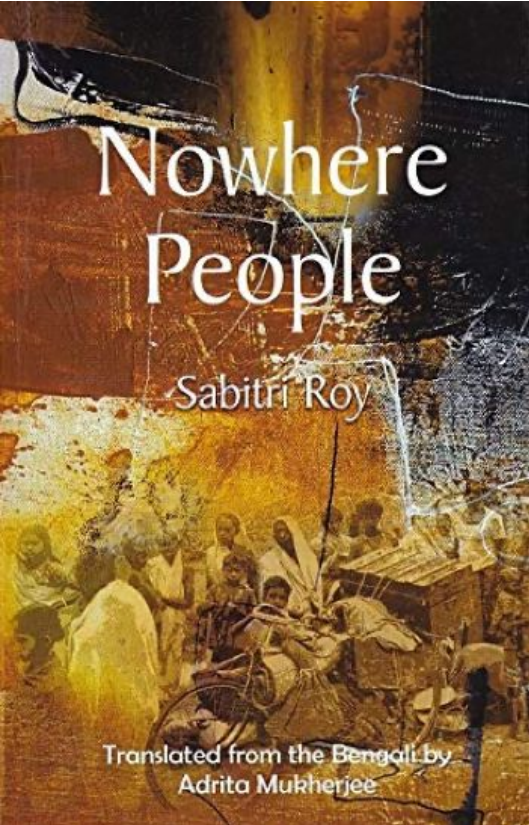
'My stories are born out of the oppression, discrimination, happiness, sorrow, insults, oppositions and experiences woven by the society around me. In the crevices...are the problems of generations of my untouchable mothers, sisters and the children.'

Translated for the first time into English, Joopaka Subhadra's stories expose the lives of Madiga women, the most oppressed among Dalits in Telangana. As she declares that she has drawn these from lived experiences, the reader in turn witnesses the cruelties in the lives of Dakkalis, who are wandering bards, disturbance in the old feudal hierarchies with the arrival of educated Dalit youth, lack of compassion in society for women with disabilities, and the absence of accountability in government institutions, society, and the state. The stories reveal the subtle discrimination practised despite education and employment and those on the politics of food are particularly intriguing.

Joopaka Subhadra is an activist and Telugu writer who has published collections of poetry as well as of short stories and essays, introducing Dalit women's concerns that have had a major impact on Telugu literature. She retired as Additional Secretary, Government of Telangana.

Alladi Uma and **M Sridhar** retired as Professors of English, the University of Hyderabad. They won the Jyeshtha Literary Award and Katha Commendation Prize for their translations.

Literature/Cultural Studies/Caste/Gender



NOWHERE PEOPLE

By Sabitri Roy

Translated by Adrita Mukherjee

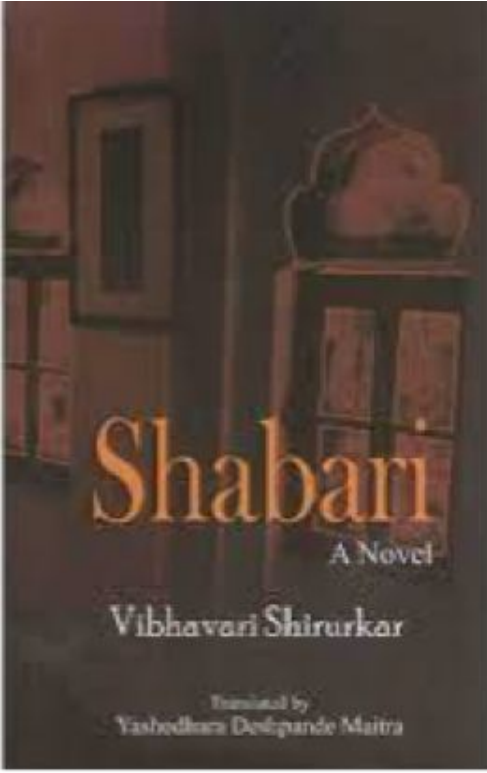
8.5"x5.5"pb, 304 pp,
ISBN978-93-81345-14-6,
Rs. 450
All rights available.

Set in turbulent post-Partition Bengal, Sabitri Roy's epic novel *Bawdwip*, translated into English for the first time, tells the story of a community which, uprooted ruthlessly from its homeland, fights resolutely to forge a new life in an alien land.

It centres on the idealistic Dhiman and his family, tracing the journey of Dhiman's son, Jishu, from the innocence of childhood to the passions of youth, ignited by communist ideals and illuminated by love. In her powerful style, Sabitri Roy paints the student and labour movements of the 1950s, the communal tensions, and the struggles of a displaced Community.

Sabitri Roy (1918-85) was a sympathizer but not a member of the Communist Party, which censored her novel, *Swaralipi. Harvest Song*, a translation of her novel *Paka Dhaner Gan*, was published by Stree (2006); **Adrita Mukherjee** taught English at Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, for many years and now lives and works in Wellington, New Zealand.

Literature/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies



SHABARI: A NOVEL

Vibhavari Shirurkar

Translated from the Marathi

by Yashodhara Deshpande Maitra

Foreword by Ramdas G. Bhatkal

8.5"x5.5" pb, 190pp,
ISBN 978-81-906760-7-6,
Rs. 500.
All rights available.

Shabari, named after the protagonist, is the story of an educated middle-class woman whose life spans pre- and post-independent India. The novel shows how her life transforms through marriage and family, dealing with the tensions inherent in a 'love-arranged' marriage, the changing attitudes of the newer materialistic and hypocritical order, the generation gaps and the utter despair and loss at betrayal. Yet it is never melodramatic or overtly sentimental.

Extremely believable, *Shabari* is a fine balance between the contrasting and complementary minds of the man and the woman. It is interesting how Shabari's education is constantly used against her. The protagonist is never idealized, she is extremely down-to-earth. This novel operates in the realm of grey, as opposed to strict compartments of black and white.

Malatibai Bedekar (1905-2001), who used the pen name **Vibhavari Shirurkar**, was born Balutai Anant Khare in 1905. She graduated from Karve University (now S.N.D.T.) at seventeen and later undertook scholarly research on 'Alankarshastra', an aspect of Sanskrit aesthetics. She was married to the distinguished writer and film director Vishram Bedekar. **Yashodhara Deshpande Maitra** taught natural sciences at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. She is an experienced translator from Marathi into English. She has worked closely with the Bedekars and has translated several works by these two illustrious writers. She lives in Webster, NY, USA; **Ramdas Bhatkal**, Chairman of Popular Prakashan, is a writer, singer and publisher of perhaps the most distinguished list of Marathi literature.

Literature/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies



Translated by Yashodhara Maitra

FICTION / BACKLIST

KHAREMASTER

Vibhavari Shirurkar

Translated from the Marathi

by Yashodhara Deshpande Maitra

8.5"x5.5" pb, 146pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-27-4,
Rs. 400.
All rights available.

'Hailed as [a] great autobiographical novel.'

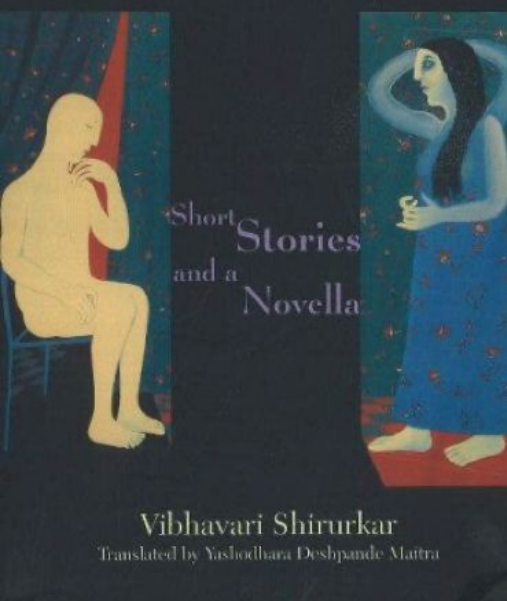
~ *The Statesman*

This is an extraordinary true story of Anant Khare, who appeared to be an ordinary drawing teacher, living and working near Pune at the beginning of the twentieth century. He decided that his contribution to the nationalist movement would be to ensure that his daughters were educated to the highest level. And that is what happened. By the twenties his daughters were independent, single, career women at a time when their peers had been married by the age of ten. His wife too was running a flourishing dairy. The children embodied their father's dream; yet their father felt increasingly isolated and lonely. Written by a daughter, it began as a biography and took on the form of a novel, which she believed would better convey the truth of his life.

For author and translator see previous title

Literature/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies

Her Story, Our Story and On the Swing



FICTION / BACKLIST

HER STORY, OUR STORY and ON THE SWING

Vibhavari Shirurkar

Translated from the Marathi

by Yashodhara Deshpande Maitra

8.5"x5.5" pb, 268 pp.,
ISBN 978-81-85604-94-7,
Rs.400.
All rights available.

'The writer of indecent, obscene works such as *Kalyanche Nishwas* [*Her Story, Our Story*, a collection of short stories, 1933] and especially *Hindolyavar* [*On the Swing*, a novella, 1934] must be killed.'

This was the extreme reaction that greeted these two books when they were published in the 1930s. In the short stories, Vibhavari Shirurkar had bravely written on the complex yearnings of young girls, touching upon their sexuality and their tentative steps to an inchoate self-hood, and in the novella, of an abandoned wife's courage in forming a new relationship. This outraged middle class respectability. When the yet undiscovered author's effigy was burnt on the streets of Pune, the pseudonym used protected her.

In the 1976 edition of *Kalyanche Nishwas* (Popular Prakashan), the author wrote a note on the public reaction to these two works when first published, which has also been included in this volume. She declared that her portrayal of young working women being financially exploited by their fathers, of being drawn towards devious men, or their severe stress as widows or abandoned wives, was a diluted version; the reality was much worse.

These two pieces, translated into English from the original Marathi for the first time, and accompanied by a critical note, written in 1933, by the sociologist and Marathi encyclopaedist, S. V. Ketkar, are like a slice of social history. Together they speak about women who loved and lost, despaired, doubted the choices they made, yet made them Nevertheless.

For author and translator see *Shabari*.

Literature/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies

Five Lords,
Yet None a Protector

Timeless Tales

Two Plays

Saoli Mitra

Translated from the Bengali by
Rita Datta, Ipshita Chanda and Moushumi Bhowmik

FICTION / BACKLIST

FIVE LORDS, YET NONE A PROTECTOR and TIMELESS TALES: TWO PLAYS

Saoli Mitra

Translated from the Bengali by Rita Datta,
Ipshita Chanda and Moushumi Bhowmik
Foreword by Nabaneeta Dev Sen

8.5"x5.5" pb, 254 pp.,
ISBN 978-81-85604-49-5,
Rs 500.
All rights available.

'The plays are one-woman performances, which look at the epic through a gender lens and throw a challenge to the audience.'

~ *Sunday Statesman*, 23 July 2006

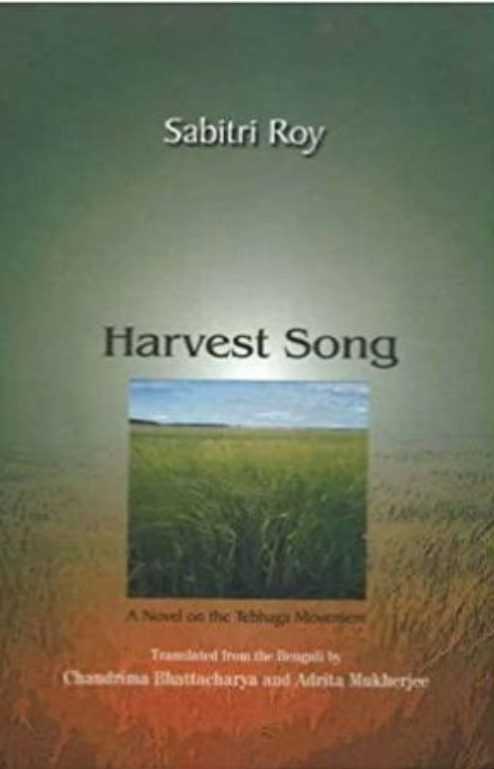
These two plays by Saoli Mitra, a veteran actress and dramaturge of the Bengali stage, are both based on the *Mahabharata*. The story of Draupadi is narrated in *Five Lords, Yet None a Protector* (*Nathabati Anathabat*). She was married to the five royal Pandava brothers and narrates her humiliation at the hands of the Kauravas, the cousins of her husbands and rivals for the throne. The second, *Timeless Tales* (*Katha Amritasaman*), is again set within the *Mahabharata*, looking at the destruction of an age and of a civilization. The tragedy of the royal women, Satyawati, Amba, Ambika and Ambalika, the abducted princesses; of Kunti, Gandhari; Draupadi; Subhadra; and the young Uttara, continues to have bearings on our times. Both the plays are one-woman performances in the tradition of kathakatha, a rural Bengali genre of dramatized storytelling, and use live music, some of it played by the narrator herself. The apparent naïveté of the single woman's voice in the play builds a relationship of collusion with the audience. Subverting traditional theatre of the Western type and by the gendering of the stories, Mitra's plays test the audience's views of 'decorum'.

Saoli Mitra combined the diverse roles of actor, director and playwright in her person. She received the Ibsen Centennial Award in January 2006. She died in 2022.

Nabaneeta Dev Sen (1938–2019) was a scholar and a writer; she was formerly Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University. She died in 2019.

Rita Datta is a teacher and an art critic; **Ipshita Chanda** is Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, University of Hyderabad; **Moushumi Bhowmik** is a singer, researcher, composer, and co-founder of the Travelling Archive on folk songs.

Literature/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies



HARVEST SONG: A NOVEL ON THE TEBHAGA MOVEMENT

Sabitri Roy

Translated from the Bengali by Chandrima Bhattacharya
and Adrita Mukherjee

Foreword by Tanika Sarkar

8.5"x5.5" pb, 390 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-50-9,
Rs 350.
All rights available.

'Sabitri Roy's books reflect the Bengal she grew up in —A Bengal where communist ideology was beginning to take root; where peasant movements combined with anti-colonial protest to electrify an entire countryside.'

~ *The Hindu*

Sabitri Roy's trilogy, *Paka Dhaner Gan*, translated for the first time into English, and abridged, brings a neglected woman novelist to a wider audience. Focusing on the Tebhaga movement, the peasants' uprising against unjust 'taxes', the novel provides an epic panorama of rural Bengal of the late 1930s and the 1940s. Roy depicts a range of women, from the educated and aware Lata and Bhadra, to the less educated and more deprived villagers. She shows how socialist mores could come to fruition in relationships.

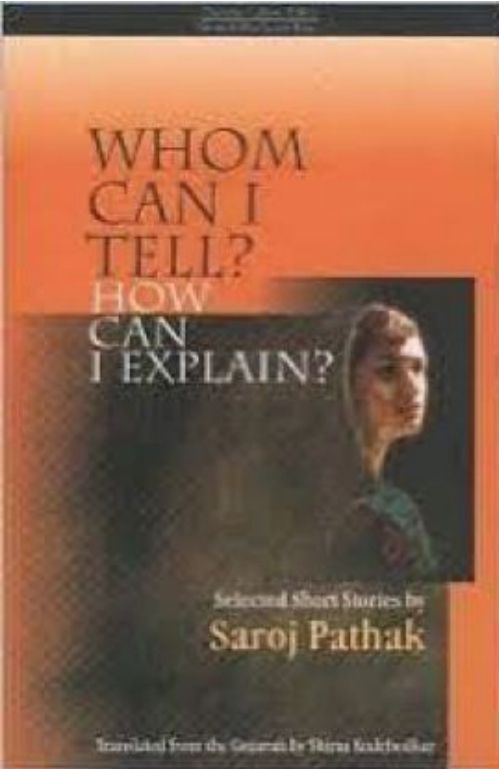
For Sabitri Roy's *Bawdwip*, translated by Adrita Mukherji as *Nowhere People*, see p.44.

Sabitri Roy was a sympathizer but not a member of the Communist Party, which censored her novel, *Swaralipi*. She wrote many novels and short stories, all focusing on the political and social issues of her time.

Chandrima Bhattacharya is a journalist. Adrita Mukherjee is a writer based in New Zealand.

Tanika Sarkar retired as professor of history, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Literature/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies



WHOM CAN I TELL? HOW CAN I EXPLAIN?

Selected Stories by Saroj Pathak

Translated from the Gujarati by Shirin Kudchedkar

Foreword by Susie Tharu

8.5"x5.5" pb, 138pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-14-2,
Rs. 400.
All rights available.

'Short, intense and readable, the action of these stories is predominantly in the minds of characters who are chiefly, but not only, women and children.'

~ Shobhana Bhattacharji, *The Book Review*

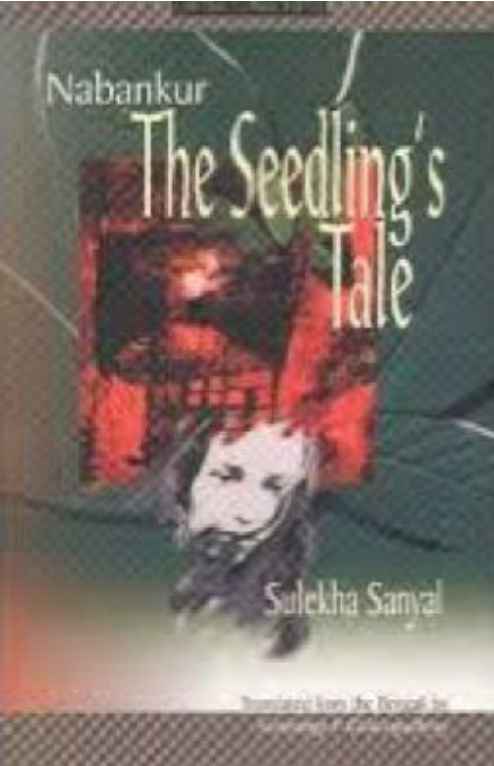
These English translations from the Gujarati bring Saroj Pathak's work to a wider audience, giving it the greater attention it deserves. Delving deep into the human mind, the stories depict the pitfalls of communication, the infinite possibilities of misunderstanding, of doubt and despair. At the same time they celebrate the human psyche's ability to bridge these chasms and make connections, of love, understanding and friendship. Pathak considers the predicaments of both women and men as they grapple with the modernity that has been thrust upon them. Indeed, Pathak's interest in men as well as women characters distinguishes her from many other women novelists.

One of Gujarat's leading women writers, when Saroj Pathak died in 1989 at the age of sixty, she had published seven collections of stories and six novels. Her columns in *Samachar* and *Gujarat Mitra* were controversial.

Shirin Kudchedkar was a distinguished feminist critic who died in 2009. She edited the Gujarati section of *Women Writing in India*, 2 vols, edited by Susie Tharu and K. Lalita. She taught English for decades and was an experienced translator.

Susie Tharu is founder-member of Anveshi Research Centre for Women. She is Professor Emerita, School of Critical Humanities, Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL), Hyderabad.

Literature/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies



NABANKUR: THE SEEDLING'S TALE

Sulekha Sanyal

Translated from the Bengali by Gouranga P. Chattopadhyay

Introduction by Himani Bannerji

Foreword by Susie Tharu

8.5"x5.5" pb, 272 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-30-4,
Rs.400.
All rights available.

Translated for the first time from the Bengali, this astonishingly radical novel is about Chhobi, a gutsy, misfit girl from a rural landowning family, who questions injustice, fights to share the privileges offered to her brother and male cousins, and refuses to see her future as just another submissive household drudge. Nabankur means a new seedling, which is personified by Chhobi, who is growing up in the late 1930s and the early 1940s in Bengal where anti-colonial struggles against the British rule are in full swing. As her political awakening gains maturity, thoughts of personal freedom fill her heart.

Sulekha Sanyal was born in 1928 in an impoverished family that had once been indigo planters. She became a communist while a student. At thirty- five she died of leukaemia, leaving a number of short stories and novels characterized by their passion and subtlety. Gouranga P. Chattopadhyay retired as Professor of Behavioural Science, Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta;

Himani Bannerji has retired from the Department of History, York University, Toronto.

Susie Tharu is founder-member of Anveshi Research Centre for Women. She is Professor Emerita, School of Critical Humanities, Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL), Hyderabad.

Literature/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies



THE DARK SUN and THE WOMAN WHO WORE A HAT

Kamal Desai

Translated from the Marathi by Sukhmani Roy

Foreword by Susie Tharu

8.5"x5.5" pb, 184 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-07-X,
Rs. 400.
All rights available.

'In a cosmos of fierce darkness a streak of light outlines a primordial woman, shorn of all acculturation. The woman then fleshes out herself through action, led by both instinct and conviction. That, I think, serves as an effective entry point into the densely nuanced and intriguing world of Kamal Desai's Marathi novellas, The Dark Sun and The Woman Who Wore a Hat. They offer a surreal meandering into the female psyche, at once complex and simple.'

~ India Today

This translation provides access to two major works of a leading Marathi writer. The two novellas embody the tensions and cross-currents of an indigenous modernity even as they deconstruct it. Kamal Desai's fiction is focused on the micro-levels of inner life where experience is held together by the compelling and never predictable struggle for selfhood. Nearly always, subtle and ongoing antagonisms structure and threaten Kamal Desai's imagined communities.

Kamal Desai (1928–2011) was a distinguished student and teacher of Marathi literature. Among her major books are *Ratrandin Amha Yuddhacha Prasanga* (*We Are Confronting the War, Day and Night*); *Ranga* (1962); *Kala Surya* and *Hat Ghalnari Bai* (1975).

Sukhmani Roy is Associate Professor, Department of English Literature and Language at P.N. Doshi College of Arts and K.U.R. Shah Women's College of Commerce, Ghatkopar, Bombay.

Susie Tharu is founder-member of Anveshi Research Centre for Women. She is Professor Emerita, School of Critical Humanities, Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL), Hyderabad.

Literature/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies

পথের
ইঙ্গিত



নির্বাচিত সংবাদ-সাময়িকপত্রে বাঙালি মেয়ের
সমাজভাবনা : ১৯২৭-১৯৬৭

শর্মিষ্ঠা দত্তগুপ্ত

8.5 x 5.5", pb, 302pp
ISBN 8185604-93-2
Rs. 400

BENGALI BOOKS / BACKLIST

পথের ইঙ্গিত: নির্বাচিত সংবাদ-সাময়িকপত্রে বাঙালি মেয়ের
সমাজভাবনা (১৯২৭-১৯৬৭)

***Pather Ingit: Nirbachito Samvad-Samayik Patre
Bangali Meyer Samajbhavana
1927-67***

(The Way Ahead: Political Writings of Bengali
Women in Periodicals and a Newspaper 1927-67)

Sarmistha Dutta Gupta

Tracing the history of women's political activities and connecting the trajectory to the journals women founded and edited, Dutta Gupta unearths what women wrote, demonstrating their appraisal of socio-political issues while they were becoming agents of political change. Part I gives an overview, Part II offers selections from the journals: *Prabasi*, *Saogat*, *Jayashree*, *Mandira*, *Ghare Baire* and the newspaper, *Swadhinata*.

Sarmistha Dutta Gupta is a scholar, translator and activist. Among her many publications are *The Stream Within: Short Stories of Contemporary Bengali Women*, co-edited with Swati Ganguly (Stree, 1999) and *Identities and Histories: Women's Writing and Politics in Bengal* (Stree, 2010).

**Literature/History/Sociology/Women's Studies/
Cultural Studies**



কর্মক্ষেত্রে যৌন হেনস্থার
মোকাবিলায়
আইন ব্যবহারের নির্দেশিকা

কর্মক্ষেত্রে যৌন হেনস্থার মোকাবিলায় আইন ব্যবহারের নির্দেশিকা

***Karmakshetre Jouno Henasthar Mokabilaye Ain
Byabaharer Nirdeshika***

(A Practical Guide to the Laws Relating to Sexual
Harassment at the Workplace)

Edited by Jasodhara Bagchi with Anindita Bhaduri
Translated by Jayanta Narayan Chattopadhyay

8.5"x5.5" pb, 132 pp
ISBN 81-85604-85-1
Rs 125

Women have the right to be protected from sexual harassment. Indira Jaising, the distinguished lawyer, has compiled a handbook of laws that are applicable in cases of sexual harassment. Moreover, the question-and-answer format helps women who are conscious that something is very wrong in the way they are being treated, both verbally and physically, to identify more closely that it is indeed an offence that is being perpetrated on them and that there are specific legal steps that can be taken to protect themselves.

Jasodhara Bagchi, retired as chairperson of the West Bengal Commission for Women; **Anindita Bhaduri** an independent scholar, was programme and documentation assistant, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University; **Jayanta Narayan Chattopadhyay** is an advocate.





একটি জীবন কিছু চিন্তা

ছবি বসু

8.5"x5.5" pb, 168pp
ISBN 81-85604-67-3
Rs. 400

ফিরে দেখা

Phire Dekha
(Looking Back)

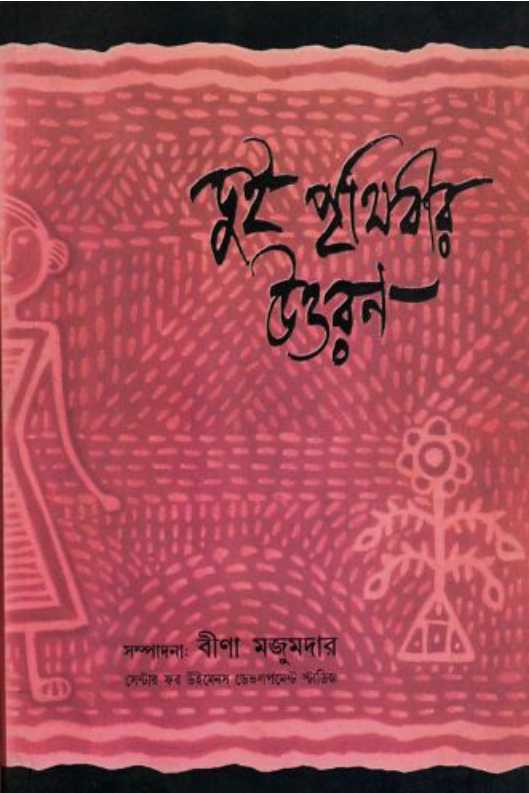
Chabi Basu
Foreword by Ashok Mitra

'[As a young student] I was never attracted by wealth. Why should one's life be bound to it? Why be held by the commonplace life? I was restless, searching for an ideal. Wouldn't I have the courage to work for it? Why not?' [p 31]

'He [Gopalda] asked me to help run the Somen Chanda Library at 46 Dharmatala St . . . This where I saw the Times .Literary Supplement . .a progressive Writers and Artists group was associated with this Library . . . It also housed the office of the Society of the Friends of the Soviet Union . . . Many foreign communists would visit us at no 46 Dharmatala St, not only British and Americans but also African, Greek, Japanese and Jewish . . . It was here that I met Uma Sehanobis . . . a lifelong friend . . . She told me about an organization of women, the Atma Raksha Society [Women's Self-Respect Society] and She took me to meet Manikuntala Sen at her commune.' [p 45]

Drawn to the Communist Party as a young woman, Chabi Basu participated in many political struggles and especially in the women's movement, the first one dating from the 1940s, which so many people have forgotten about. In this memoir, written aged 83, Chabi writes of her involvement in many important causes, of the heady days when as a middle class young woman she chose to work with the poor of Calcutta. Joining the fight for social justice in a grossly unequal and unjust society changed her life forever. A writer herself, of fiction and of essays, she tells us of the many brilliant people she met, the intellectuals, the poets, film-makers and artists, who shared a common vision within their society and who also reached out to contemporary movements across the world.

The late **Chabi Basu** had a writing career of about sixty years; she was inspired by the communist movement to publish many short stories, novels and essays.



দুই পৃথিবীর উত্তরণ

Dui Prithivir Uttaran
(Scaling Two Worlds)

Edited by Vina Mazumdar,
Centre for Women's Development Studies (CWDS),
Delhi

8.5"x5.5" pb, 178pp
ISBN 81-85604-53-3
Rs. 150

'No doubt, the project is a novel one. In Vidyasagar Visvavidyalaya, these women from the margin are sitting on one side of a mattress. On the other side sit the so-called learned society. There is only one question: Can the lower strata speak for themselves? The women were astonished . . . 'What do we have to say?'. . . When they started to talk, layer after layer, time, society and changes began to be laid bare.'
~Ananda Bazar Patrika

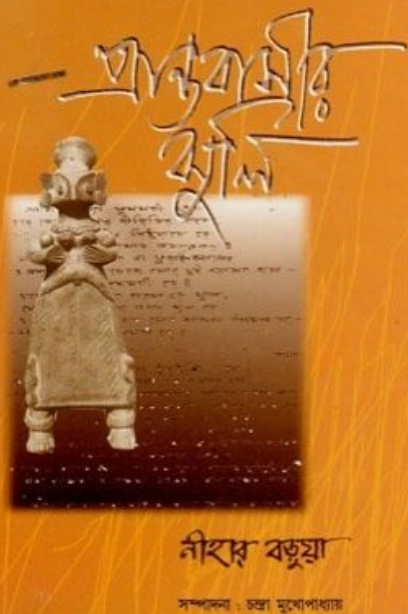
This collection of essays is based upon the life stories of the Adivasi women from four little known hamlets of the Midnapore district of West Bengal. As the Adivasis, the anthropologists of Vidyasagar University and the activists of the Centre for Women's Development Studies interacted with each other much that was never known before was revealed. The lives, the sufferings and the struggle against odds have made the stories of these ordinary women quite extraordinary. On their part, the anthropologists became aware about their limited world and started to question themselves. Thus began the process of scaling the two worlds. This is what has made *Dui Prithivir Uttaran* an extraordinary book for anthropologists, sociologists, political scientists, historians and those in gender studies.

The late **Vina Mazumdar** founded CWDS, New Delhi.

Avijit Guha and **Rajatkanti Das** teach anthropology at Vidyasagar Visvavidyalaya.

Gopalkrishna Chakraborty teaches anthropology at Calcutta University and

Loknath Ray is a researcher at CWDS, New Delhi.



8.5"x5.5" pb, black and white
photographs, 120pp,
ISBN 81-85604-38-X,
Rs 400;
Graphics in the Goalpara
style by **Rishi Barua**,
designer and grandson of
the artist

প্রান্তবাসীর জুলি: গোয়ালপাড়ার লোকজীবন ও গান

Prantabashir Jhuli: Goalparar Lokhjeeban O Gan
(Songs from the Margins)

Nihar Barua

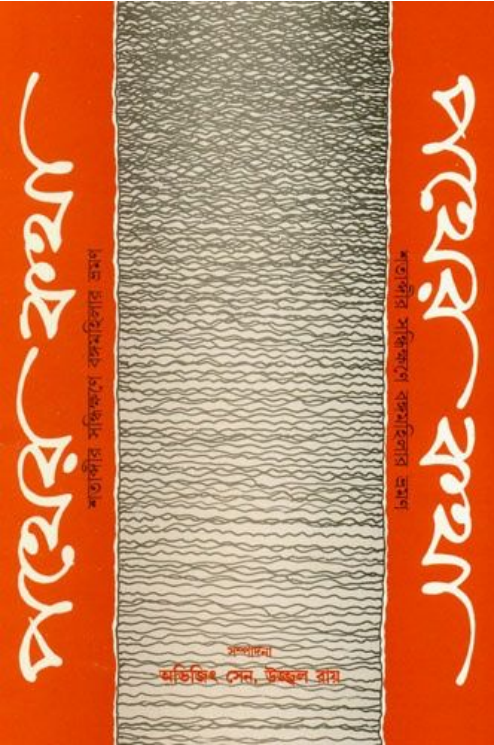
Edited by Chandra Mukhopadhyay

'Now effortlessly blended is a list of necessary sociological facts with an ambience which transforms facts into lived experience, into the very warp of the fabric of life. No amount of careful sociological detail can really achieve what the writer here achieves by erasing the distance between herself and the people whose lives form the stuff of her research.'

~The Book Review

Nihar Barua, then 97, a member of the family that also produced Pramathesh, the early filmmaker, was an extraordinary mixture of the scholar and the woman of action. A self-taught amateur anthropologist, Nihar was never crippled by customary purdah requirements; she participated in the lives of the people around her, was an avid hunter and an experienced tamer of elephants. She wrote of customs like ritual nudity and fertility rites that mainstream culture might well consider obscene, and her text is wryly aware of likely reactions in her 'cultured' readers. Aware of the hegemonic power of the 'centre' despite her privileged background, even when she wrote for prestigious mainstream journals like *Desh* and *Baromas*, she displayed an ironic sense of her own marginality in the world of the citified babu culture that made up her audience. For the first time these essays have been collected along with some works which have never before been published.

Chandra Mukhopadhyay is an educationist, a musician and musicologist. She has studied the songs of North Bengal for many years under Nihar Barua and Mrinal Barua.



8.5"x5.5" hb, 185pp,
ISBN 81-85604-34-7,
Rs 400.

পথের কথা: শতাব্দীর সন্ধিক্ষণে বঙ্গমহিলার ভ্রমণ

***Pather Katha: Shatabdir Sandhikshane
Bangamahilar Bhraman***
(Early Travel Writings by Women)

Edited by Abhijit Sen and Ujjal Ray

'The impression which one receives from these travel accounts is of sheer joy which these women writers experienced after crossing the boundary of their antahpur. The introduction and well-researched notes and profiles of the writers by the editors . . . are academically quite significant and add new dimension to the feminine discourse. One can easily view these travel accounts as literature and also as cultural contact, reflecting the socio-political concerns of that age.'

~The Book Review

At a time when most women led restricted and limited lives within the boundaries of their homes and families, undertaking a journey brought with it a sense of great freedom. Women like Swarnakumari Devi (1855–1932), Prasannamoyee Devi (1855–1939) and her daughter Priyambada (1870–1936), Nistarini Devi or Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain (1880–1932), famous writers of their times, wrote about their travels, where the road became a metaphor and a distillation of experience. They wrote about what they saw, heard and felt through their perceptions as women. This selection of travel writing will be a valuable contribution to women's studies in Bengali.

Abhijit Sen retired as publications officer associated with the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University; **Ujjwal Ray** teaches History at Jadavpur University and Sonarpur College.

কৃষ্ণভাবিনী দাসের ইংলণ্ডে বঙ্গমহিলা

Englande Bangamahila
(A Bengali Woman in England)

Krishnabhabini Das

Edited and with an introduction by Simonti Sen

Foreword by Partha Chattopadhyay

'The first feminist voice that sounded in the travelogues of the Bengali was that of Krishnabhabini.'

~ Baromas

8.5"x5.5" pb, 228pp,
ISBN 81-85604-32-0

Rs 400

Presently out of stock

At a time when travelogues continued to be written on India by Europeans, Krishnabhabini Das experimented in this genre, writing on Britain in Bengali. She had travelled to England in the late nineteenth century and lived there for ten years. In this account about her experiences and perceptions of the European world she found herself in, she included her reflections on Bengal, providing a cogent critique of Bengali society. Her daughter, Tilottama, who had been left behind in India, deeply resented the separation from her mother. She grew up to be an arch conservative, and a selection of her poetry is included that provides a strong counterpoint to Krishnabhabini's text.

Simonti Sen teaches history in Bidhannagar Government College; **Partha Chattopadhyay** is Professor, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, and Professor of Anthropology, Columbia University..

পিঞ্জরে বসিয়া

কল্যাণী দত্ত



ভূমিকা : নবনীতা দেবসেন

সম্পাদনা : অম্বিজিত সেন

8.5"x5.5" pb, 100pp

Rs 200

ISBN 81-85604-15-0

1996

8.5x5.5" pb, 100pp

ISBN 81-85604-15-0

Rs 400

forthcoming rpt September

2023

পিঞ্জরে বসিয়া

Pinjare Bashiya

(Inside the Cage)

Kalyani Dutta

Edited by Abhijit Sen

Introduction by Nabaneeta Dev Sen

'A book on the inner world of women, with a valuable introduction, making a wonderful duet that is harmonious and welcome.'

~ Baromas

A most interesting collection of essays on women, their lives, their world, written with a deceptive simplicity that gently takes the reader through a biting indictment of society. Writing of women like Shibmohini, Katyayani, Murola and Indumati, the author, then seventy-six, tells us that she had observed some of them at first hand and some she had read about. She takes us through the varied aspects of women's lives, through the oppression and sometimes pleasures of the inner quarters, providing a glimpse into women who triumphed, and those who were defeated. Of special interest are her observations on men and their mothers, of women and the kitchen and on cookbooks.

The late **Kalyani Dutta** was a prolific, distinguished scholar who retired as teacher of Sanskrit language and literature, Basanti Devi College, University of Calcutta.

Nabaneeta Dev Sen (1938–2019) was a scholar and a writer; she was formerly Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University.

Abhijit Sen retired as publications officer associated with the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University.

কাল্লা ভাঙা গান



8.5"x5.5" pb, 102pp,
ISBN 81-85604-35-5,
Rs 30.

কাল্লা ভাঙা গান
আনা আখমাতোভার কবিতা

Anna Akhmatovar Kabita
(Poems by Anna Akhmatova)

Translated and edited with an introduction by
Kaushik Guha

Acquainting Bengali readers with the poems of one of the most brilliant Russian poets, the translations are direct from Russian to Bengali. The accompanying critical essay places the poet in the context of Soviet history and society.

Kaushik Guha is an experienced translator of Russian and guest lecturer in Russian at Jadavpur University.



সম্মুখ চক্রবর্তী

8.5x5.5" pb, 274 pp,
ISBN 81-85604-12-6,
Rs 250.

অন্দরে অন্তরে: উনিশ শতকে বাঙালি ভদ্রমহিলা

Andare Antare: Unish Shatake Bangali Bhadramahila
(The Bengali Bhadramahila in the
Nineteenth Century)

Sambuddha Chakrabarti

'Andare Antare provides an in-depth analysis of the societal problems associated with the awakening of bhadralok women in nineteenth-century Bengal.'

~Indian Journal of Gender Studies.

Was the *bhadramahila*, the elite Hindu urban woman emancipated? What was her world like? Was she circumscribed within the home, while the leading lights of society debated her true nature and right path? Or did the women themselves possess enough agency to enter this debate even privately, and make their opinions known? How did society determine how much freedom was proper to women, and what were women's own expectations? The author delves into women's writings—poetry, essays, stories, songs, memoirs—many hitherto uncited—as well as other writings of the period to throw light on the women's inner world. He argues that the agenda for social reform was designed to reinforce an existing patriarchal framework.

Sambuddha Chakrabarti, judge of the Calcutta High Court, has a PhD in history from the University of Calcutta and has co-authored two textbooks of history with Dr Pratul Chandra Gupta.

Samya



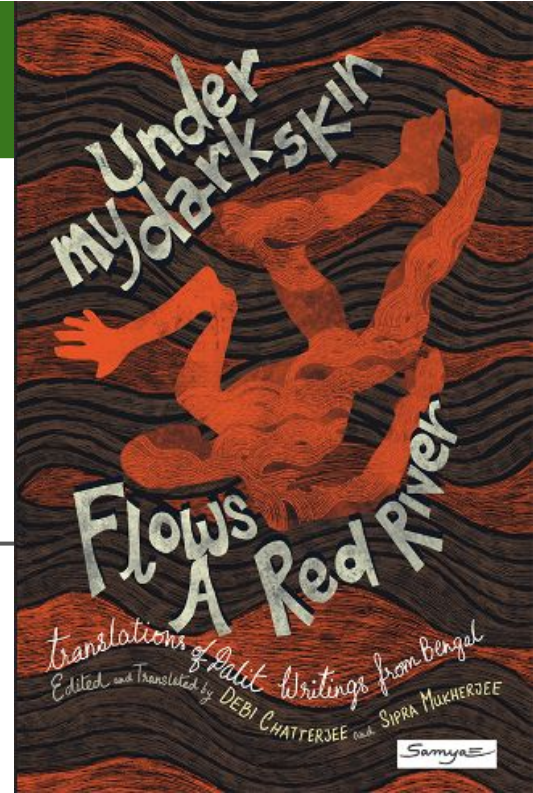
THE CONSTRUCTION OF CULTURE

Samya examines the roots of injustice and the serious social, economic and political divisions within India from the point of view of the oppressed. It focuses on contemporary issues, especially the ways in which caste is changing and its continuous impact on society, as well as those of the past. It presents writings by Dalits and other scholars, weaving together scholarly analysis and the everyday experience of activists.

UNDER MY DARK SKIN FLOWS A RED RIVER: TRANSLATIONS OF DALIT WRITINGS FROM BENGAL

Translated and edited by Devi Chatterjee
and Sipra Mukherjee

8.5 x 5.5" pb, 430 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-27-6,
Rs. 799,
July 2021.
All rights available



*'O what is this pride of jaat, brother?
What does it do for your herein and hereafter?'*

These words sung by Panchu Shah in the eighteenth century pinpoint the absurdity of the caste system that has always been attacked by the so-called lower castes — Shudras and Atishudras/Dalits — of Bengal. Oral literature and early writings in Bengal have offered their trenchant critique from the Charyapada songs of Vajrayana Buddhists between AD ninth and twelfth centuries. Later numerous sects, allegedly Hindu and/or Muslim, known as fakirs, bauls or auls, Sahebhdhanis and Kartabharjas, sang of the falsity of social divisions across the two Bengals. These songs that continue to resonate have been, as Mukherjee says, 'out there on the battleground, fighting inequity and inequality to which the Dalit identity subjects a human being'.

Chatterjee explains that inspired by the Dalit movement in modern India, Dalits have articulated their interests through a wide range of creativity: short stories, poetry, essays and articles, and autobiographies, challenging the Hindu hegemony of mainstream literature, presenting a counter-culture. Urban growth coupled with the aftermath of partition, which as Chatterjee says, wrenched Dalits from 'their hearths and livelihoods . . . and seized them with the haunting fear of impending death, led to an efflorescence of their writings.' Little magazines and presses provided the space, long denied by mainstream publishing. Some of these writings are found in this anthology. The contributions are from Namasudras, Malos, Rajbanshis, Poundras, and Bauris. Selections from the earlier and current oral tradition in the form of songs are presented.

Debi Chatterjee retired as Professor in the Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University. Among her recent books is *Up Against Caste: Comparative Study of Ambedkar and Periyar* (Rawat, 2019). She is the Founder-Editor of *Contemporary Voice of Dalit*.

Sipra Mukherjee is Professor, Department of English, West Bengal State University, India. Her publications include *The Languages of Religion* (Routledge, 2019) and the translation of *Interrogating My Chandal Life: Autobiography of a Dalit* by Manoranjan Byapari (Sage-Samya, 2018), which won The Hindu Non-fiction Award, 2019.

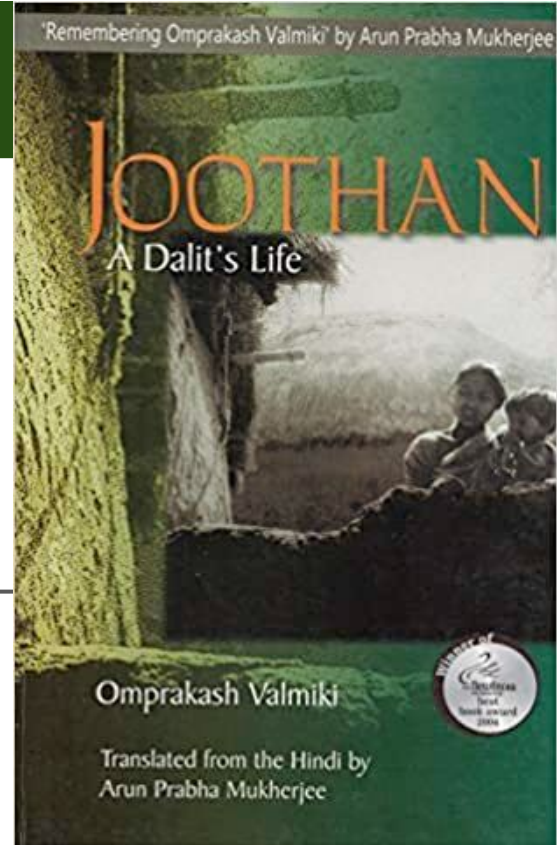
Gender Studies, History/Cultural Studies/Literature

*Winner of the Best Book Prize of the New India
Foundation 2004*

JOOOTHAN: A DALIT'S LIFE

Omprakash Valmiki
Translated from the Hindi by
Arun Prabha Mukherjee

8.5"x5.5" pb, 183pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-63-3.
Rights available.
Rs. 550



'Joothan' refers to the scraps left on plates that are then given to Dalits to eat. In some ways it is a symbol of the demeaning existence imposed on the Dalits, for whom autobiography is the preferred genre since it enables them to write of themselves and their communities, of their lived reality. In this book, the second autobiography in Hindi by a Dalit, readers are drawn into a world where cruelty and deprivation seem to be the only reality, and they become aware of the complexities of caste oppression.

Omprakash Valmiki talks of growing up in a village in north India in an untouchable caste, Chuhra, well before the defiant term 'Dalit' was coined. It is a story of survival, of terrible grief and oppression, of surmounting great odds to emerge as a freer human being.

Omprakash Valmiki (1950-2013) is an established name in Hindi literature. He retired from the Ordnance Factory, Dehradun, **Arun Prabha Mukherjee** retired as Professor, Department of English, York University, Toronto. She is a well-known scholar of postcolonial studies and a literary critic.

'Although Valmiki has devoted only a small part of his autobiographical narrative to 'joothan', it emerges as a very powerful metaphor encapsulating the pain, humiliation and poverty of his community, which not only had to rely on joothan but were forced by circumstances to relish it.'

~ Badri Narayan, *Biblio*

'Quite prominent throughout Joothan is Valmiki's documentation of how his struggle gets from efforts to claim an achieved rather than an ascribed identity.'

~ *Journal of Asian Studies*, 64, 2, 2005

Cultural Studies/Gender Studies/Sociology/History

SURVIVING IN MY WORLD: GROWING UP DALIT IN BENGAL

Manohar Mouli Biswas

Translated from the Bengali by Jaideep Sarangi and
Angana Dutta

Foreword by Sekhar Bandyopadhyay

8.5"x5.5" pb, 157 pp
ISBN 978-93-81345-09-2;
Rs. 450;
imprint: Samya
Rights available.

A translation of the author's autobiography *Amar Bhubane Ami Beche Thaki* (2013), this book also presents a detailed interview of the author, bridging the gap between Biswas's days of struggle as a Dalit child labourer, and his later (so far unrecorded) life as an accomplished Dalit literary activist, as one of the leading members of the Bangla Dalit Sahitya Sanstha that supports Dalit literature. Incredibly moving, written with simplicity, this also reveals the beliefs and practices of the Namasudras and their coherent worldview with the Matua cult of Sri Harichand and Sri Guruchand Thakur undergirding their lives, also leading them to political mobilization against the upper-caste socio-economic stranglehold.

Manohar Mouli Biswas, President of the Dalit Sahitya Sanstha, publisher of *Dalit Mirror* and a founding member of *Chaturtha Duniya* that publishes Dalit writings in Bengali, retired from the Telecom Ministry.

Jaideep Sarangi is Principal, New Alipore College;

Angana Dutta, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Jogesh Chandra Chaudhuri College, Kolkata.

Sekhar Bandyopadhyay is Professor Emeritus, School of History, Philosophy, Political Science and International Relations, Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand

Literature//Dalit Studies/History/Cultural Studies

Surviving in My World

Growing Up Dalit in Bengal

Manohar Mouli Biswas

Translated and Edited by
Angana Dutta and Jaydeep Sarangi



'Biswas the poet, fiction writer and activist is worth reading for his revolutionary spirit.'

~ G. J. V. Prasad, Centre for English Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

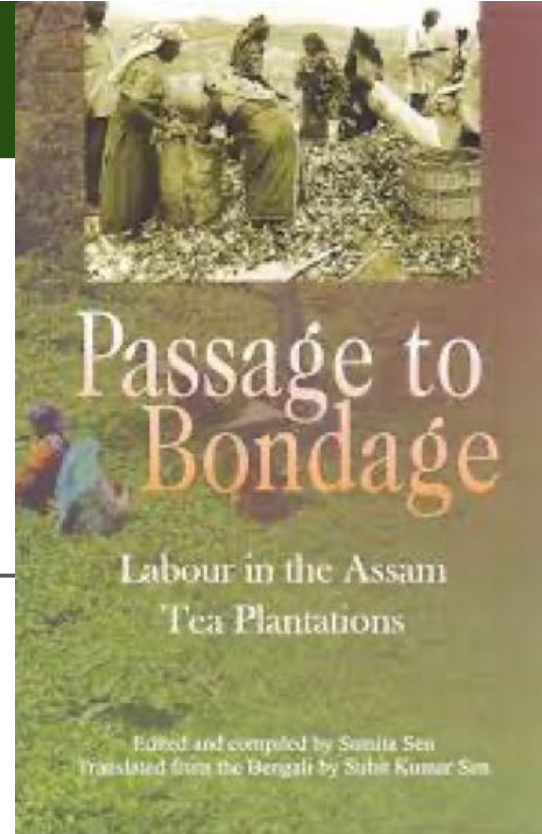
'This and more such translations will help fight the illusion that 'there is no caste discrimination in Bengal.'

~ Sharankumar Limbale, Regional Director of Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University, Pune.

PASSAGE TO BONDAGE: LABOUR IN THE ASSAM TEA PLANTATIONS

Edited and compiled by Samita Sen
Translated from the Bengali by Suhit Kumar Sen

8.5"x5.5" hb, 284 pp
ISBN 978-93-81345-18-4;
Rs 899;
imprint: Samya rpt
All rights available



The most lucrative colonial commercial enterprise for the British Empire in India was the tea industry, concentrated in Assam and North Bengal. The coolies were brought from eastern and central India and virtually sold to the gardens at enormous profit. This was the only industry to employ women in such large numbers. By the late nineteenth century, stories of rape, abduction and high mortality caught the imagination of the new middle class that was moved to protest, petition and mobilize public opinion through two new organizations: the new Sadharan Brahmo Samaj of Keshav Chandra Sen, and the Indian Association where Surendranath Banerjea was the secretary. This new emerging civil society inaugurated the democratic process that remains with us today. As source material, the pieces reveal the gradual erosion of loyalty to the British Empire among the middle class, a key factor in the growth of nationalism.

The book presents three Bengali tracts in translation that give an early formulation of the 'women question'; *Cha-kar Darpan* (on the exploitation of coolies) by Dakshinacharan Chattopadhyay, focusing on the rape of a coolie woman (1875); *Arkati Natak* (play on a recruiter) by Harilal Bandopadhyay (1897) and *Cha-Kulir Atmakahini* (autobiography of a coolie) by Jogendranath Chattopadhyay (1901) that reveal how women workers became a site on which race and nation emerge. Interesting, the plays were often followed by reform legislation, which were negated by the planters who flouted them easily.

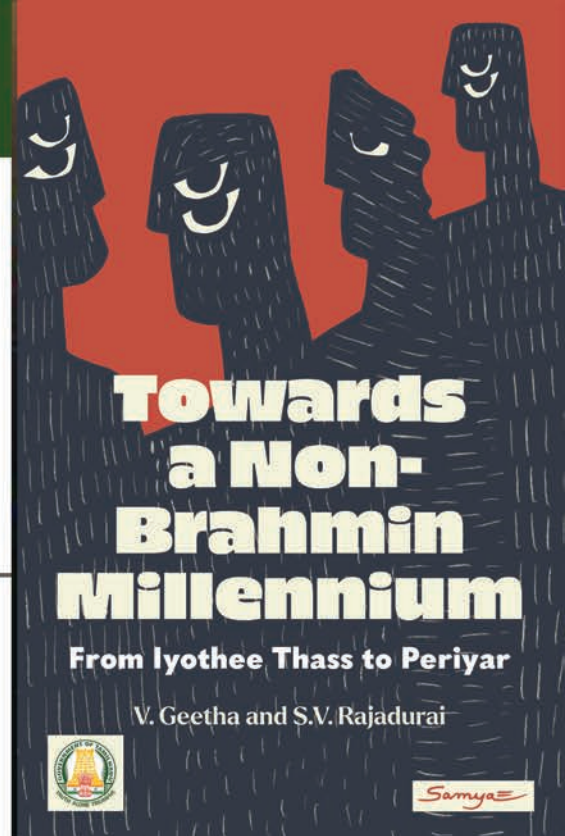
Samita Sen is Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History, University of Cambridge; *Suhit Kumar Sen* is an independent researcher.

History/Cultural Studies/Sociology/Literature

TOWARDS A NON-BRAHMIN MILLENNIUM: FROM IYOTHEE THASS TO PERIYAR

V. Geetha and S.V. Rajadurai

8.5"x 5.5" hb, 556 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-894,
Rs. 693.
All rights available



The revised edition with a new Afterword of the history of non-Brahmin assertion to Brahmin hegemony in the old Madras Presidency argues that this complex and layered past has to be critically re-claimed for our times. As an analytical study of the gestation of the movement, of its forebears like Iyothee Thass and his contemporaries, the book also provides an incisive discussion on the contributions of Periyar E. V. Ramasami, the path-breaking founder of the Self-Respect movement. The book offers a textured history of a crucial decade—the 1920s to the 1930s—which witnessed important attempts and achievements at building a historic bloc that knit together the interests of non-Brahmins and Dalits. It goes on to analyse the Justice Party, the first non-Brahmin political initiative in government, revealing its successes and significant limitations, and where the interests of the non-Brahmins and that of the Adi Dravidas diverged.

The Self-Respect movement is discussed in detail, and translations from the writings of Periyar give readers in English a glimpse of his humour and scathing insights. The book demonstrates how the movement 'conceptualized the relationship between caste, gender and sexuality' and includes the wonderfully carnivalesque denunciations of caste, Brahmin priesthood and the nation by youthful Self-Respecters.

V. Geetha writes in Tamil and in English on history, culture and gender. She has written *Patriarchy* (Stree, 2007) and *Gender* (2003).

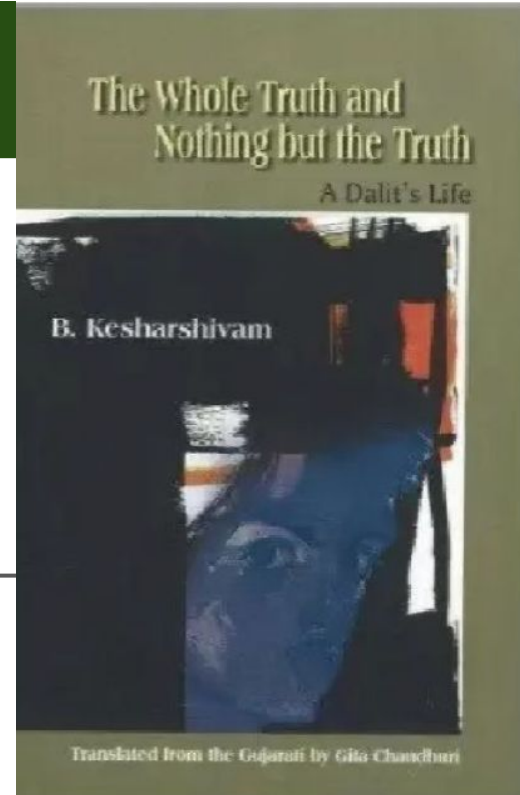
S.V. Rajadurai (pseudonym for K. Manoharan) is a well-known Tamil writer and translator who has long been involved with the radical Left and civil liberties movement.

History/Sociology/Cultural Studies

THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH: A DALIT'S LIFE

B. Kesharshivam
Translated by Gita Chaudhuri

8.5"x5.5" pb, 341 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-87-9,
Rs. 500.
All rights available.



*'If you were to knock on the words of pain, you would hear the sound of truth ...
If you were to dig into them, you would find blood streaking out.'*

This is how B. Kesharshivam describes the quintessential experiences of the life of a Dalit. In the seventy-odd years after independence, many believe that much has changed for Dalits.

The author himself, born and raised in poverty in the Dalit *moholla* of Kalol in north Gujarat, passed the Gujarat Public Service Examinations to become a mamlatdar, a revenue officer, and finally, a Class 1 officer who held many significant postings including comptroller of the household to the governor of Gujarat. Yet as he says, 'At every step in life I was made aware of being a Dalit.'

Translated from the Gujarati original, *Purnasatya*, this is the first autobiography of a Dalit in Gujarati. Beginning with his life as a child who plays in the dust of the bone meal factory, where he later works, going to labour with his parents in the 'cottermill', the book presents a non-sentimental account of a childhood where friendships exist, sometimes across castes, and discrimination and abuse are constants. The second part of his story relates to his working life as a government servant, his struggles on behalf of the Dalits and the tribal populations against a backdrop of continuous discrimination.

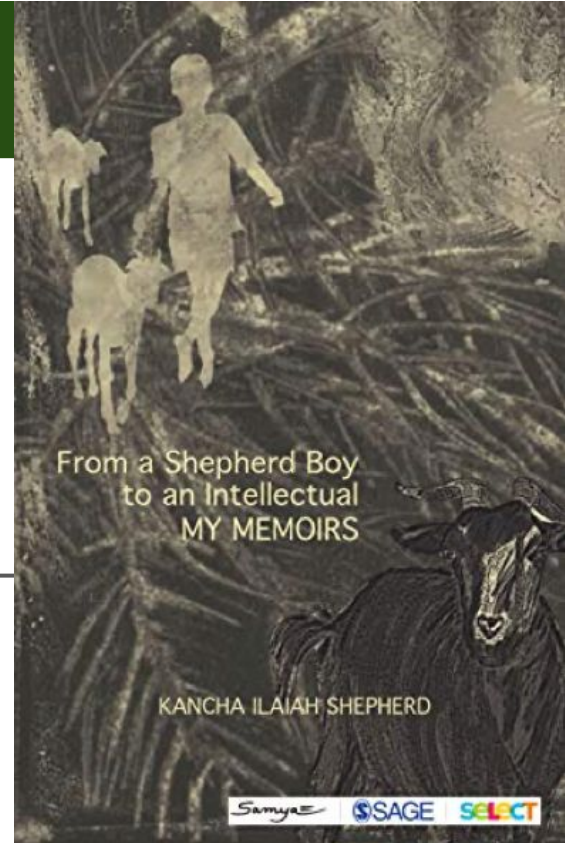
B. Kesharshivam is the pen name of **B. S. Jadav**, which he coined by combining his parents' names and placing Dr B.R. Ambedkar's first initial in front. He has written many novels and short stories, getting published while he was in school. His autobiography won the Dasi Jivan award of the Government of Gujarat, 2003. **Gita Chaudhuri** has taught at St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad, and is visiting faculty at IIM Udaipur. She has translated into Bengali: *M. K. Gandhi, My Experiments with Truth* as *Satyer Anwesan*.

Literature/Cultural Studies/History/Dalit Studies

FROM A SHEPHERD BOY TO AN INTELLECTUAL: MY MEMOIRS

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd

8.5"x5.5" pb, 378 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-41-2,
Rs. 595



With his characteristic critique of the upper castes, Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd, for the first time, pens down his past in this autobiography. Bringing out the social relations that have not much changed since his time, he describes the important social customs and beliefs that marked the existence of the lower castes. Recounting his personal anecdotes and experiences, his relations with his parents and siblings, his mother's biases towards other castes lower than theirs, the prevalence of child marriage, which he opposed, and finally, his indomitable passion to be educated, Kancha Ilaiah explains what he thinks had made him and others to pursue education that was different from the group of shepherds to which he belonged.

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd retired as Professor and Director, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad. Amongst his writings is *Why I Am Not a Hindu: A Sudra Critique of Hindutva Philosophy, Culture and Political Economy*, *Buffalo Nationalism* and *God as a Political Philosopher* and his novel, *Untouchable God*.

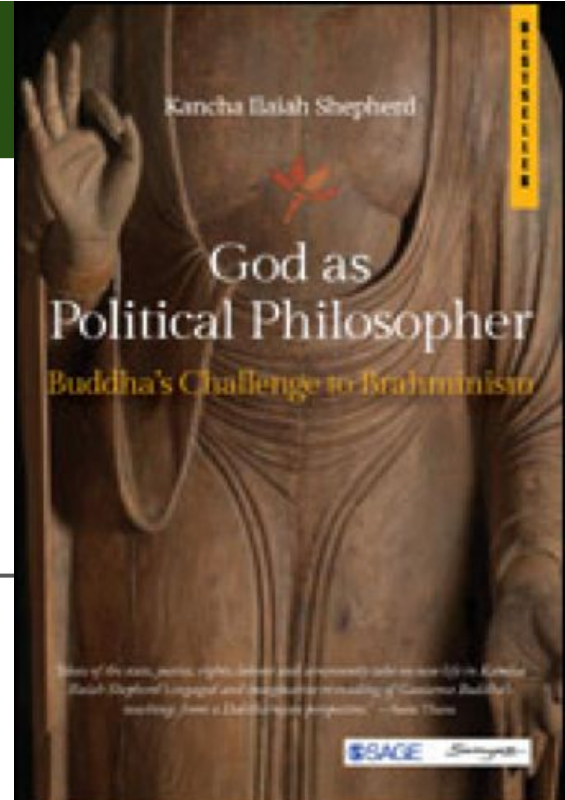
Dalit Studies/History/Literature/Cultural Studies

A joint publication with SAGE

GOD AS POLITICAL PHILOSOPHER: BUDDHA'S CHALLENGE TO BRAHMINISM

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd

8.5"x5.5" pb, 260 pp,
ISBN 978-93-532-8259-2,
Rs 495.
Sage-Samya.
All rights available



'This book is the first major research work that posits Gautama Buddha as a political thinker ...It shows that Buddhist theorizing is as powerful as that of the ancient Greek thinkers.' ~ Gopal Guru, JNU

'Kancha Ilaiah's work continues the legacy of Iyothee Thass, Rahul Sankrityayan and Ambedkar of interpreting Buddha for our times.'
~ Uma Chakravarti

In this provocative and scholarly book, Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd propounds a view of Gautama Buddha as India's first social revolutionary. Buddha did his best to give the principles of tribal democracy and egalitarianism a sanctuary in his own sangha. In so doing, he foreshadowed India's experiment with parliamentary democracy. Critical of the caste system and its attendant power structure, Buddha inducted low caste members into the sangha and made them his trusted advisors. He gave women an honoured place in the sangha. Dissent was permitted; even Buddha was not above the law. Pre-dating Socrates and Plato by some years, Buddha also foreshadowed key elements of their philosophy.

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd is a writer and columnist. He retired as Professor and Director, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad. Amongst his writings are *Buffalo Nationalism*, *From a Shepherd Boy to an Intellectual: My Memoirs*, a novel, *Untouchable God.*, and *Why I Am Not a Hindu: A Sudra Critique of Hindutva Philosophy, Culture and Political Economy*.

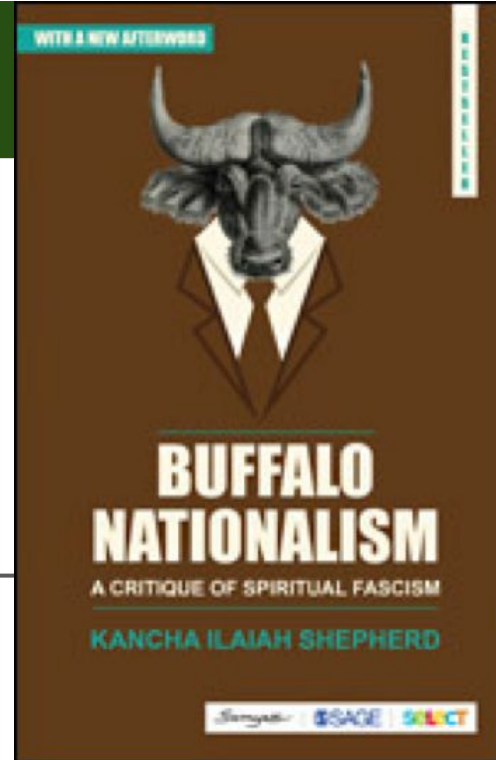
History/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies

A joint publication with SAGE

BUFFALO NATIONALISM: A CRITIQUE OF SPIRITUAL FASCISM

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd

8.5"x5.5" pb, 237pp,
ISBN 81-85604-69-X,
Rs 595



'The buffalo [Ilaiah says] represents the oppressed and least affluent class in our society. 'Buffalo is an apt metaphor for the long-suffering Dalit. It is a symbol that reminds us of extreme violence perpetrated against them.' ~The Week

'O Mother Lachumamma, your blouse is torn,/ Your hair is soiled, your sari in rags,/ You have no money to buy new ones./ Even in that condition what have you done?/ You planted saplings, walking backwards like a bull,/ In order to produce food from the mud.'

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd translates these words of the Telugu poet, singer, activist Gaddar to emphasize the productivity of ordinary people, the Dalitbahujans of India, who receive so little in return, deprived of the gains of development and globalization but not of the losses in their wake. Arguing forcefully for social justice, this book contains a selection from Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd's columns in popular newspapers like *The Hindu*, *The Deccan Chronicle*, *The Deccan Herald*, *The Hindustan Times* among others, and journals like *Mainstream* and the *Economic and Political Weekly*.

Strongly advocating the Dalitization of Indian society that will undo its moorings in spiritual fascism, which refuses equality or freedom to the majority, he commends the positive values of the buffalo as a productive animal that epitomizes the qualities of the Dalitbahujans. Combative, heartfelt, intellectually rigorous, these pieces present his vision of a more just society.

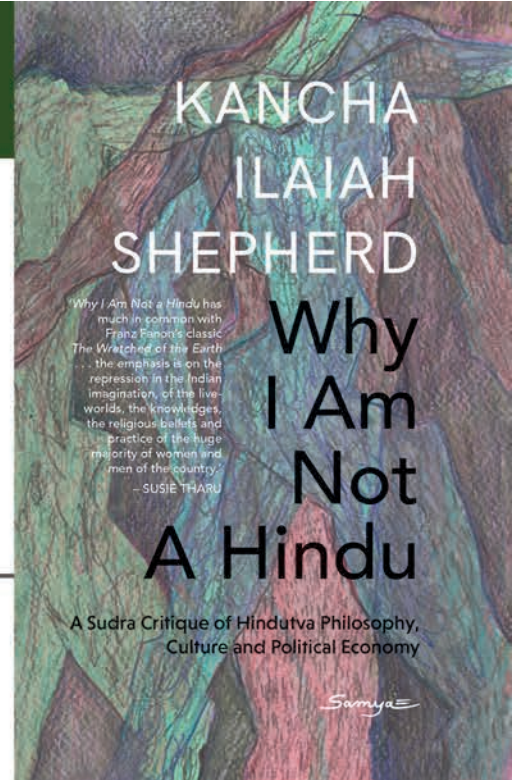
History/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies

A joint publication with SAGE.

WHY I AM NOT A HINDU: A SUDRA CRITIQUE OF HINDUTVA PHILOSOPHY, CULTURE AND POLITICAL ECONOMY

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd

8.5"x5.5" pb, 2nd rpt, 190 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-82-4,
Rs. 600



'Much in common with Franz Fanon's classic, The Wretched of the Earth.'
~ Susie Tharu, Economic and Political Weekly

'In Kancha Ilaiah's conceptual universe, you feel the pain of life. In his ideas, you sense the vulnerability of battling unpredicable waters . . . you also sense the gaiety of robust combat and the fun in the fight.' ~ Sagarika Ghose, Outlook

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd writes with passionate anger, laced with sarcasm on the caste system and Indian society. He looks at the socio-economic and cultural differences between the Dalitbahujans and Hindus in the contexts of childhood, family life, market relations, power relations, gods and goddesses, death and, not least, Hindutva. Synthesizing many of the ideas of bahujans, he presents their vision of a more just society.

In this revised edition, he presents an Afterword that discusses the history of this book, often seen as the manifesto of the downtrodden Dalitbahujans. He talks of its reviews as well as of the abuse he has received from its detractors. He reminds us of the need of an ongoing dialogue.

As he says, 'My request to Brahmins, Baniya and Neo-Kshatriyas [upper class Sudras] is this; you learnt only what to teach others: the Dalitbahujans. Now in your own interest and in the interest of this great country you must learn to listen and to read what we have to say.'

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd is a writer and columnist. He retired as Professor and Director, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad. Amongst his writings are *Buffalo Nationalism*, *God as Political Philosopher: Buddha's Challenge to Brahminism*, *From a Shepherd Boy to an Intellectual: Memoirs*, and a novel *Untouchable God*.

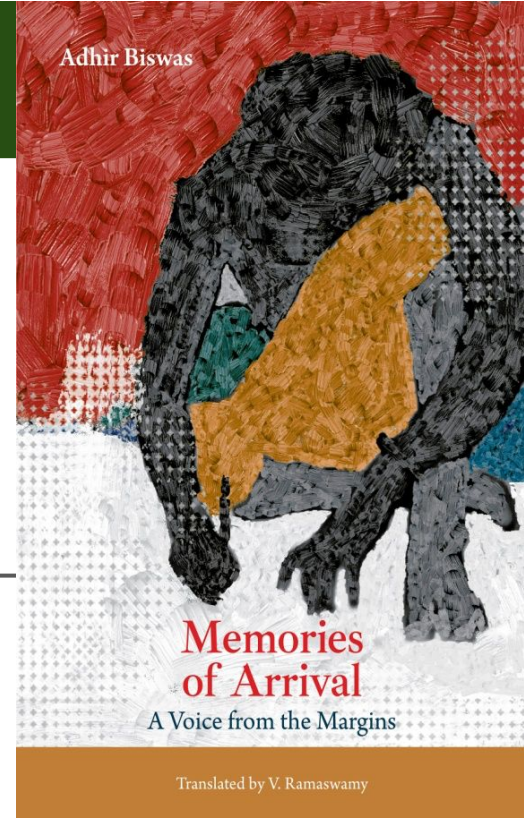
History/ Culture Studies/ Gender Studies

A joint publication with SAGE

MEMORIES OF ARRIVAL: A VOICE FROM THE MARGINS

Adhir Biswas
Translated by V. Ramaswamy

8.5" x 5.5" pb, 342 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-73-3,
Rs. 595,
October 2021



Biswas' memoirs, written as a quartet, consolidated here, is about a Dalit boy from across the border who survives poverty, adversity, ill-health and disregard with an indomitable spirit. He is obsessed with becoming a writer. He struggles to get a college education and starts writing while in college, getting published in little magazines, working as a proof-reader, getting a foothold into the Bengali world of publishing. This marginal man enters the world of letters and becomes a publisher of Gangchil, a distinguished list. He thus offers a glimpse of the formation of subaltern consciousness and the making of an organic intellectual. Biswas also represents the poor migrant who comes from a hinterland somewhere to a city to find a refuge. As Ramaswamy says, the four books that form Biswas' memoirs create a kind of social history, the lived experience of a marginal person who forms the majority of Indian society.

Adhir Biswas, publisher of Gangchil, was born in 1955 in Magura village, Jessore district of erstwhile East Pakistan, now Bangladesh. He arrived in India in 1967 and completed his schooling and graduation in Calcutta. Biswas's four-volume collection of stories, novellas and novels for young readers, was awarded the Vidyasagar Memorial Prize in 2017 by the Government of West Bengal. He is a member of the the Bangla Dalit Academy.

V. Ramaswamy is a writer and translator based in Kolkata, India. An activist, he has written about workers, squatters, slums, poverty, housing, and resettlement. Since 2005, he has been translating the short fiction of the Bengali anti-establishment experimental writer, Subimal Misra, whose critical eye examines the society, politics and culture of his time.

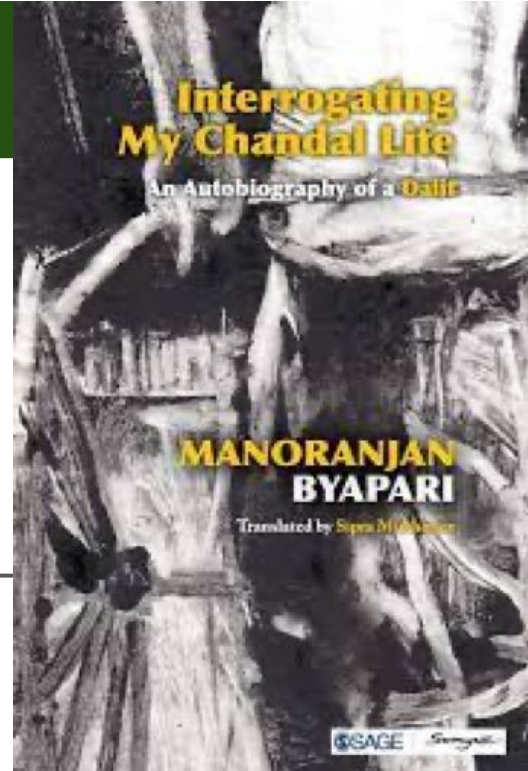
Literature/Cultural Studies/History

A joint publication with SAGE

INTERROGATING MY CHANDAL LIFE: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A DALIT

Manoranjan Byapari
Translated by Sipra Mukherjee

8.5"x5.5" pb, 380 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-13-9,
Rs. 550,
Rights available



'I was a brawler and rioter. I was even charged with arson and attempt to murder. This was when Naxalism was at its peak, ... I was in and out of jail but when I was 24, I was sentenced to 10-year imprisonment. ... A fellow inmate pointed to a plant growing outside the window, and I wondered how such a beautiful plant could survive in hostile conditions. That's when I decided to redeem myself,'
~ cited in *The Hindu*, 23 January 2019.

A refugee during the Partition, who spent his early years in the camps, lost his sister to starvation, and finally left his poverty-stricken family at the age of sixteen and became a criminal, engaging himself actively in the Naxal movement, *Manoranjan Byapari* was taught to read Bengali in jail. As a rickshaw puller, a chance meeting with renowned author Mahasweta Devi changed the direction of his life and he became a writer and a Bangla Sahitya Akademi award-winner. He is an MLA for Trinamul from Balagarh. The book narrates his fascinating experiences, as well as his views as a Dalit writer on the struggles of underprivileged Dalits in Bengal.

Sipra Mukherjee, is Professor, Department of English, West Bengal State University, Barasat; and Visiting Fellow (DSA), Department of English, University of Hyderabad.

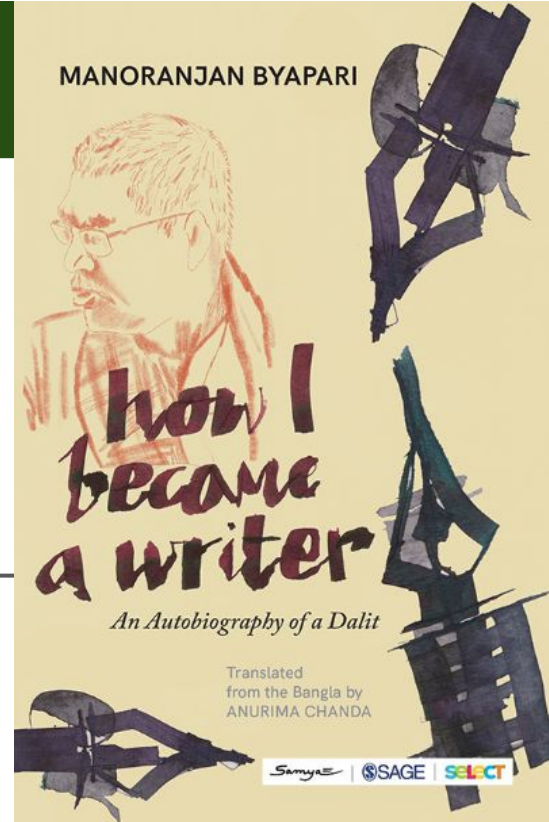
Literature/History/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies *move p no to left*

A joint publication with SAGE.

HOW I BECAME A WRITER: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A DALIT

Manoranjan Byapari
Translated by Anurima Chanda

8.5" x 5.5" pb. Approx 380 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-13-9,
Rs 550
December 2021
Rights Available



In the second volume of his autobiography, translated from *Ittibrite Chandal Jivan*, the author talks of his struggles to earn an honest living and to consolidate his position as a writer. His work as a cook at the Deaf and Dumb School reveals the ordinary violence that rules the institution, its staff and pupils, giving a portrait of the microcosm of the reality that India's urban poor endures. He views the everyday humiliation, the brutal party politics totally divorced from ethics or restraint, as unbridled caste prejudice and discrimination.

Yet despite this hostile environment his writing flourishes: 'I have been writing since 1981 ...Nobody had forced me to write. I wrote because I couldn't live without writing'. He talks of his relationship with Mahasweta Devi, his mentor and first publisher, and the growing affirmation he receives from Bengal's eminent writers and intellectuals like Dr. Binayak and Ilina Sen, Sankha Ghosh, perhaps Bengal's greatest contemporary poet, Naxal leader Khokhon Majumdar, the subaltern historian Gautam Bhadra, poet Joy Goswami and the theatre artist Saoli Mitra, all his readers, to mention just a few. Side by side there is his trenchant critique of society, politics, and his hostility to reservation and the disappointment on the lack of solidarity among Dalit writers.

Manoranjan Byapari is a writer who has never been to school. In 2013 he won the television channel 24 Ghanta's Ananya Samman, and in 2014, the Suprabha Majumdar Smarak Puraskar, awarded by the Paschim Banga Akademi. In 2019 the first volume of his autobiography won The Hindu Literary Fest's award for nonfiction. He is an MLA for Trinamul from Balagarh.

Anurima Chanda is Assistant Professor, Birsa Munda College, North Bengal. She received her PhD in English from Jawaharlal Nehru University. She is an accomplished translator and also a writer of children's books.

History/Gender Studies/Cultural Studies /Sociology

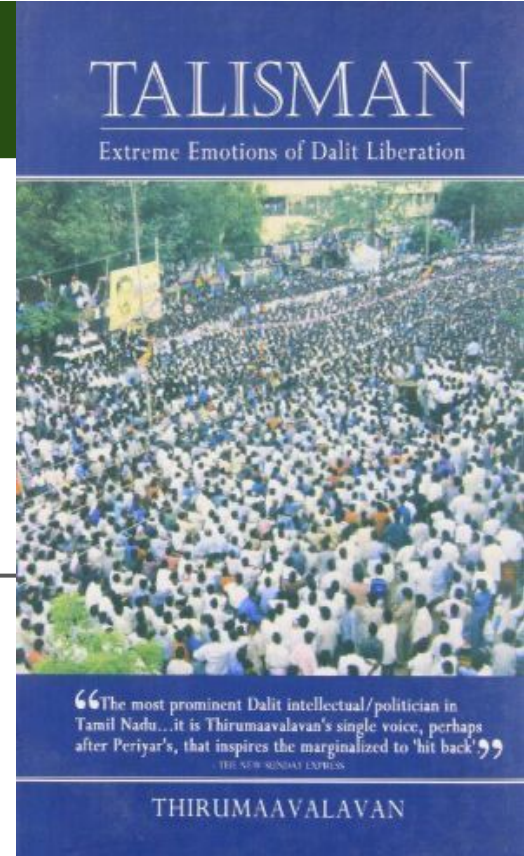
A joint publication with SAGE.

TALISMAN: EXTREME EMOTIONS OF DALIT LIBERATION

Thirumaavalavan

Translated from the Tamil by Meena Kandasamy

8.5"x5.5pb, 203 pp,
ISBN 81-85604-68-1,
Rs 200.
All rights available



As leader of the Viduthalai Chiruthaigal, the Liberation Panthers, Thirumaavalavan brings the passion of his commitment to social justice to these speeches that have been translated from the Tamil into English for the first time. Fighting for the rights of the people of the cheris, the slums, the humble folk who get trampled on, murdered or raped at will because of the caste system, now bolstered by the ideology of Hindutva, these speeches get to the heart of the prevailing injustice in India's democracy. Many of the atrocities have not been reported in the media; thus the book provides a valuable record of what is taking place.

Thirumaavalavan is the President of the Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi I Party and an MP.

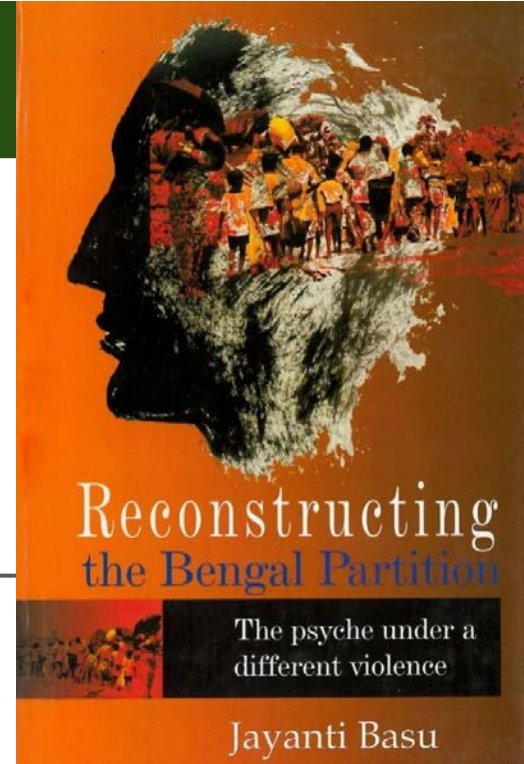
Meena Kandasamy is a poet, writer, activist and translator. Among her recent books are *Exquisite Cadavers* (Atlantic Books, 2019); *The Orders Were To Rape You: Tigresses in the Tamil Eelam Struggle* (Navayana, 2021).

Dalit Studies/Cultural Studies/ Political Science/History

RECONSTRUCTING THE BENGAL PARTITION: THE PSYCHE UNDER A DIFFERENT VIOLENCE

Jayanti Basu
Foreword by Alan Roland

8.5 x 5.5" hb, 292 pp,
ISBN 978-81-906760-9-0,
Rs. 650



'... Jayanti Basu has searched the depths of the human psyche to fish out what little of this inexplicable 'something' can be explained through psychoanalysis ... she has explored the psychological impact of this unique and complex 'trauma' on the collective as well as the individual Psyche.'

~ Adeesha Sarkar, The Telegraph

A psychological study of the Bengal Partition, a traumatic time that continues to resonate. Why has it been so hard for Bengal to recover from this catastrophe, shared with the people of Punjab, who faced much more brutal and horrendous violence over a short period? Was it due to very different historical circumstances? The refugees were targets of 'soft violence', an extreme form of mental assault that 'chilled them with fear' till they fled. They could not tell 'whether old friends had become new foes'. Were they imagining this or perhaps it was a true reading of the situation? Departures were spread over many years, preventing a sharper break with the past, prolonging their confusion over identity, the grief of being uprooted, of feeling unwelcome in the truncated state of West Bengal.

The author interviews a number of respondents who were young children or adolescents from the bhadralok, the educated section of society, to gauge their understanding of Partition and how it affects their lives. She uses the insights of psychoanalysis and cognitive psychology and is perceptive on memory and the reconstruction of Partition in people's minds.

Jayanti Basu is Professor, Department of Applied Psychology, University of Calcutta and a practising psychoanalyst.

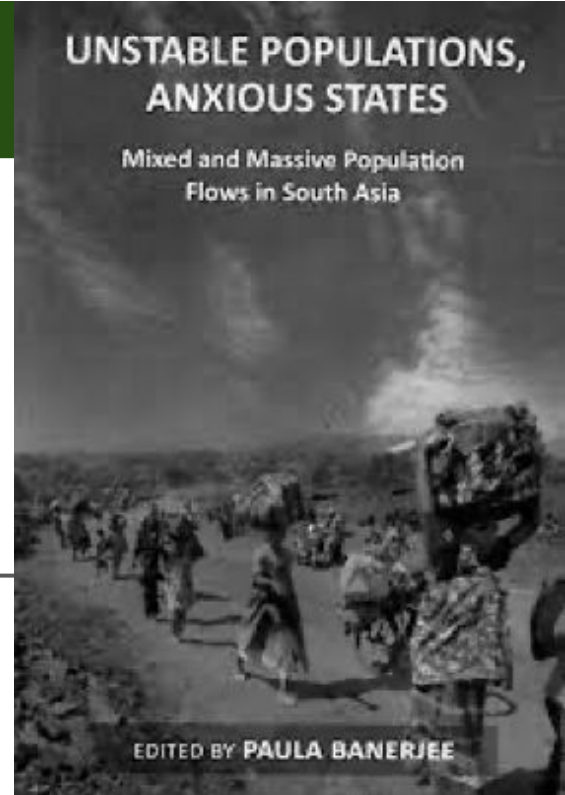
Alan Roland (b. 1930) is a psychoanalyst, artist and playwright. His latest book is *Journeys to Foreign Selves: Asians and Asian Americans in a Global Era* (2011).

History/Psychology/Cultural Studies

UNSTABLE POPULATIONS, ANXIOUS STATES: MIXED AND MASSIVE POPULATIONS FLOWS IN SOUTH ASIA

Edited by Paula Banerjee

8.5x5.5" pb, 368 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-06-1,
Rs. 575
All rights available



In South Asia, liberation from the British empire meant the partition of states, leading to huge human flows who faced horrific, indescribable violence. In addition, there are innumerable internally displaced people (IDPs), religious and ethnic minorities, indigenous people, Dalits and the urban poor who get displaced many times over. Persecution and discrimination occur together, and the old forms of protection are inadequate. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) responded with a Ten Point Plan of Action for Refugee Protection and Mixed Migration. This was the focus of a two-day dialogue on 'Protection Strategies in South Asia' organized by Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (MCRG), which led to this book, a comprehensive collection, compiled by social scientists, media analysts and activists. It offers an overview of South Asian experiences, an analysis of the principles of protection and their inadequate implementation. It considers the disparity between economic growth and human development indices that leads to continuous massive human flows: refugees, IDPs or economic migrants.

Paula Banerjee is Professor, Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies, University of Calcutta and member, Mahanirvan Calcutta Research Group.

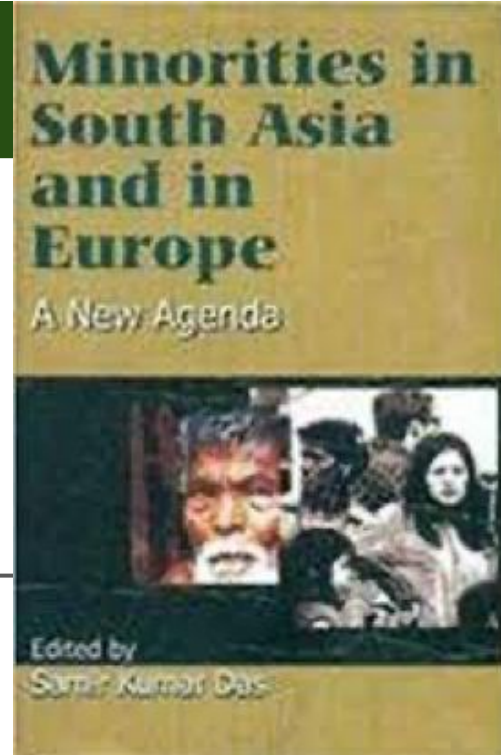
Contributors: Paula Banerjee, Subir Bhaumik, Nasreen Chowdhory, Uttam Kumar Das, Shiva K. Dhungana, Bhavani Fonseka, Partha S. Ghosh, Mario Gomez, Anuradha Bhasin Jamwal, Pamela Philipose, K. M. Parivelam, Hina Shahidand, Jeevan Thiagarajah

Gender Studies/History/Sociology/Cultural Studies

MINORITIES IN EUROPE AND SOUTH ASIA: A NEW AGENDA

Edited by Samir Kumar Das

8.5"x5.5" hb, 326 pp,
ISBN 978-81-906760-3-8,
Rs. 700



This book studies minorities of South Asia and Europe in a comparative and transnational perspective. While country-specific studies in minorities are not rare, their comparisons within a region (like South Asia and Europe) or across them are almost non-existent. This is so because the history of the formation of minorities in many ways coincides with that of the formation of nation-states in both these regions. As modern states emerge and their boundaries are drawn in fairly neat and precise terms, minorities are created—if not ‘trapped’ and ‘colonized’—within them. International boundaries have often been drawn in postcolonial South Asia or in post-war Europe in ways that have not only dismembered the hitherto homogeneous groups into minorities, dispersed over two or more nation-states, but also brought about newer sources of division amongst them. Minorities, as we will see, are ‘minorities’ only with reference to the national body within which they constitute themselves as minorities. Modern minorities are the product of nationalist discourse.

Samir Kumar Das is Professor of Political Science, University of Calcutta.

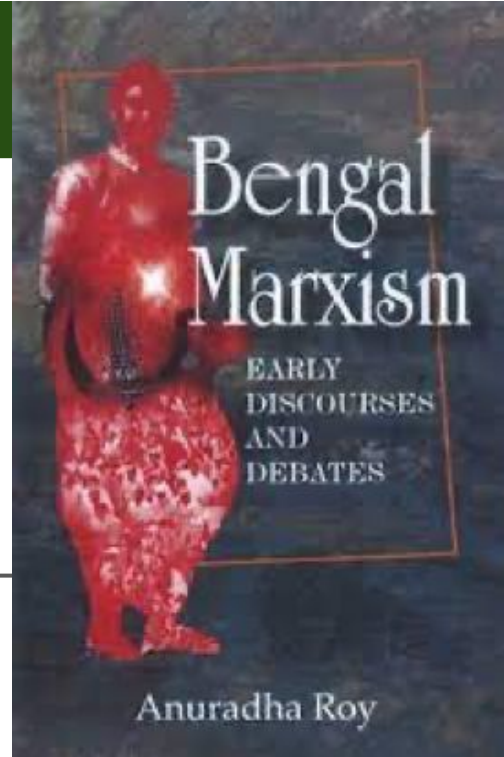
Contributors: Paula Banerjee, Thomas Benedikter, Bojan Brezigar, Andreas Eisendle, Benedikt Harzl, Harriet Hoffler, Emma Lantschner, Joanna Pfaff Czarnecka, Javaid Rehman and Ranabir Samaddar.

Cultural Studies/ History/ Sociology/Political Science

BENGAL MARXISM: EARLY DISCOURSES AND DEBATES

Anuradha Roy

8.5"x5.5" hb, 228 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-02-3,
Rs. 600.
All rights available



'Anuradha Roy traces the beginnings of this tortuous Bengali journey towards socialism to 1917–20. Through meticulous research, she has unearthed traces of pro-socialist thinking in the writings of Ramananda Chattopadhyay, Kshitindranath Thakur, Hemantakumar Sarkar and Bijaylal Chattopadhyay among others, who during that period expressed sympathy for the Russian revolution.'

~ Sumanta Banerjee, *History and Sociology of South Asia* 10 (1)

The Bolshevik Revolution introduced Marxism to Bengali intellectuals who lost an opportunity to build it up theoretically. The book critically examines their writings on Marxism, referring to wide-ranging sources in Bengali, not hitherto available in other books on Marxism. The Bengali Marxists wrote on Marxian theory and were greatly excited by Marxian aesthetic debates from the 1930s, privileging art and literature over political struggles which perhaps explain its failure as a practice. The book also reveals the implications of the huge gap between its promise and its practice.

Anuradha Roy points to the paradox that it was the non-Marxist intellectuals rather than the 'Marxists' who did justice to Marxism by acknowledging its possibilities and yet questioning its inadequacies. Among the 'Marxists', the 'fellow travellers' contributed the most to Marxism. A single political party with very narrow objectives gradually monopolized Marxism. The party allowed a huge gap between theory and practice, resulting in the ideology becoming a dogma. Economic determinism marginalized social ethics and the characteristic 'culturalism' of the Bengali bhadralok concealed its political failure. Thus, the author interrogates Marxism and its failure in Bengal.

Anuradha Roy is Professor, Department of History, Jadavpur University.

History/Cultural Studies/Political Science

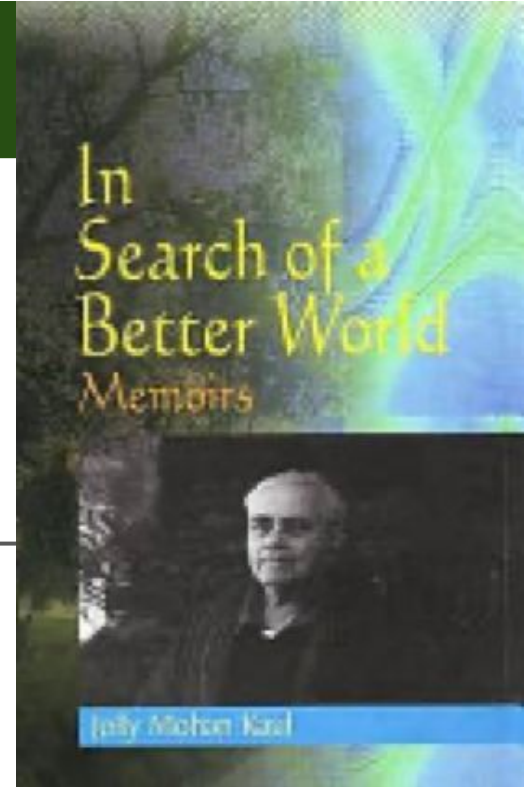
IN SEARCH OF A BETTER WORLD

Jolly Mohan Kaul

Foreword by Amlan Datta

Afterword by Aditi Roy Ghatak

8.5"x5.5" hb, 400 pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-99-2,
Rs. 550,
All rights available



'Perhaps no one has been more aptly named than Jolly Kaul. Despite a life of hardship and vicissitude, he hasn't lost his sense of fun and enjoyment of life even at the age of ninety. This makes his memoirs a delight to read.' ~Rudrangshu Mukherjee, The Telegraph

'I had joined the Communist Party in pursuit of an ideal, the building of a new society, Sidney and Beatrice Webb termed it a new civilization in which the evils of the capitalist system would disappear and, more importantly, a new and better human being would evolve.'

Thus propelled, aged nineteen, Kaul goes underground in 1941. By the time he is twenty-five, he works with the Calcutta Port union, organizing a successful strike for eighty days; he spends 1951-53 in jail when the Party is declared illegal, emerging to become the secretary of the Calcutta District Committee.

Kaul marries a fellow communist, Manikuntala Sen, who was the Deputy Leader of the Communist Group in the West Bengal's State Assembly. The China-India War, the revelations of the Soviet Union's Twentieth Congress where Khrushchev exposes the reality that lay behind Stalin's rule, and the corruption and lowering of ideals within the Party itself made both Kaul and Sen leave the Party in 1963, without careers, income or savings. Kaul goes on to build a new career in public relations, economic journalism and finally the education of workers in the Gandhi Labour Foundation. Kaul provides an insider's view of the communist movement and the Communist Party, invaluable for understanding both their trajectories and the history. His path-breaking memoirs offer a critique of his life and times.

Jolly Mohan Kaul (22 Sept 1920—29 June 2020) was a social activist. The late Professor **Amlan Dutta**, has served as Vice Chancellor of Visva-Bharati and University of North Bengal.

Aditi Roy Ghatak is a well-known journalist.

Literature/History/Cultural Studies

**SKETCHES BY HOOTUM THE OWL:
A SATIRIST'S VIEW OF COLONIAL CALCUTTA**

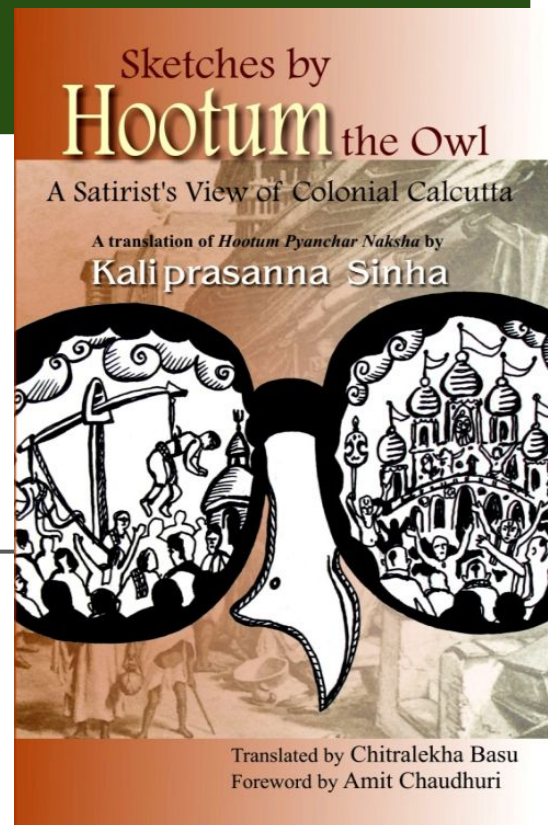
Kaliprasanna Sinha

Translated from the Bengali by Chitralekha Basu

Foreword by Amit Chaudhuri

Illustrations by Sumitro Basak

8.5"x 5.5" hb, 350pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-86-2.
Rs. 800.
All rights available



'... presents a realistic picture of nineteenth- century Calcutta and weaves in thinly disguised references to real-life personalities of the times.'
~ Sayantan Dasgupta, Frontline

This translation of Kaliprasanna Sinha's *Hootum Pyachar Naksha* (1861–68) presents Sinha's series of sketches on life and society which was once pilloried as obscene but has recently been acknowledged as the first significant title of modern Bengali prose. A literary experiment in terms of style, theme and language that has no parallel, Sinha's *Hootum* contains elements from practically all available generic and linguistic models—from the classical European belles-lettres to Calcutta cockney, besides the writer's own idiosyncratic neologisms. While offering a witty critique of its social mores, it is also the story of a city in the making and the inevitable conflicts between the traditional and the modern, the bigoted and the liberal. Although the tone is that of self-deprecation and general contempt for all that seems to be falling apart in the city, this book is the writer's tribute to its unending spill of life that exasperates even as it overwhelms.

Kaliprasanna Sinha was playwright, publisher and philanthropist. *Hootum Pyachar Naksha* was written when he was twenty-one. He published an eighteen-volume Bengali translation of the *Mahabharata* from the original Sanskrit, and died aged thirty.

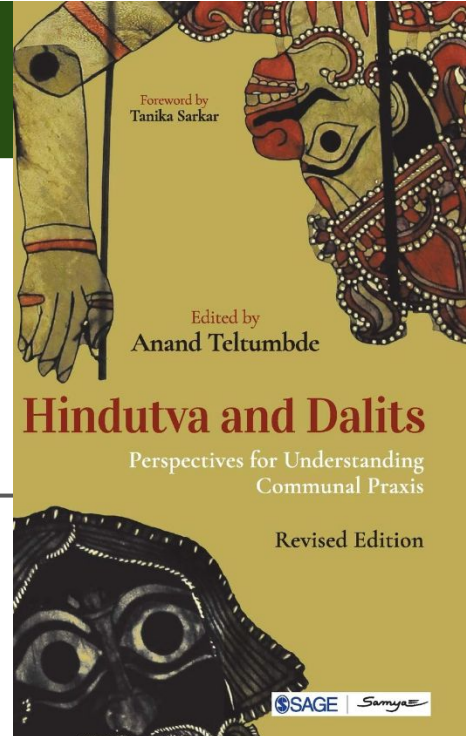
Chitralekha Basu is Culture Editor, China Daily, Hong Kong; **Amit Chaudhuri** is an acclaimed novelist, a literary critic and an exponent of Hindustani classical as well as experimental music. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature; **Sumitro Basak**, who died tragically young, was a well-known painter who has exhibited in India and abroad.

Literature/History/Cultural Studies

HINDUTVA AND DALITS: PERSPECTIVES FOR UNDERSTANDING COMMUNAL PRAXIS

Edited by Anand Teltumbde

8.5"x5.5" hb, 372 pp.
ISBN 978-93-81345-50-4 (HB).
Rs 1,295,
rights available.



Despite the teachings of Babasaheb Ambedkar against Hinduism and its pernicious caste system, which he forsook to become a Buddhist, many Dalits have turned to Hindutva. The RSS under Balasaheb Deoras began to appropriate Ambedkar, engaging with Dalits and Adivasis, Hinduizing their beliefs, providing social welfare and binding them in a political alliance.

Taking a comprehensive view of the birth and growth of the Hindutva movement and its specific impact on Dalits, the book has two parts: Part I, Theoretical Perspectives, explores the attitude of Hindutva vis-à-vis Dalits in its various manifestations. Part II, Hindutva in Operation, covers empirical evidence of its impact on Dalits. The contributors, distinguished scholar-activists, offer a provocative analysis on why both Dalits and Adivasis are drawn to Hindutva.

As analysed by Tanika Sarkar in her incisive Foreword, Hindutva's hegemonic agenda lets 'subalterns develop a stake in their own subordination, not in resignation or despair but in eager self-identification with it'. The great strength of this collection is that it asks difficult questions that need to be asked and yet have no easy answers.

Anand Teltumbde is Senior Professor and Chair, Big Data Analytics at Goa Institute of Management, Sanquelim. An alumnus of IIM Ahmedabad, he has held top management positions in the corporate world. As an academic, he has taught in IIT Kharagpur. Teltumbde is a writer, columnist and civil rights activist. He is also associated with the education rights movement through the All India Forum for Right to Education. He has written extensively on contemporary issues in many journals and in his column 'Margin Speak' in *Economic and Political Weekly*. He has written over 26 books.

Contributors: Shamsul Islam, Sandeep Pendse, Ram Puniyani, Meena Kandasamy, Prakash Louis, Ramesh Kamble, Subhash Gatade, Subhas Palshikar, V. Geetha, Navprit Gaur, K. S. Chalam, Shivasundar, Subhash Gatade, T.K. Ramachandran and P.T. John, Martin Macwan and Anand Teltumbde

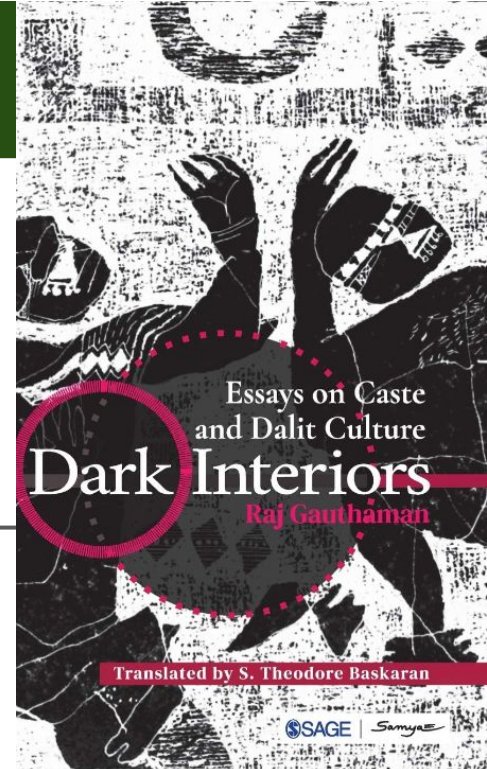
Cultural Studies/History/Political Science/Sociology

A joint publication with SAGE.

DARK INTERIORS: ESSAYS ON CASTE AND DALIT CULTURE

Raj Gauthaman
Translated by S. Theodore Baskaran
Introduction by V. Geetha

8.5"x5.5" hb, 222 pp,
ISBN 978-93-81345-63-4 (HB).
Rs. 995,
rights available.



'Except women and Dalits, I do not think there is anyone discriminated at birth.'

These words give an idea of Raj Gauthaman's succinct and provocative critique, translated into English for the first time by Theodore Baskaran. The essays engage with Dalit liberation politics, the relationship of Dalits with Tamil history and the many strands that constitute radical Dalit culture. Gauthaman discusses Dalit history and what the progress of non-brahmin politics in Tamil Nadu has meant for Dalits.

This analysis of the alternative cultural expressions of Dalits, politics, art and literature comes from essays written in 1992–2002, which remain perennial and startlingly new. The author's discussion of Iyothee Thass Pandithar—who preceded Ambedkar by 50 years—of Ambedkar and Periyar, of postmodernism and Subaltern Studies, provides a new cultural history that tells us about Dalit assertion today.

Raj Gauthaman (b. 1950, Virudhnagar) is a leading Tamil intellectual who was part of a core group of mainly Dalit writers and thinkers in the 1990s who were behind the influential little magazine, *Nirapirigai*. He has authored twenty research works that analyse the development of Tamil culture from ancient to modern periods with a focus on subaltern Dalit perspectives. He retired as Head of the Tamil Department at the Kanchi Mamunivar Centre for Postgraduate Studies in Puducherry.

S. Theodore Baskaran (b. 1940), writes in both Tamil and English. His book *The Message Bearers* (1981) is a standard reference work on the freedom struggle in South India. His book *The Eye of the Serpent: An Introduction to Tamil Cinema* (1996) won the Swarna Kamal award from the President of India. He has translated Ullas Kanth, *The Way of the Tiger* (2004) and Job Thomas, *The Chola Bronzes* (2019) into Tamil.

V. Geetha writes in Tamil and in English on history, culture and gender. She has co-authored with S. V. Rajadurai, *Towards a Non-Brahmin Millennium: From Iyothee Thass to Periyar* (Stree, 2008), and the author of *Gender* (Stree 2003) and *Patriarchy* (Stree, 2007).

Literature/Dalit Studies/Cultural Studies/History
A joint publication with SAGE.

VENOMOUS TOUCH: NOTES ON CASTE, CULTURE AND POLITICS

Ravikumar

Translated by R. Azhagarasan

Foreword by Susie Tharu

8.5"x5.5" hb, 320pp,
ISBN 81-85604-76-23,
Rs 650.
Reprint forthcoming.



'The Dalit intellectuals of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry were largely instrumental in bringing to focus the subaltern literature in the Tamil region in the context of the Dalit movement of mainstream History.

~ *The Hindu*

Combative, however partisan, and yet often beguilingly playful, these essays, many translated from the Tamil for the first time, bring Ravikumar's concerns to a wider audience. Ranging from the centrality of caste, the logic of communalism, ideas on culture, the politics of the media, education, censorship and literature, just to mention a few of his interests, these essays provide an unsettling impact on the consensuses of democratic India. As Ravikumar says, for him the personal is political, and questions of power in society, derived from his engagement with Marx, Bakunin, Derrida, Foucault and other philosophers and his wide readings in Tamil literature, permeate his writings.

Ravikumar charts the history of discrimination against Dalits in terms of land ownership, labour and education, condemns the celebration of the golden jubilee of independence under Hindu authority in 'independent India'. He declares that fundamentalism moves hand in hand with consumer culture. Throbbing with righteous anger at centuries of oppression and denial against Dalits, this collection of essays, as Susie Tharu says in her incisive Foreword, act as 'both poison/venom and remedy'.

Ravikumar is an activist-theoretician of the Dalit movement in Tamil Nadu and co-founder of Navayana Publishers, a legislator and General Secretary of Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK).

R. Azhagarasan is Professor, of English, University of Madras.

Susie Tharu, a distinguished feminist scholar and activist, is Professor Emerita, Department of Cultural Studies, EFLU, Hyderabad.

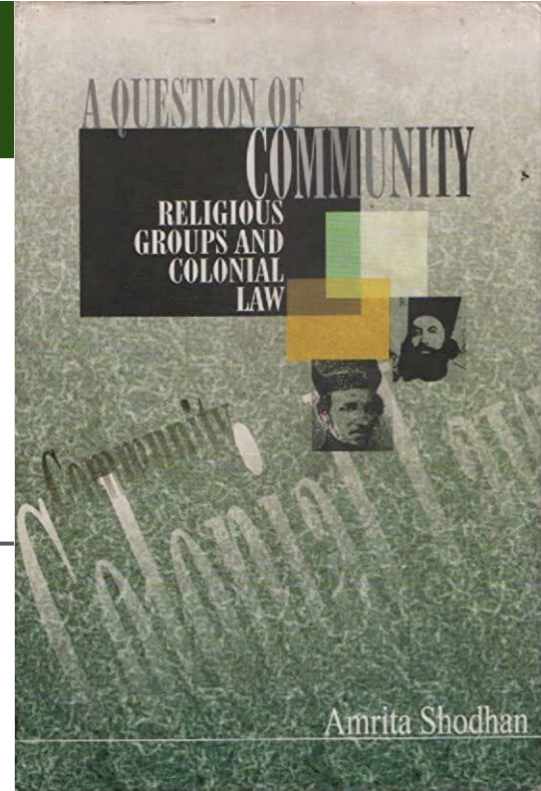
Dalit Studies/Cultural Studies/Literature/Political Science/Sociology

A joint publication with SAGE.

A QUESTION OF COMMUNITY: RELIGIOUS GROUPS AND COLONIAL LAW

Amrita Shodhan

8.5" x 5.5" hb, 222pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-43-5,
Rs 500.



What happens to the losers in history? What changes can we expect when we examine the defeat of the Khoja and Pushtimargis who went to court because of internal dissent and found that they lost some of their autonomy as self-functioning polities. The law court in the mid-nineteenth century presented them with interpretations of a homogenized Islam and Hinduism. The author presents two famous and legal trials in Bombay, the Aga Khan Case, and the Maharaj Libel Case where decisions were taken on the construction of unitary religious community, and offers a discussion on political and social implications.

Amrita Shodhan received her PhD in South Asian Languages and Civilizations from the University of Chicago and is Senior Teaching Fellow, Department of History, and Member, School of History, Religions and Philosophies, School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

History/Sociology/Cultural Studies

MAI HINDU KYUN NAHI: HINDUTVA DARSHAN, SANSKRITI AUR RAJNITIK ARTHASHASHTRA KA EK SHUDRAVADI VISHLESHAN

Translated from the English to Hindi by Omprakash
Valmiki

8.5"x5.5" pb, 154pp,
ISBN 81-85604-91-6,
Rs 400
Out of stock.

This is the authorized translation of the revised edition, as true to the original as is possible in a translation. Translated and edited meticulously, the book is presented to the Hindi-speaking public in the hope that it may be of use to Dalitbahujan activists as well as awaken the interest of the wider society.

In this revised edition, Kancha Ilaiah presents an Afterword that discusses the history of this book, often seen as the manifesto of the downtrodden Dalitbahujans. He talks of its reviews as well as the abuses he has received from its detractors, and his analysis of the text that was first published in 1996 and has been reprinted eight times before the appearance of the new edition. He reminds us of the need for an ongoing dialogue.

Omprakash Valmiki is an established name in Hindi literature, publishing two collections of poetry and two of short stories, dying tragically young in 2013.

Literature/Dalit Studies/Cultural Studies

मैं हिन्दू क्यों नहीं

हिन्दुत्व दर्शन, संस्कृति और राजनीतिक अर्थशास्त्र का एक शूद्रवादी विश्लेषण

कांचा ऐलैया



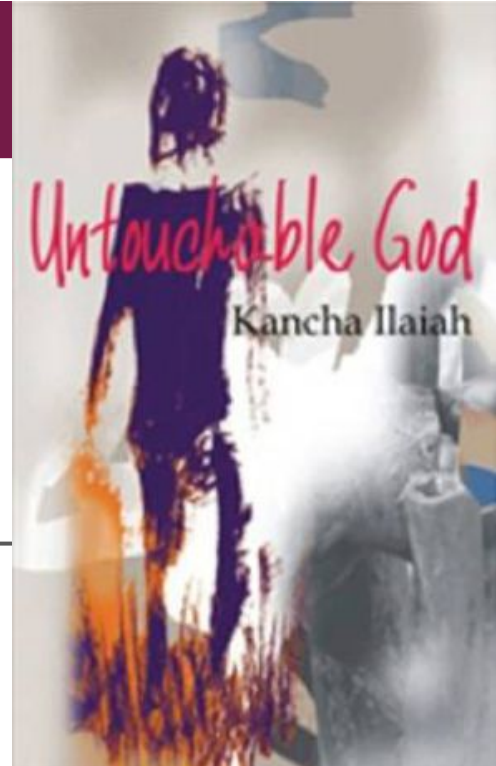
हिन्दी अनुवाद
ओम्प्रकाश वाल्मीकि

UNTOUCHABLE GOD: A NOVEL

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd

8.5"x 5.5" pb, 248pp,
ISBN 978-81-85604-33-6,
Rs 350

All rights available
Reprint forthcoming July 2023



'Two very powerful motifs run through the different sets of narratives here. One is that the oppressed section of humanity has been given a voice. Prof. Ilaiah identifies...and closely examine those who touch "others" in intra communal/caste and inter-communal/caste relationship.'
~ Amina Kishore, The Asian Age, 30 January 2013

This witty, tongue-in-cheek novel that laughs at the foibles and hypocrisies of Brahmins and upper castes across India begins with a crime. Paraiyah, a Dalit, is beaten to death for the crime of thinking about God, which might well lead to thoughts of equality. Six men representing the remarkable Brahmins of India celebrate his death, Veda Shastry of Tamil Nadu (where the purest examples of exalted brahminhood are to be found) is the rightful leader. Namboodri of Kerala is from a caste that created the most perfect system of discrimination that the world has seen; Krishnamurthy of Karnataka and Appa Rao of Andhra Pradesh are slightly moderate; Tilak of Maharashtra dreams of increasing discrimination while Banerjee of Bengal believes he is above caste. As the men take their leave of Shastry, the author's gaze follows them ironically. Lastly, comes Isaiah, an American black, who knows all about race, and journeys to India to find out about the non-violence movement that had inspired Martin Luther King, Jr., and discovers much else besides.

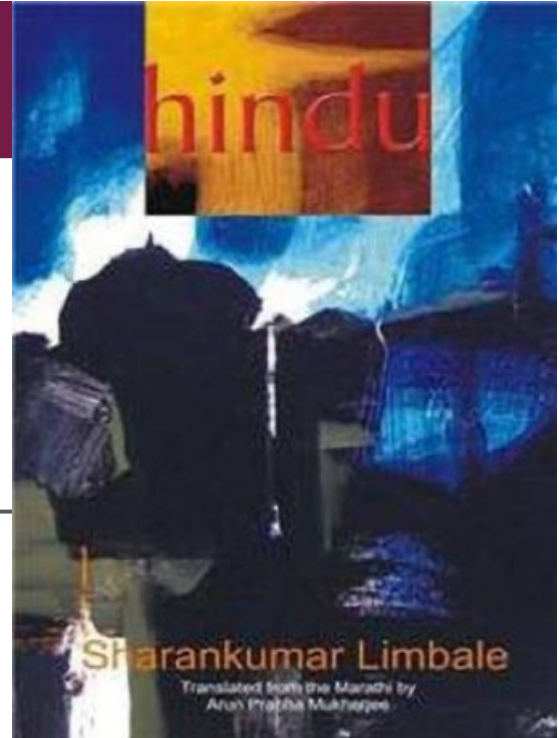
Kancha Ilaiah retired as Professor and Director, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad.

Literature/Cultural Studies/Dalit Studies

HINDU: A NOVEL

Sharankumar Limbale
Translated from the Marathi
by Arun Prabha Mukherjee

8.5"x5.5" pb, 200pp,
ISBN 81-85604-95-9,
Rs 400.
Rights available.



Focusing on what happens in a village where Dalits are assertive, Limbale reveals the shocking violence of everyday life. *Hindu's* propelling event is the murder of Taty Kamble, a Dalit theatre artist whose jalsas, folk theatre, talks of a different world where Dalits abandon fear and deference to resist and gain social justice.

Limbale's plot and narration follow a very different trajectory from traditional novels. In *Hindu*, there is neither an all-absorbing love story nor a hero. We hear of the theatre activist Taty Kamble's plans to contest the village headman's post in the coming elections. In less than two hours, we see his brutal murder in the village square through the eyes of his friend Milind Kamble, who is in a car with two shady high-caste characters, Manikchand and Gopichand. Milind Kamble's first person narrative, full of self-recrimination as well as self-justification, is followed by an omniscient narration, which combined, brings about a kaleidoscopic effect.

Sharankumar Limbale was a member of the Dalit Literary movement that took Maharashtra by storm. He has written more than forty books, fiction and nonfiction, and is perhaps best known for his autobiography, *Akkarmashi*, written when he was twenty-five (translated as *The Outcaste*, 1984).

Arun Prabha Mukherjee retired as Professor of English, York University, Toronto. She has translated Omprakash Valmiki, *Joothan: A Dalit's Life*.

Literature/Cultural Studies/Dalit Studies

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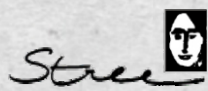
Samya 

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For further information contact

Mandira Sen, *Director*

Stree Samya

16 Southern Avenue, Kolkata 700026

phone: +91 033 24660812

email: bhatkalsenss@gmail.com;

samyastreco@gmail.com

www.stree-samyabooks.com

