

Recent Books from India – October 2020

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Biography

Breaking Through: A Memoir / Isher Judge Ahluwalia
New Delhi: Rupa Publications India Pvt.ltd, 2020
x,173p.;23cm.
9789390260287
\$ 10.00 / HB
400gm.

Breaking Through is an account of a remarkable life that was witness to remarkable times A riveting and inspiring autobiography of an amazing woman who built her stature as a global thought leader in development economics with courage, commitment and boundless intellectual pursuit. —Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, Founder and Executive Chairperson, Biocon Limited This is the life story of Isher Judge Ahluwalia, one of the leading Indian policy economists of her generation. Born into a family with eleven children and limited means, where she was one of the first to attend university, she takes us through her journey to Presidency College, Delhi School of Economics and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She chronicles her career as a young policy economist fighting against the Indian economic orthodoxy that underpinned the license-permit-quota Raj, as an institution builder leading the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), one of India's leading economic think tanks for over a decade, and also her most recent role in focusing attention on the challenges of urbanization in India. Narrated with candor and from the heart, this is also a story of a woman balancing career and family, and trying to stay close to her roots as her life path takes her through the power corridors of New Delhi, both through her own career, and through a 50-year-marriage to Montek Singh Ahluwalia. An outsider to Delhi, who ultimately became the consummate insider, Breaking Through is an account of a remarkable life that was witness to remarkable times.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=717219>

The Brass Note Book : A Memoir / Devaki Jain
New Delhi: Speaking tiger Books LLP, 2020
215p, hb, 22cm, Photos
9789389958676
\$ 20.00
450gm

In this no-holds-barred memoir, renowned feminist economist and academician Devaki Jain recounts her own story and Also that of an entire generation and a nation coming into its own.

She begins with her childhood in south India, a life of comfort and ease with a father who served as dewan in the Princely States of Mysore and Gwalior. But there were restrictions too, that come with growing up in an orthodox Tamil Brahmin family, as well as the rarely spoken about dangers of predatory male relatives. Ruskin College, Oxford, gave her her first taste of freedom in 1955, at the age of 22. Oxford brought her a degree in philosophy and economics—as well as hardship, as she washed dishes in a cafe to pay her fees. It was here, too, that she had her early encounters with the sensual life. With rare candour, she writes of her romantic liaisons in Oxford and Harvard and falling in love with her ‘unsuitable boy’—her husband, Lakshmi Jain, whom she married against her beloved father’s wishes.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=730337>

Why I am not a Hindu Woman: a personal story / Wandana Sonalkar

New Delhi: Women Unlimited, 2021

169p; pb; 22cm

9789385606311

\$ 8.75

310g

In a reasoned critique of Hindutva and Hinduism, feminist scholar and activist, Wandana Sonalkar, outlines why she, born female and upper caste in Maharashtra, has repudiated her religious identity. Based on her personal experience. and on textual and empirical evidence. she offers an intimate account of caste practices and argues that patriarchy and Brahminism are integral to Hinduism. As such, it is misogynist and casteist and its exclusionary imperatives are essential to both its practice -and to Hindutva, which extends this imperative to Muslims. She reiterates that discrimination and inequality have been to Internalised that their daily observance segues seamlessly into social interactions. thus crystallising and entrenching them deeply in society.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=735247>

Nothing Human is Alien to Me: Aijaz Ahmad in conversation with Vijay Prasad / Aijaz

Ahmad, Vijay Prasad

New Delhi: Left Word Books, 2020

220p; pb; 22cm

9788194728719

\$8.75

350g

Some radical critics may have forgotten about Marxism; but Marxism, in the shape of Ahmad’s devastating, courageously unfashionable critique, has not forgotten about them.” – Terry Eagleton’s blurb for Aijaz Ahmad’s celebrated book, *In Theory: Classes, Nations, Literatures* (1992).

Two features characterize the entire body of Aijaz Ahmad’s work, which offers us a way to read the history of the present. First, his evident wide reading about the history and sociology of the world, which allows him to provide the necessary global context for his study and for our new times that remain tied to the contradictions of a longer history. Second, his grip on Marxism, a living Marxism, a Marxism that has absorbed both the streams of Western Marxism and of national liberation Marxism.

Vijay Prasad writes that it is impossible for him to think without thinking alongside the work of Aijaz Ahmad. In this fascinating and wide-ranging conversation, he draws out Ahmad, separating and interweaving strands of his thought, and in the process inviting us,

the readers, to take a look at the method that drives his analysis. In the process, we learn to think through the present, better.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=735251>

Economics

Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) and Economic Development : Theory and Recent Experiences/Makarand Upadhyaya

New Delhi: New Century Publications, 2020

xxvi,231p.;22cm

9788177085143

\$30.00/HB

510 gm.

Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) is a mode of providing public infrastructure and services by the government in partnership with the private sector. It is a long-term arrangement between government and private sector entities for the provision of public utilities and services. In view of the investments made by private sector entities there are risk-sharing and performance-linked payments made by the government to the private entities. PPP concessions can either be sustained by user charges collected by the concessionaire or through annuity payments made by the government. In case annuity payments are made, they are typically borne by the government out of the annual budgetary allocations spread over time and are essentially in the nature of deferred budgetary payments.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718256>

COVID-19 and the Indian Economy: Impact and Response / Niranjan Sahoo, Mukunda Chandra Sahoo

New Delhi: New Century Publications, 2020

xiii,176p.;22cm

9788177085174

\$ 23.00 /HB

440gm

With strong macroeconomic fundamentals, the Indian economy was well-placed on trajectory of high growth rate in early 2020 when outbreak of corona virus epidemic in China was reported. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the epidemic as a pandemic, plunging the world into an unprecedented medical crisis.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718281>

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Post-Covid-19 Era / Astha Ahuja

New Delhi: New Century Publications, 2020

xx,257p.;22cm.

9788177085136

\$ 33.00/HB

530gm.

As per the annual report, 2018-19 of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India, there were 633.88 lakh micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the country engaged in different economic activities. Total employment in the MSMEs sector is estimated to be 1.109 lakh, and their contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) is pegged at 28.9 percent. In the wake of COVID-19, it was a particularly

challenging time for MSMEs, many of which were on the brink of Closing down their operations.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718257>

Skill Development, Innovations and Entrepreneurship / Mohd. Shoeb
New Delhi: New Century Publications, 2020
xviii,237p.;22cm
9788177085112
\$ 30.00
530gm.

Skill development is important because it enhances productivity at the individual, industry and national levels. In India, skill formation is broadly ensured through general Education- considered as a provider of generic skills. Other than general education, skill formation efforts consist of vocational education and training and sector-specific programmes for better employability in industry.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718283>

Consumerist Encounters: Flirting with things and images / Sree deep Bhattacharya
New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2020
xviii,273p.;22cm
9780190125561
\$ 42.50
490gm.

Economic liberalization and globalization in India in the early 1990s resulted in a whirlwind of consumerist activities. New material and visual temptations swamped the markets. Expanding field of commodification infiltrated consumer minds through media imageries. New objects of desire aroused inhibited cravings. These endangered an accelerated and intensified relationship with things and images that permeate our everyday lives.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718286>

General Works

Winsar Uttarakhand Yearbook 2020 / Jay Singh Rawat
Uttarakhand: Winsar Publishing Co. Dehradun, 2020
400p.;22cm
9788186844649
\$ 15.75 / PB

The book is a complete guide for the people who want to learn about the state of Uttarakhand. It is an essential book for those preparing for their career in the government services of Uttarakhand state as the book have details about the history, the culture, the festivals, the places and all other things needed to know about Uttarakhand. The book also briefs us about all the major recent incidents in the state like the Flash floods of 2013, the Nanda Devi Raj Jaat or the shifting of the capital of state to Gairsain the book has all the relevant information about the state.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=701468>

Health & Medicine

A Brief History of Ayurveda / M.R. Raghava Varier
New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2020
xxx,172p.;22cm
9780190121082
\$ 25.00
380gm.

For over two and a half millennia Ayurveda Was the mainstream healthcare programme in the Indian subcontinent. However, what was once seen as indispensable, is now often officially described as 'alternative medicine'. Moreover, there seems to be a lack of proper understanding of the specific culture from which Ayurveda emerged. This is because existing works on the subject have mostly been mere compilations of Ayurvedic practices and focused on classical texts.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718282>

History

The most Notorious Jailbreakers: Untold Stories of Escaped Convicts / Abeer Kapoor
New Delhi: Rupa Publications India Pvt.ltd, 2020
x,181p.; 20cm.
9789353337995
\$ 5.00 / PB
200gm.

Did you know Sher Singh Rana, Bandit Queen Phoolan Devi's killer, walked out of prison with his friends dressed up like the police officers who were to escort him to Roorkee for his hearing? India's most notorious conman, Natwarlal, who was sentenced for an incredible 113 years by various courts, promised to pay a police officer a large amount of money if he helped him to escape after which the entire bundle of cash just caught fire all by itself.

In The Most Notorious Jailbreakers, journalist Abeer Kapoor helps you meet some really 'infamous' people, all of them criminals, who have escaped the gated walls of prisons all over India. From a math and computer teacher who is actually a rapist on parole, to a backward caste gangster famous for his bloody escapade, and a former PM of a princely state who will do anything to con the authorities; Abeer pieces together the escape plans of 16 such notorious convicts who gave authorities hell, every time.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=717216>

Economic History of India: 1857-1947/ Anil kumar .K
New Delhi: New Century Publications, 2020
xxxv,229p.;25cm
9788177085099
\$39.50 / HB
780gm.

The British came to India as merchants in the middle of the 17th century. After gaining foothold on the coastline, they spread to every corner of the Indian peninsula. They gained political supremacy around the middle of the 18th century. After winning the Battle of Buxer in 1764, they established themselves firmly as the rulers of India and ruled it till 1947 to sub-serve their economic interests.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718251>

Jumbos and Jumping Devils: A Social History of Indian Circus / Nisha P R
New Delhi: Oxford university Press, 2020
xiii,302p.; 22cm, hb
9780199496709
\$ 30.00 / HB
500 gm.

Jumbos and Jumping Devils is a pioneering exploration of the social history of circus in India over last 150 years. It presents a wide variety of amazing tales ranging from the inception and evolution of circus acrobatics in early twentieth-century Malabar to the sensational legal battles following the ban of wild animals and children from the circus ring in the twenty-first century.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718254>

Understanding Mughal India Sixteenth to Eighteenth Centuries / Meena Bhargava
Hyderabad: Orient Black swan, 2020
369p.;
9789352878697
\$ 10.00

The Mughal Empire is a fascinating phase in the history of India. Its power and wealth, extent and territoriality, socio-economic dynamism, and its cultural vibrancy have kept scholars engaged in an animated, contentious debate.

This volume is an attempt to understand the idioms and institutions, ethnic, racial, religious, and linguistic groups, and the regions that constituted the empire. Focusing on varied interpretations, complexities, and perspectives on the Mughal Empire across the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=716528>

Linguistics

Tamil Language and The Timeless Translations by The Europeans/S. Jeya Seela Stephen
New Delhi: Kaveri Books, 2020
xiv,293.: 24cm
9789386463166
\$37.50/HB
700gm

This Book shows how translation served a significant step towards greater interaction and understanding between the people of Tamil country, Sri Lanka and Europe. It dwells upon a wide range of translations of the printed books from Portugal, Spain, Italy, The Netherlands, Germany, England and France to Tamil including Bible in Hebrew, Greek, German, Portuguese and Latin. It exhibits how translation became an important and integral part of the missionary work, a policy that encouraged close contacts to reach out the people. Translation from Tamil to Portuguese, Latin, German, Danish, French and English had also been executed without any impediments.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718255>

Literature

To Skies and Waters / Sir Jandeep Kaur Ubha
New Delhi: Rupa Publications India Pvt.ltd, 2020
154p.;20cm.
9789390356041
\$ 7.50 / PB
180gm.

This is an extraordinary and intensely emotional novel about a beautiful and talented girl falling into the grip of mental illness through no fault of her own.

Aveera has everything she ever wanted—a great family, the perfect college and a loving boyfriend. However, one incident shatters her life completely and Aveera spirals into depression, resulting in extreme anxiety, panic attacks and even a suicide attempt.

Author Sir Jandeep Kaur Ubha superbly describes something so many others feel but are unable to share. She narrates how depression can strike anyone, and when it does the only way to deal with it is to accept the fact that some people are just more sensitive than others and keep anxiety at bay.

Searingly honest and painfully realistic, this novel is the quest of a young girl to discover a way to co-exist with her illness.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=717215>

Our World: A Symphony Of Drabbles By Three Generations / Bishan Sahai, Ruchi Ranjan and Ishika Ranjan
New Delhi: Rupa Publications India Pvt.ltd, 2020
xx, 108p.; 20cm.
9789390356140
\$ 7.50 / PB
180gm.

This 'symphony' has 86 stories in the form of drabbles, each exactly 100 words. Easy to read, the stories span several genres and have been written by three individuals representing different generations of a family. This is a fascinating potpourri of fiction, with some that are humorous and quixotic, others skirt around tales of soft sci-fi and adventure, while some evoke feelings of nostalgia and empathy. The drabbles are gripping and will transport the reader into the world of the characters.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=717217>

In the Land of The Lovers: A Punjab Qissa / Sakoon Singh
New Delhi: Rupa Publications India Pvt.ltd, 2020
222p.; 20cm.
9789389967036
\$ 7.50 / PB
200gm.

A masterfully woven fable that explores struggle, loss, longing and love with brilliant insight and luminous prose. It evoked a feeling in her—of silence and freedom, of riding a bicycle on a dirt track cutting through fields. In the absence of her parents, Nanaki, a fiercely sensitive young woman, is brought up by her grandparents in a quaint Chandigarh Neighbourhood. She grows up to be an artist and a professor in an art college. As Nanaki goes through the motions of an idyllic childhood and a difficult teenage love, her experiences play out against a haunting backdrop of Partition and her Beeji's turbulent personal history. Nanaki is brought face to face with the dark underbelly of contemporary

Punjab when she takes up the cause of a consummate embroidery artist against a corrupt system while also being privy to the heart breaking stories of two women in her immediate vicinity. Through it all, it is her Sufi bearings that sustain her. Meanwhile, over many motorcycle jaunts to the tiny hill-town of Kasauli, Nanaki finds love in Himmat, an architect with his own share of personal tragedy and a scarred childhood. Meditative, rooted in location yet filtered through nostalgia, *In the Land of the Lovers* is a masterfully woven fable with interlocking tales that explore struggle, loss, longing and love with brilliant insight and luminous prose.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=717218>

Mothering India

Women's Fiction in English Shaping Cultural History (1890-1947) / Susmita Roye

New Delhi : Oxford University Press, 2020

x,186p,23cm.

0190126256

\$37.50/HB

400gm.

Mothering India addresses this lack and concentrates on early Indian women's fiction written between 1890 and 1947. It not only evaluates the influence of women authors on the rise of IWE, but also explores how they reassessed and challenged stereotypes about social womanhood in India, adding their voice to the larger debate about social reform legislations on women's rights. Moreover, in choosing to write in the colonizer's language, they seized the attention of a much wider international readership.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718253>

The Women Who Forgot to Invent Facebook and Other Stories / Nisha Susan

Chennai: Westland Publications Pvt Ltd, 2020

220p, hb, 21cm

9789389648249

\$ 16.50 / HB

350gm

'Stylishly and intrepidly covering a range of human experience, these stories announce a bracing new sensibility in Indian writing in English.' – Pankaj Mishra

'Nisha Susan's unusual anti-romantic stories break your expectations of form, narration and content. They are striking illustrations of millennial women, presented with a rawness, truthfulness and integrity that tells the reader, this is what it is, take us as we are.' – K.R. Meera

'Who says Indians aren't funny? These stories are little firecrackers. Nisha Susan writes about love and loss and that shitty little thing called growing up and learning to make art out of life. Read 'em one at a time, your life will be a tiny bit better.' – Mohammed Hanif

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=730276>

The Man Who Learnt to Fly but Could Not Land / Thachom Poyil Rajeevan, Translator: P.J. Mathew

Gurugram: Hachette Book Publishing India Pvt Ltd, 2020

328p, pb, 20cm

9789389253207
\$ 15.00 / PB
300gm

K.T.N. Kottoor was activist, lover, communist, friend, saint, sinner – but, above all, he was a writer... Born into a family of rural wealth and near-feudal influence in a village nestled in British Malabar, Koyiloth Thazhe Narayanan Kottoor knows little of want. But as a patriotic fervour grips the country in the last decades of the Raj, a veritable avalanche of new ideas and ideals shapes the young KTN. As he grows from a boy who takes to writing not only as art but also as a tool of social change, to an activist enamoured of varying philosophies and enmeshed in India's freedom struggle, he grapples with hardship, love, lust and a search for meaning in a reality that forever disappoints. His is a tale both deeply personal and political – tracing a web of caste, sexuality and ideology, while also navigating the struggles of a man coming to terms with himself as a writer and as an individual. Award-winning author Thachom Poyil Rajeevan weaves a magical almost-biography of a fictional writer, one inhabited by goddesses and ghosts, a fortune-telling parrot, dead humans in the avatar of crows, and a blind woman who hears – and sees – better than anyone else. Masterfully translated from the original Malayalam, *The Man Who Learnt to Fly but Could Not Land* is a poignant exploration of the power of writing, the chaos of a country's rebirth and the life of an idealist caught up in the maelstrom.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=730279>

Dalit Lekhika: Women's Writing from Bengal / Edited by Thakur Charal and Satyantana Dasgupta
Kolkata: Stree (an imprint of Bhatkal and Sen), 2020
L; 164p; pb; 22cm
9789381345122
\$ 12.50 / PB
360g

'The Woman who lay the skins of cattle to dry, and sit next to them, inhaling the stench, and write by the light of a small oil lamp... are the true creators of Dalit literature.'

In these words, Kalyani Thakur Charal explains why Dalit women writers are different, and how hard it has been for them to write and get published.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=735250>

Performing Arts

Natyasastram : A treatise on Ancient Indian Dramaturgy and Histrionics:
ascribed to Bharatamuni:2 vols / Manmohan Ghosh(Translator)
Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharati Prakashan
Vol.1-Chapter 1-20; Vol.2-Chapter 21-36
Sanskrit Text with Transliteration, English, Translation, Notes, Sloka an word Index
9789385005831(Set)
\$ 67.50
2460gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=720529>

Politics

Making India Great: The Promise of a Reluctant Global Power/ Aparna Pande
Uttar Pradesh: Harpercollins,2020
xxviii,208p.;22cm.
9789353578015
\$15.00/HB
390 gm.

India will be the world's most populous country by 2024 and its third largest economy by 2028. But the size of our population and a sense of historical greatness our ambition to become a global powder. Our approach to realize this vision needs more than just planning for economic growth. It requires a shift in attitudes.

The New India holds all the promise of greatness that many of its citizens dream of. Can it become a reality? The book delves deep into this question.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=716902>

Shaheen Bagh and the idea of India: Writings on a Movement for Justice, Liberty and equality/ Edited by Seema Mustafa
New Delhi: Speaking Tiger Books LLP, 2020
294p, pb, 21cm, Includes Photos.
9789389958157
\$ 15.00 / PB
450gm.

The first comprehensive book on one of the most important civil rights movements in the history of Independent India.

On 15 December 2019, police in riot gear stormed Delhi's Jamia Millia Islamia University and attacked unarmed students protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), which makes religion a factor in the process of granting Indian citizenship. In neighbouring Shaheen Bagh, mothers and other relatives and friends of the students came out into the streets in outrage and anguish. They sat on a main road demanding repeal of the CAA, which, twinned with the National Register of Citizens (NRC), could make Indian Muslims aliens in their own homeland. Within days, similar protests broke out across the country. Free India had never seen anything like it.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=730278>

Dismantling Jammu and Kashmir / Prakash Karat
Hyderabad: Nava Telangana Publishing House, 2019
128p.;22cm.
9789387858367
180 gm.
\$ 4.00 / PB

Can you hear it too,
the beating of her heart?
Everything burnt away years ago
The fire alarm has been
ringing for decades
The sirens have been going on for months
The Violence in the street

has aged beyond its expiry last supper
The bullbul now only sings the death song

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=688296>

The Politics of Poverty Reduction in India: The UPA Government, 2004 to 2014 / James Chiriyankandath , Diego Maiorano, James Manor, Louise Tillin
Hyderabad: Orient Black swan, 2020
192p.;
9789352878482
\$ 14.50 / PB

In 2004 the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance coalition unexpectedly came to power in India, promising to govern in the interests of the 'Aam Aadmi'. Over the next decade, it introduced several rights-based laws and welfare programmes targeting mass poverty. However, how fully did the UPA deliver on its promise to meet the needs of the poor?

In The Politics of Poverty Reduction, four internationally-reputed specialists in Indian politics and public policy answer this by offering a critical review of the five most important initiatives: the National Food Security Act, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, the Integrated Child Development Services, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, and the Forest Rights Act.

The first systematic review of the politics and policy-making behind the UPA's anti-poverty programmes, this book unearths the constellation of interests that shaped their legislation, and the key roles played by central, state and local governments, senior politicians, bureaucrats, civil activists, courts and the private sector in influencing the UPA's agenda. Focusing on political dynamics and the crucial issue of implementation, the authors address how concerns such as coalitions of interest, resource availability, and local and state administrative capacity shaped what was thought possible at the implementation stage.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=716530>

The Ultimate Goal: A Former R&AW Chief Deconstructs How Nations Construct Narratives / Vikram Sood
Uttar Pradesh: Harper Collins Publishers, 2020
xviii; 348p; hb; 24cm
includes index
9789353579517
\$ 17.50 / HB
620gm

In The Ultimate Goal, Vikram Sood, former chief of India's external intelligence agency, the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW), explains 'the narrative' and how a country's ability to construct, sustain and control narratives, at home and abroad, enhances its strength and position. Intelligence agencies invariably play a critical role in this, an often-indispensable tool of statecraft.

A 'narrative' may not necessarily be based on truth, but it does need to be plausible, have a meaning and create a desired perception. During most of the twentieth century, intelligence

agencies helped shape narratives favourable to their countries' agendas through literature, history, drama, art, music and cinema. Today, social media has become crucial to manipulating, countering or disrupting narratives, with its ability to spread fake news disinformation, and provoke reactions.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=735246>

India: Liberal Democracy and the Extreme Right / Aijaz Ahmad

Hyderabad: Nava Telangana Publishing House, 2020

112p; pb; 21cm.

9789387858657

\$ 3.00 / PB

230gm

The RSS was founded ninety years ago, in 1925, on an uncannily Gramscian principle that enduring political power can arise only on the basis of a prior cultural transformation and consent, and this broad based cultural consent to the extreme right's doctrines can only be built through a long historical process, from the bottom up. What follows from this ideological articulation of the long-term strategy is that if the RSS succeeds in constituting a certain sort of social subjectivity for the great majority of Hindus in India who are said to constitute some 80 per cent of the Indian population (we shall come later to this claim) and if they can all be unified, positively, in pursuit of a civilisational mission, and, negatively, in permanent opposition to a fancied enemy (Muslim and Christian minorities in the countries), as the Nazis sought to unite the German nation against the Jews, then the demographic majority can be turned into a permanent political majority. In that case, what the left might designate as the extreme right could rule comfortably through the institutions of liberal democracy in India that have already adjusted themselves to low-intensity but punctual use of violence against religious minorities.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=735248>

Gunning For the Godman: the True Story Behind Asaram Babu's Conviction / Ajay Lamba (IPS) with Sanjeev Mathur

Uttar Pradesh: Harper Collins Publishers, 2020

xxxi; 210p; pb; 21cm

9789353578084

\$ 12.50 / PB

310g

Notorious godman Asaram Babu, aka Asumal Sirumalani Harpalani, serves life imprisonment in the Central Jail Jodhpur. He was convicted for the rape of a minor and also has murder charges against him. Gunning for the Godman is the no-holds-barred, first-hand account of how Ajay Lamba, then DCP Jodhpur (West), landed the case and got a team of dedicated officers together. It is the story of how, foiling the Baba's many attempts to get away scot-free, they arrested him in a matter of only ten days, and how they assiduously saw the victim and her family through a four-year long trial. This, despite the countless threats to not only the girl and her family, but also to DCP Lamba's own family and team. A testimony to unrelenting courage, this story of a dynamic police officer's pursuit of justice is a lesson for these troubled times.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=735249>

Religion – Buddhism

Embedded Narratives of Buddhism : Lokesh Chandra
New Delhi: Aditya Prakashan, 2019
ills, 220p.; 30 cm
9788194085003
\$ 90.00
1020gm.

The volume begins with a unique Japanese scroll of Sudhana's pilgrimage in diaphanous colors. Ajanta and Trans Gandhara and the Socalled Padmapani at Ajanta have been newly identified. The Four Past Buddhas include Bhama Konakamana of Bamiyan as the immediate predecessor of Sakyamuni.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=649924>

Religion - Hinduism

The Greatest Ode to Lord Ram: Tulsidas's Ramcharitmanas Selections &Commentaries /
Pavan K. Varma
Chennai: Westland Publications Private Limited, 2020
349p, hb, 24cm
9789389152371
\$ 23.00 / HB
600gm

The Ramcharitmanas is undoubtedly one of the greatest lyrical compositions in Hindi literature. Writing in the sixteenth century, Tulsidas chose to pen verses in Awadhi rather than Sanskrit, thus breaking with literary tradition and, importantly, making Lord Ram more relatable to the lay person. Pavan K. Varma, author of the best-selling Adi Shankaracharya: Hinduism's Greatest Thinker, has selected some of the most evocative stanzas—offering a succinct commentary for each—that capture the very core of the original.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=730280>

Religion - Islam

Biruni / George Malagaris
New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2020
x,166p,22cm.
0190124024
\$11.50/HB
220gm.

In this book, Malagaris Places Biruni in his historical and cultural context within the long-term history of Central Asia. He outlines the trajectory of Biruni's life. clarifying key about his associations, travels, and patrons. Following an overview of Biruni's chief interests, Malagaris details Biruni's major works to illustrate the breadth of his output and his intellectual approach, especially his attention to language. His esteem for knowledge, and his commitment to objective truth. An account of the institutional context and competition among patrons helps explain some of his friendships and rivalries, notably with Avicenna. Malagaris also shows how varied paths of transmission affected the legacy of Biruni and his reception in global scientific and literary traditions Finally, a detailed bibliographic essay, timeline, and list of key works will guide readers into further study of Biruni and his thought.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718252>

Sociology

The Rohingya: An Ethnography of 'Subhuman' Life/Nasir Uddin
New Delhi: Oxford University Press
x,248p.;23cm
9780199489350
\$35.00/HB
450gm.

The Rohingyas are one of the most persecuted ethnic minorities in the world. They used to live in the Arakan / Rakhine State of Burma /Myanmar for centuries, though it is a predominantly Buddhist Country. Being victims of persecution as a result of ethnic cleansing and genocide, they started migrating to Neighbouring countries from 1978, and after the massive migration August 2017 onwards about 1.3 million Rohingyas now live in the south-eastern part of Bangladesh.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718250>

In Search of a Future: Youth, Aspiration, and Mobility in Nepal/Andrea Kolbel
New Delhi: Oxford University Press
xv,156p.;22cm
9780190124519
\$32.50/HB
370gm.

In a conversation about youth agency, the most common discourses that come up are of acts of liberation, resistance, and deviance. However, this perspective is fairly narrow and runs the risk of reinforcing pervasive and often polarizing depictions of youth. In order to broaden the understanding of necessary to ask. What types of agency do young people demonstrate?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718249>

Skill DevelopmentCOVID-19 and Social Security Programmes and Schemes in India/ R. Vasantha Gopal
New Delhi: New Century Publications, 2020
xvi,174p.;23cm
9788177085129
\$ 23.50
430gm.

With strong macroeconomic fundamentals, Indian economy was well-placed on the trajectory of steady growth rate when the outbreak of corona virus epidemic, emanating from China, was reported. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the epidemic as a pandemic. Normal economic activities around the world came to a screeching halt as governments announced lock downs to prevent the spread of the disease.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=718258>

Indian Migrant Organisations: Engagement in Education and Healthcare / MD Mizanur Rahman; Rakhesh Ranjan
New Delhi: Oxford University Press
lv, 206p, 24cm.
Includes index
9780190121341
\$ 25.00 / HB
500gm.

The Indian diaspora is increasingly engaging with the homeland by forming a range of migrant organizations—organizations constituting a growing sector of non-State actors who engage with the host country and the country of origin in a sustained and profound way. Research on migrant organizations tends to focus only on transnational migrant organizations in host countries. Indian Migrant Organizations analyses a set of local and transnational organizations formed by Indian migrants, whose activities include mobilizing resources and connections and engaging in numerous development initiatives in India and studies their engagement particularly in the Indian healthcare and education sectors. In particular, the book discusses how these organizations have evolved, what kind of healthcare and educational projects and activities they are carrying out, and how such collective efforts are affecting development dynamics in India.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=720530>

Muscular India: Masculinity, Mobility & the New Middle Class/ Michiel Baas
Chennai: Westland Publications Limited, 2020
328 p, 152 x 226 x 42 (mm)
9789389648218
\$ 24.50
600gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=719953>

Inside the Tablighi Jamaat / Ziya Us Salam
Uttar Pradesh: HarperCollins, 2020
236p, pb, 20cm.
9789353579272
\$ 13.00 / PB
250gm

Not much is known about what is Arguably the world's and certainly India's, largest Islamic organization - the Tablighi Jamaat. From poverty-stricken peasants of Bihar to dairy farmers of Mewat, its members attend three-day retreats in local mosques, and at times, the Markaz in Delhi. They come of their own free will, at their own expense. The Tabligh tells its members to look within, that life is about internal cleansing with regular prayer that paves the path to spiritual uplift.

Unlike other Islamic organizations that balance the here and the hereafter, the Tabligh is concerned only about 'matters beyond the sky and under the earth'. Its steadfast refusal to take a political stand has stood it in good stead. It is the 'ideal Muslim organization' for some - focused solely on introspection in isolation.

Now, for the first time, author Ziya Us Salam provides an inside view of the organization that unwittingly became a 'hotspot' during the novel coronavirus pandemic in 2020.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=730277>

Musahars: A Noble People, a Resilient Culture / Nishaant Tommy
New Delhi: Media House, 2019
496p.
9789388989039
\$ 17.50 / PB

Musahars: a Noble People, a Resilient Culture attempts a deep study of the cultural life of the Musahars, Especially of Bihar, with extensive field work. It is an ethnographic study of the Musahars, aiming at their liberation through a dialogical process between socio-economic development and cultural revolution. The book unravels the self-respect, resilience and tenacity of one of the most deprived communities in India, who in Spite of abject poverty, ranks the lowest in terms of abortion, infanticide, prostitution, begging, crime, theft, etc. Their value system is a challenge to the economically rich communities in some part of the country where abortion, infanticide, son-preference, dowry death, etc., are rampant. This book will be of great interest to anthropologists in general, especially its methodology for studying any marginalized community. It will also help social activists who want to work for and work with the Mushers and similar communities towards their liberation.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=716527>
