

Recent Books of Women Studies – October - November 2001

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Heir to a Silent Song - Two Rebel Women of Nepal

Author : Barbara Nimri Aziz

This book Combines Aziz's growing interest in politics with women's history. During the past decade, since leaving the academy, Aziz has worked in the Arab World, fusing an enduring love for ethnography with journalism. She is based in New York where she is a radio host and producer.

Pub : Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies, Kathmandu Year : 2001
ISBN : 9993352136
Bib : 22cm, PB, xxiii + 145pp Price : US\$ 20.00 MM - ID : 23777

Gender and Democracy in Nepal

Ed. Laxmi Keshari Manandhar, Krishna B. Bhattachan

Pub : Central Department of Home Science - Women's Studies
Program, Kathmandu, in cooperation with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Year :
2001 ISBN : 9993357006
Bib : 22cm, PB, 230pp Price : US\$ 7.00

Who is the Daughter of Nepal? : A Collection of Essays

Author : Rayamajhi, Sangita

What appears to be the case is that women in Nepali live in a twilight world. Those who are associated with political parties, or mavericks like us, both see the images cast on the same screen in the twilight consciousness...

For a woman writer, a tradition and history is not available in the same way as it is available to the male writers....

Nepali women's Problems, their aspirations and their dynamism cannot be explained in a linear order as they are being addressed today. My own feeling is that we can not and should not isolate women's discourses, her subject from those that are commonly used in the society. Recent feminist writings show that women than presenting them as appendix to male discourse. I favour that approach. So in these essays...I have attempted to measure the trajectory of current Nepali history, especially after the restoration of Democracy in 1990, that has been tumultuous, chaotic but not without possibilities for the creation of a new era of hope and regeneration.

- From the Introduction

Pub : Across Publications, Kathmandu Year : 2001 ISBN : 9993311618
Bib : 22cm, Pb, 126pp Includes index. Price : US\$ 12.50
MM – Id : 23782

To the Other Shore
Lalla's Life and Poetry

Author : Jaishree Kak Odin

This book is the first feminist analysis of the verses of the fourteenth Century poet Lalleshwari.

Pub : Vitasta, New Delhi Year : 1999 ISBN : 818658806x Bib : HB 23cm xiii, 193pp
with Index
Price : US\$ 11.75

Changing the Stream
Backgrounder on the Women's Movement in India

Author : Shubha Chacko

The story of the women's movement in India is as complex as it is compelling. This book brushstrokes some of the themes, campaigns, issues and struggles that have shaped the Movement. While most books on the subject dwell on a particular aspect of the Movement, this backgrounder Offers you a bird's eyeview and the worm's score-view.

This publication outlines the nature and constituents of the movement, as also its engagement with the state, With various institutions and its bid to influence and rewrite agendas. It captures the various Strands that make up the women's movement and proceeds to look at where we are now, before finally Setting out some of the challenges facing us.

Pub : Centre for Education & Documentation, Mumbai Year : 2001 Bib : HB 23cm
200pp Price : US\$ 12.00

Women on Economic Front

Author : Suman Pamecha

"Women in India are the back bone of society, they are its conscience keepers, so to say. They have kept moral and cultural values alive. They have a strong sense of responsibility and have avoided strife even at the cost of their own welfare. They are working at domestic and economic front simultaneously. "Development is not sex neutral. It is based against the fair sex. Of course the world has progressed and some benefits and percolated to women. But an inferior role is ascribed to them in all societies. "This volume examines the entire gamut of issues relating to contribution of women to income employment, work in non-marketed activities, their wage imputation, work participation & time profile. "All the analysis have been summarized in seven chapters with recommendations for their welfare and betterment

Contents: Preface. 1. Prologue. 2. Methodology. 3. Profile of TSP area. 4. Time profile of women. 5. Employment pattern work. 6. Imputation of wage rate. 7. Epilogue. Bibliography. Appendix.

Pub : Agrotech, Udaipur Year: 2002 Bib :288 p., tables ISBN : 8185680531 Price : US\$ 23.50

Women, Marriage and Sex in Society : History, Psychology and Sociology of Sex over the Ages Author :B.Goswami

Contents: Foreword/S.N. Sinha. Introduction/N.K. Singhi. 1. The position of women in India and abroad : a brief outline. 2. Man-women relationship over the ages : the Indian scene. 3. Man-woman relationship over the ages in other countries of the world. 4. Sex : its meaning, nature and purpose. 5. Marriage and sex. 6. Sexual activities outside marriage. 7. Sex, individual, family and society. 8. Alternative channels of sex satisfaction. 9. Sex, religion and myth. 10. Prostitution. 11. Sex, state and the law. 12. Beyond the frontiers : A) Sex and the media. B) Sex as a fundamental right. C) Sex and science. D) Sex as aid to politics, business, administration and warfare. E) The third sex : eunuchs and their world. 13. The new social order with the help of healthy sex movement. Select bibliography. Subject index. Name index. "Among the three facets of world civilization in the field of man-woman relationship, namely, unbridled licence, foolproof bondage and regulated freedom, the present age is witnessing era of almost complete subjugation of man over woman, with the latter trying to free herself from the shackles of man's control. Sex plays an important role in this entire attempt at the emancipation, equalization and empowerment of women. "Women, Marriage and Sex in Society strives to present the philosophy of sex in its correct historical, sociological and psychological perspective, portraying the past and current status of women over the ages, not only in India but also under the ancient Greek and Roman civilizations and supplemented by an account of her position in the modern age both in the west as well as east. "The relationship of sex with society, state and the law and the interaction of individual and social forces have been adequately highlighted in this study. The impact of politics, business, and science on sex (e.g., in the matter of human cloning), has also been examined. "The author feels that a sustainable revolution of sex, both in India as well as Europe and America, can neither be in the form of a 'free-sex' society as in the sex-liberated Scandinavian countries, nor a 'sex-free' society as in India, but a regulated sex society, in which 'marriage' is not a sine qua non for 'sex'. "The present study is a quintessence of both the author's empirical experience as well as his indepth knowledge of the studies conducted in the working of this basic human instinct, namely, sex, followed by a critical appreciation of the researches carried out in the west, in this field particularly in the current century and is a well-documented account of historical and sociological importance."

Pub : Arihant Pub House, Jaipur Year : 2001 Bib : xvi, 336 p, ISBN : 8172301448 Price : US\$ 25.00

Jewish Portraits, Indian Frames : Women's Narratives from a Diaspora of Hope

Author :Jael Silliman

Contents: Preface. Narratives of diaspora. Introduction: Indian and colonial frames. 1. Farha: crossing borders, maintaining boundaries. 2. Mary: coming home to the mount of olives. 3. Flower: meeting India at the midnight hour. 4. Jael: Indian

portrait, Jewish frame. Conclusion: dwelling in traveling. References. Index. "An invaluable cultural document shaped from a personal exploration, through the lives of four generations of Baghdadi Jewish women, of a social and cultural history of Baghdadi Jews in Calcutta, India. The author discovers, through the lives of her foremothers, how, despite being widely dispersed across Asia, they 'dwelled in travelling', creating a moving geography of Baghdadi Jewish culture. We see how they negotiate multiple identities, including that of emergent Indian nationalism, and how they perceive and shape their Jewishness and their gender in response to changing cultural and political contexts. This book also traces the trajectory of a Jewish presence in one of the most hospitable cities of the diaspora. "These rich family portraits convey a sense of the singular roles women played in building and sustaining a complex diaspora in what Silliman calls 'Jewish Asia' over the past 150 years. Her sketches of the everyday lives of her foremothers—from the social and political relationships they forged to the food they ate and the clothes they wore—bring to life a community and a culture, even as they disclose the unexpected and subtle complexities of the colonial encounter as experienced by Jewish women

Pub : Seagull Books, Calcutta, & University Press of New England, USA Year : 2001
Bib : 198pp ISBN : 8170461987/1584651695 Price : US\$ 16.50

Indian Women from Darkness to Light

Stories of Oppression, Exploitation, Reaction, Resistance and Choice Author : Shoma A. Chatterji

Contents: I. Oppression: 1. Widowhood: still Traumatic for Indian women. 2. Domestic violence: a human rights problem. 3. Health and development: as if women mattered. 4. Give us this day our daily AIDS: AIDS and prostitution. 5. Bengali women: victims of Bhadrak culture. 6. The unfairness of it all: child marriages in India. 7. Rape: the never-ending story. 8. The impact of deforestation on women's health. 9. Witches are women: witch-hunting, Indian style. 10. Women imprisoned. II. Exploitation: 1. Are maidservants a vanishing breed? 2. Middle-east exploits Sri Lankan housemaids. 3. Is breast really the best? 4. How women are exploited in advertisements. 5. Family ties: women in Indian politics. 6. Of obscenity, indecency and culture. 7. The emerging new women on Indian Television: exploring areas of moral Ambiguity. 8. Sexism in language textbooks in London. 9. Inheritance and property rights of women. III. Reaction: 1. Why do women suffer from breakdown? 2. A negative reading of motherhood. 3. Of mothers and sons : the Oedipus complex. 4. Of fathers and daughters. 5. Is reservation a façade? Seminar report. IV. Resistance: 1. Ageing parents: a socio-legal problem. 2. Marrying an NRI? Know your law. 3. Marital rape as "New sexual offence" in Sri Lanka. 4. Of mothers and daughters. V. Choice: 1. Exercising options: single by choice? 2. Ours by choice: adoption option. 3. Feminism in fiction: American women writers. 4. Marriage choices: have they changed? 5. Who is a superwoman? 6. Taslima X-Rayed : Heroine or Vamp? 7. The child is innocent: the question of paternity. Index

Pub :Parumita Publications, Kolkata Year : 2000 Bib : 226 p. ISBN : 8187867019
Price : US\$ 8.00

She Comes to Take Her Rights

Indian Women, Property, and Propriety

Author: Srimati Basu

Contents: 1. Women, law, and property in India. 2. Women and property inheritance: scant and slippery footholds. 3. Gifts for alliance: marriage and the flow of goods. 4. "Wo Ayee Hak Lene" ("there she comes, to take her rights"): the dreadful specter of the property-owning woman. 5. Knowing themselves: women's attitudes toward wealth and well-being. 6. Protecting property: gendered identity in the Indian higher courts. 7. Conclusion: property and propriety. Appendices. Bibliography. Index. "Using the contemporary workings of property law in India through the lives and thoughts of middle-class and poor women, this is a study of the ways in which cultural practices, and particularly notions of gender ideology guide the workings of law. It urges a close reading of decisions by women that appear to be contrary to material interests and that reinforce patriarchal ideologies. "The Hindu succession act was passed in India in 1956 theoretically giving Indian women the right to equal inheritance of their parents' self-acquired property, but in the years since, its provisions have scarcely been utilised. Using interview data drawn from middle-class and poor neighbourhoods in Delhi, this book explores the complexity of women's decisions with regard to family property in this context. "This book shows that it is not ignorance of the law, naiveté about wealth or unthinking adherence to gender prescriptions that guides women's decisions, but rather an intricate negotiation of kinship and an optimization of socioeconomic and emotional needs

Pub :Kali for Women, New Delhi Year :2001 Bib : xiv, 305 p., tables ISBN : 8186706496 Price : US\$ 11.75

Enduring conundrum, India's sex ratio :
essays in honour of Asok Mitra

Edited by : Vina Mazumdar, N.Krishnaji

"Centre for Women's Development Studies"

Pub: Rainbow Publishers, New Delhi Year : 2001
Bib : 207pp, maps, 25cm, Includes statistical tables. Inc. bib. ref. and index. Price :
US\$ 12.00

Womanscape = Mahilavaranam (English & Telugu)
Author : Volga, Vasanth Kannabiran, Kalpana Kannabiran (Photographs)

Pub: Asmita Resource Centre for Women, Secunderabad Year:2001
ISBN: 8175252065; ISBN:8175252073 (Pb)
Bib : 285pp, ill., 34cm, Includes bib. ref. Inc. photographs Price : US\$ 50.00

From a grain to a pearl : true stories from the field (Short Stories)

Pub: Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, Lahore Year : 1999
Bib : X, 158pp, ill., 22cm Price : US\$ 18.50

Feminine Fables
Imaging the Indian Woman in Painting, Photograph and Cinema

Author : Geeti Sen

A new iconography of the Indian woman seems to be emerging which challenges the traditional 'images' and roles of women. Dramatic changes in projecting the woman reflect changes in societal norms and taboos - In a country which has both Defiled the woman and idolised her. These roles of the modern woman are subversive, mapping out bold new frontiers for her to explore. The effects are persuasive in being projected through the media, the fourth estate in society and through the Popular genre of Hindi Cinema.

Set against the feminist discourse, these images raise different questions about 'seeing' the Indian woman. Traced over the century, they suggest an extraordinary transformation in imaging the Indian woman, as manifested in Painting, photography, popular posters and classical cinema and as examined here in works by both men and women.

In five seminal essays, this book examines central issues regarding the woman, whether she is regarded as a woman or a goddess; whether her body is treated as an object or subject of pleasure; if she has the freedom to move from the Home to the world outside; if she is expected to play multiple roles or is perceived in her integral self; and if she Has learnt now to re-assert her own power.

Pub : Mapin Publishing Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad Year : 2002 Bib : 200pp 100 colour & 20 b&w illustrations, bibliography 228 x 280mm ISBN : 1890206318/8185822883 Price : US\$ 45.00

Ikats of Savu : Women Weaving History in Eastern Indonesia
Author : G. Duggan

Studies in the Material Cultures of Southeast Asia No.1

Ikats of Savu : Women Weaving History in Eastern Indonesia is the first volume in this new series edited by Michael Howard. The book explores the links between mythology and weavings of the island of Savu and examines how textiles have formed the fabric of Savunese society throughout time. Ikat weavings of Savu are exceptional in the sense that they act as markers of historical events. They have a heraldic significance and can be 'read' like a text. They also form a language expressing the sociopolitical structure of Savunese society. In this era of globalisation and the resulting threat for smallscale societies it is the author's hope that this book will contribute to the protection of the work of traditional weavers and to the recognition of their unique cultural heritage.

Pub: White Lotus Press, Bangkok Year:2001 ISBN:9747534673 (Pb)
Bib : 167pp, 40pp. color illus, 210x290mm Price : US\$ 40.00

In her own right : remembering the artist Karuna Shaha
Author : Tapati Guha-Thakurta

Woman Artist (1921-1996)

Pub: Seagull Books, Calcutta Year : 2001 ISBN:8170461995
Bib : 68pp., ill (some col.), 25cm Price : US\$ 14.25

Interrogating women's education : Bounded Visions, Expanding Horizons
Author :Karuna Chanana

Pub : Rawat Publications, Jaipur Year : 2001 Bib : 381pp 23cm tables ISBN : 817033697x
Price : US\$ 21.00

The socio-legal status of Bangali women in Bangladesh : implications for development
Author : Saira Rahman Khan

Pub: University Press, Dhaka Year : 2001 ISBN:9840515454
Bib : Xxii, 320pp, 22cm, Inc. bib. ref. and index
Price : US\$ 15.00

Vietnam, children and women : a situation analysis

Pub : United Nations Children's Funds, Hanoi Year : 2000 Bib : 115pp ill col map 30cm Price : US\$ 18.00

Youth Research Institute
Prevention of trafficking in women in Vietnam,
compiled by, Le Thi Quy

Pub : Labour and Social Affairs Pub House, Hanoi Year : 2000 Bib: 276pp ill 21cm
Price : US\$ 30.00

Inventing Subjects : Studies in Hegemony, Patriarchy and Colonialism Author :Himani Bannerji

"This book is a collection of essays written from a Marxist feminist perspective, seeking to make a contribution in the field of historical sociology. The essays speak of the different ways in which social subjects and their agencies have been constructed and represented in the context of the development of colonial hegemony and socio-cultural formations in India. The book primarily focuses, through four essays, on the constructive proposals for social subjectivities and agencies of Bengali middle-class women by both the indigenous and the colonial elite. The remaining two essays speak of the invention or construction of 'India' as an ideological category for ruling, signalling towards a colonially ascribed identity.

"The essays capture the fluidity and complexity of subject construction or formation, and read moral regulations and culture in terms of a hegemonic process. They range from middle-class Bengali women's attempts at self-fashioning, to the colonial ideological reflexes within which their projects are articulated. They both disclose and query the tensions inherent in the processes of indigenous socio-cultural constructions and identity formations, and the reductionism involved in the creation of colonial 'others'. Patriarchy and gender organization are treated in these essays as more than 'women's problems', as essentially constitutive dimensions of hegemony, no matters aspired to by whom"

Pub : Tulika, New Delhi Year : 2001 Bib : 222pp. Xii
ISBN : 8185229473 Price : US\$ 13.50

A Blighted Flower and Other Stories : Portraits of Women in Modern Tibetan Literature

compiled and translated from the Tibetan originals by Riika J. Virtanen

"A Blighted Flower and Other stories provides a fascinating glimpse of modern Tibetan literary art. These four stories focus on women's lives in contemporary Tibet.

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"The translation of Dondrub Gyel's A Blighted Flower forms the main work in this collection. It is a novella of seven chapters and is considered to be one of the pioneering works in modern Tibetan storytelling. The other stories in this compilation are: A Shameless Bride by Dondrub Gyel and Tshering Dondrub, A Girl with Her Face Concealed by a Scarf by Tenpa Yargye and The Yellow Leaves of Summer by Tashi Palden.

Pub :Library of Tibetan works & archives,Dharamasala Year : 2000 Bib: 154 p. ISBN : 8186470271 Price : US\$ 10.00

WOMEN AND POLITICS

Author : Md. Mastan Vali

Pub : Anmol Publications, New Delhi Year : 2001 ISBN : 8126110872 Bib : 188pp
23cm HB Price : US\$ 13.50

WOMEN`S IMAGES MEN`S IMAGINATION: Female Characters in Bengali Fiction in
Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Cent.

Author : Banani Mukhia

Pub : Manohar Publishers & Dist, New Delhi Year : 2001 ISBN : 8173044104 Bib :
163pp 23cm HB Price : US\$ 11.00