

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube

A History of Modern India Ishita Banerjee Dube

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube offers a fascinating lens through which to explore the complex and transformative journey of India from the colonial era to its emergence as a modern nation-state. Ishita Banerjee Dube, a noted scholar and historian, has contributed significantly to our understanding of this pivotal period by weaving together political, social, and economic narratives that have shaped contemporary India. Through her insightful analyses, readers gain a nuanced perspective on how India's past continues to influence its present and future.

Understanding the Context: The Foundations of Modern India

Before delving deeper into the works of Ishita Banerjee Dube, it's important to grasp the historical backdrop of modern India. The term "modern India" typically refers to the period beginning in the late 18th century with the rise of British colonialism, continuing through the struggle for independence, and culminating in the formation of the Republic of India in 1950. This era witnessed dramatic shifts in governance, society, and economics.

The Colonial Impact and Early Resistance

The British East India Company's gradual control over Indian territories laid the groundwork for colonial rule that would last nearly two centuries. This period saw the introduction of new administrative systems, infrastructure development, and the integration of India into the global economy. However, it also brought about significant social disruptions, economic exploitation, and cultural changes.

Ishita Banerjee Dube's research highlights how early resistance to colonial rule was not just political but deeply intertwined with social and cultural identities. Movements like the 1857 Rebellion, often dubbed the First War of Indian Independence, are analyzed not only for their military aspects but also for the social grievances that fueled them. Understanding these early resistances helps contextualize later nationalist movements.

Social Reform Movements and Intellectual Awakening

Another critical aspect of the history of modern India is the wave of social reform movements during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, and later, Mahatma Gandhi, sought to address social evils such as sati, child marriage, and caste discrimination. Ishita Banerjee Dube emphasizes the importance of these movements as foundational to India's modern identity, where social justice became intertwined with nationalism.

These reform movements were often accompanied by a burgeoning intellectual awakening, with Indian thinkers engaging with Western ideas of democracy, liberalism, and socialism. This intellectual ferment played a crucial role in shaping the discourse of freedom and rights, which became central themes in India's struggle for independence.

Ishita Banerjee Dube's Contributions to the History of Modern India

Ishita Banerjee Dube stands out among historians for her interdisciplinary approach, combining history with sociology, political science, and gender studies to provide a richer understanding of India's modern transformation.

Exploring Gender and Social Dynamics

One of the distinctive features of Ishita Banerjee Dube's scholarship is her focus on gender and social dynamics within the historical narrative. She argues that any comprehensive history of modern India must account for the experiences and contributions of women, marginalized castes, and other social groups often sidelined in mainstream accounts.

Her work sheds light on how colonial modernity both constrained and created spaces for new forms of social and political participation among these groups. For instance, she explores how women's roles evolved during the nationalist movement, balancing traditional expectations with newfound political activism.

Economic Transformations and Their Human Impact

Ishita Banerjee Dube also delves into the economic changes brought about by colonialism and modernization. Through detailed studies of agrarian structures, industrialization, and labor movements, she illustrates how economic policies affected the livelihoods of millions. Her analysis underscores that the economic history of modern India cannot be separated from its social consequences, such as rural indebtedness, migration, and urbanization.

By integrating economic history with personal narratives and local histories, Dube provides a textured understanding of how ordinary Indians experienced and sometimes resisted modernization processes.

Key Themes in a History of Modern India Ishita Banerjee Dube Highlights

Reading a history of modern India in Ishita Banerjee Dube's style reveals several recurring themes that are essential to grasping the complexity of India's journey.

Continuity and Change

One prominent theme is the interplay between continuity and change. While colonialism introduced new political and economic structures, many traditional social patterns persisted, sometimes adapting in unexpected ways. Dube's work encourages readers not to view history in binary terms but to appreciate the layered nature of social transformation.

Intersectionality in Historical Narratives

Dube's emphasis on intersectionality—how class, caste, gender, and religion intersect to shape individual and collective experiences—is particularly valuable. This approach challenges simplified nationalist histories and enriches our understanding of how different communities navigated the challenges of modernity.

The Role of Everyday People

Rather than focusing solely on elite political leaders, Ishita Banerjee Dube brings attention to the roles of everyday people: peasants, workers, women, and marginalized groups. Their stories reveal the grassroots dimensions of historical change and highlight how social movements were often driven from the bottom up.

Why Ishita Banerjee Dube's Work Matters Today

In a time when historical narratives can be politicized or oversimplified, Ishita Banerjee Dube's scholarship offers a balanced and inclusive perspective. Her approach reminds us that history is not just about dates and events but about understanding the lived realities of diverse populations.

For students, researchers, or anyone interested in India's past, engaging with a history of modern India in the style of Ishita Banerjee Dube provides valuable lessons on critical thinking and empathy. It shows how history can inform contemporary debates on social justice, identity, and development.

Tips for Engaging with Historical Texts

- Approach historical works with an open mind, ready to explore multiple perspectives.
- Pay attention to the sources and methodologies used by historians like Dube to appreciate the depth of their research.
- Reflect on how historical experiences relate to present-day issues in India and beyond.
- Use interdisciplinary approaches—combining history with sociology, economics, and cultural studies—to gain a fuller picture.

Further Exploration: Related Topics to Enhance Understanding

To deepen your knowledge of modern Indian history through the prism of Ishita Banerjee Dube's work, consider exploring these related areas:

- **Colonialism and Postcolonial Studies:** Understanding the broader impact of colonialism on societies worldwide.
- **Social Reform Movements in India:** Detailed studies of movements that challenged social norms and contributed to modernity.
- **Gender and Caste in Indian History:** Examining how these social categories evolved and influenced political movements.
- **Economic History of India:** Insights into agrarian changes, industrial growth, and labor struggles.
- **Nationalism and Identity:** Exploring how diverse identities shaped and were shaped by the freedom struggle.

Each of these topics complements the themes in a history of modern India Ishita Banerjee Dube so eloquently discusses, enriching your understanding of India's multifaceted history.

Through her scholarly lens, Ishita Banerjee Dube invites us to appreciate the complexity of India's past not as a linear progression but as a mosaic of intertwined stories and struggles. This approach not only honors the diversity of experiences but also inspires a more inclusive vision of India's future.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Ishita Banerjee Dube, the author of 'A History of Modern India'?

Ishita Banerjee Dube is a historian and academic known for her work on Indian history, particularly focusing on modern India. She is the author of 'A History of Modern India,' which offers a comprehensive overview of India's colonial and post-colonial history.

What is the main focus of 'A History of Modern India' by Ishita Banerjee Dube?

'A History of Modern India' primarily focuses on the political, social, and economic developments in India from the late 18th century through the 20th century, covering colonial rule, the freedom

struggle, and the early years of independent India.

How does Ishita Banerjee Dube's approach differ from other modern Indian history books?

Dube's approach integrates multiple perspectives including subaltern, feminist, and regional viewpoints, providing a more inclusive and nuanced understanding of modern Indian history compared to traditional narratives.

What are some key themes explored in 'A History of Modern India' by Ishita Banerjee Dube?

Key themes include colonialism and its impact, nationalism and the freedom movement, social reform movements, economic changes under British rule, and the challenges faced during the transition to independence.

Is 'A History of Modern India' by Ishita Banerjee Dube suitable for students?

Yes, the book is widely used in academic settings as it provides clear explanations, critical analysis, and covers essential events and themes, making it suitable for undergraduate and postgraduate students studying Indian history.

What time period does 'A History of Modern India' cover?

The book covers the period from the late 18th century, around the time the British East India Company started consolidating power, up to the mid-20th century, including India's independence in 1947 and the initial years afterward.

Does Ishita Banerjee Dube include perspectives of marginalized groups in her history?

Yes, Dube emphasizes the experiences and contributions of marginalized groups such as women, peasants, and tribal communities, highlighting their roles in shaping modern Indian history.

Where can one purchase or access 'A History of Modern India' by Ishita Banerjee Dube?

The book is available for purchase through major online retailers like Amazon and Flipkart, and can also be found in university bookstores and libraries specializing in South Asian studies.

Additional Resources

****A History of Modern India: Ishita Banerjee Dube's Scholarly Perspective****

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube serves as a significant reference point in the

study of India's socio-political evolution during the colonial and postcolonial periods. Ishita Banerjee Dube, an accomplished historian and academic, has contributed extensively to understanding the complexities of modern Indian history through her nuanced analyses and interdisciplinary approach. Her work not only traces the political milestones of India's transformation but also delves into the cultural and social fabrics that shaped the country's modern identity.

Understanding Ishita Banerjee Dube's Approach to Modern Indian History

Ishita Banerjee Dube's scholarship distinguishes itself by its critical engagement with the conventional narratives of Indian history. Instead of merely recounting chronological events, she situates historical developments within broader global contexts. This method offers a more layered understanding of how India's colonial past and its struggles for independence intertwined with international economic and political shifts.

Her research frequently explores themes such as nationalism, colonialism, gender dynamics, and cultural transformations, which are essential to any comprehensive history of modern India. She adopts a multidisciplinary lens, drawing from political science, sociology, and cultural studies, thereby enriching the discourse on India's transition from a colonial entity to a sovereign nation.

The Colonial Backdrop: Foundations of Modern India

The colonial period remains central to any history of modern India, and Ishita Banerjee Dube meticulously unpacks this era's complexities. British colonial rule, spanning nearly two centuries, profoundly altered India's political, economic, and social structures. Dube's analyses highlight how colonial policies laid the groundwork for both modernization and persistent inequalities.

A key aspect she emphasizes is the dual nature of British rule: while it introduced infrastructure, legal systems, and administrative frameworks, it also entrenched exploitative economic practices and social hierarchies. This duality is crucial to understanding India's subsequent struggles and reforms during the nationalist movements.

Nationalism and the Quest for Independence

Ishita Banerjee Dube provides an insightful overview of the rise of Indian nationalism, underscoring its multifaceted character. Unlike simplistic portrayals of the freedom struggle, her work illustrates the diverse ideological currents that fueled the independence movement: from moderate constitutionalists to radical revolutionaries, and from Gandhian nonviolence to socialist activism.

She also draws attention to the role of marginalized groups, including women and lower castes, in shaping nationalist discourses. This inclusivity challenges older historiographies that predominantly centered elite male figures. By integrating these perspectives, Dube's history captures the democratic impulses and social upheavals that accompanied the nationalist cause.

Post-Independence Challenges and Nation-Building

In her exploration of postcolonial India, Ishita Banerjee Dube addresses the formidable challenges faced by the newly independent nation. The partition of 1947, with its traumatic communal violence and massive population displacement, set the tone for India's early years. Dube's work critically assesses the political responses to such crises and the efforts to forge a unified national identity amid diversity.

Economic policies during the Nehruvian era, including planned development and state-led industrialization, are analyzed for both their achievements and limitations. Dube considers how these initiatives sought to redress colonial economic legacies but also encountered obstacles like bureaucratic inefficiency and regional disparities.

Cultural and Social Dimensions in Modern Indian History

An important feature of Ishita Banerjee Dube's scholarship is her attention to cultural history and social transformations. She investigates how colonialism and nationalism influenced Indian literature, art, and popular culture, contributing to the emergence of a modern Indian ethos. Her studies often focus on the interplay between tradition and modernity, highlighting how communities negotiated identity in changing times.

Gender history forms a substantial part of her research. Dube examines the evolving roles of women in public and private spheres, tracing feminist movements and legal reforms. This dimension enriches the broader history of modern India by foregrounding issues of social justice and equality.

Comparative Perspectives: India in the Global Context

A significant contribution of Ishita Banerjee Dube's work is the comparative framing of India's history alongside global developments. She situates India's colonial and postcolonial experiences within wider patterns of imperialism, decolonization, and globalization. This approach enables readers to appreciate the uniqueness of India's path as well as commonalities with other postcolonial societies.

By incorporating comparative analyses, Dube challenges nationalist historiographies that might isolate India's experience. Instead, she offers a global narrative that underscores transnational influences and the interconnectedness of historical processes.

Key Themes in Ishita Banerjee Dube's Historical Narrative

- **Colonial Impact:** The dual legacy of British rule in shaping modern India's institutions and socio-economic conditions.
- **Nationalism:** The diversity and inclusivity of the freedom movement, incorporating multiple

social groups and ideologies.

- **Post-Independence Development:** Nation-building efforts, economic planning, and political challenges in the early republic.
- **Social and Cultural Change:** The negotiation of modern identity through culture, gender roles, and social reforms.
- **Global Interconnections:** India's history as part of broader global phenomena like imperialism and globalization.

Implications for Contemporary Understanding of Indian History

The scholarship of Ishita Banerjee Dube on modern Indian history holds significant implications for contemporary historians, policymakers, and educators. By moving beyond simplistic or celebratory narratives, her work encourages a critical and multifaceted engagement with India's past. This perspective is instrumental in addressing ongoing debates about identity, development, and social justice in modern India.

Moreover, her integration of marginalized voices and global contexts challenges readers to reconsider dominant historical paradigms. It emphasizes that the story of modern India is complex, contested, and continuously evolving.

The Role of Interdisciplinary Research in Historical Analysis

A history of modern India by Ishita Banerjee Dube exemplifies the benefits of interdisciplinary research in historical scholarship. By drawing on political theory, sociology, gender studies, and cultural analysis, Dube provides a richer and more comprehensive account of India's modern era. This approach also facilitates a deeper understanding of how historical events resonate with contemporary issues.

In academic circles, Dube's work encourages collaboration across disciplines, promoting innovative methodologies and expanding the horizons of historical inquiry.

Final Thoughts on Ishita Banerjee Dube's Contribution

Engaging with a history of modern India by Ishita Banerjee Dube reveals a profound and nuanced narrative of India's journey through colonial subjugation, nationalist awakening, and postcolonial challenges. Her scholarship stands as an essential resource for anyone seeking to grasp the complexities of India's modern history beyond conventional textbooks.

By emphasizing inclusivity, global perspectives, and cultural dimensions, Ishita Banerjee Dube

enriches the historiography of modern India, making it relevant for a diverse audience and adaptable to contemporary scholarly debates. Her work continues to inspire critical reflections on how history is written and understood in the context of a rapidly changing world.

A History Of Modern India Ishita Banerjee Dube

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: *A History of Modern India* Ishita Banerjee-Dube, 2015 This book provides an interpretive and comprehensive account of the history of India between the eighteenth and twentieth centuries, a crucial epoch characterized by colonialism, nationalism and the emergence of the independent Indian Union. It explores significant historiographical debates concerning the period while highlighting important new issues, especially those of gender, ecology, caste, and labour. The work combines an analysis of colonial and independent India in order to underscore ideologies, policies, and processes that shaped the colonial state and continue to mould the Indian nation.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: *A History of Modern India* Ishita Banerjee-Dube, 2014-10-27 This book provides an interpretive and comprehensive account of the history of India between the eighteenth and twentieth centuries, a crucial epoch characterized by colonialism, nationalism and the emergence of the independent Indian Union. It explores significant historiographical debates concerning the period while highlighting important new issues, especially those of gender, ecology, caste, and labour. The work combines an analysis of colonial and independent India in order to underscore ideologies, policies, and processes that shaped the colonial state and continue to mould the Indian nation.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: *Caste in History* Ishita Banerjee-Dube, 2010 This volume, a part of the prestigious Themes in Indian History series, brings together the work of distinguished scholars on the analyzing caste and related socio-cultural processes. There are anthropological and ethnological collections on the issue of caste but this volume through a collection of seminal essays brings together the much-needed historical perspective on the issue. A comprehensive introduction sets the tone for the consideration of the questions of caste. Beginning with the period of the coming of the Portuguese to India, the collection of essays considers caste in medieval and modern times. It brings together the ethno-sociological categories of study such as the census and village-community with the political and the historical-colonialism, nationality, and state-formation. The question is approached from both the macro-perspective considering prominent leaders, the national movement, and British imperialism as well as through micro-studies of specific communities and their practices. These wide-ranging topics are divided in four subsequent sections -- Caste and Colonialism, Caste in Practice, Caste and Politics, and Caste in Everyday Life -- the questions are considered from these various dimensions. Eminent contributors like Bernard Cohn, Frank Conlon, Eleanor Zelliot, Shail Mayaram, Shekhar Bandopadhyay's works feature in this volume along with several other equally incisive and readable essays. This volume will be indispensable for any collection or consideration related to the issue of caste.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: *Cultural History of Modern India* Dilip M. Menon, 2006 'Cultural History Of Modern India Edited By Dilip M. Menon Definitely Qualifies For Interesting Reading&The Different Approach Attempted Through The Book Indubitably Is A Fresh Endeavour For A Multidisciplinary Approach With Sociologists, Art Historians And Music Theorists Working Within A Historical Paradigm.' The Statesman, 9 December 2006 The History Of Modern India Has Been Narrated Largely In Terms Of The Nationalist Movement, Personalities And What Has Been Seen As The 'High' Politics Of The State. Recent Shifts In History Writing Have Tried To Bring In Subordinated Histories Of Regions And Of Groups. We Are Moving Towards A Wider Understanding Of Politics, History And Of The Ordinary People Who Make History. This Collection

Tries To Push The Emerging Paradigm Further By Moving Away From Conventional Notions Of The History Of The Nation And Indeed Of The Political. The Six Essays In This Collection Present Original And Pioneering Forays In The Study Of Cricket, Oral History, Gender Studies, Film, Popular Culture And Indian Classical Music. Whether Looking At Issues Of Caste On The Seemingly Level Playing Field Of Cricket In Early Twentieth Century India; Or How A Nineteenth Century Housewife Comes To Pen The First Autobiography By An Indian Woman; Calendar Art Reflecting Deeper Notions Of Religion And Community; Or How An Idea Of Pure Classical Music Faces The Challenge Of Technology, These Essays Show How Ideas Of Self, Community And Art Are Formed Within A Larger Politics. Moreover, Culture Far From Being A Refuge From The Political Is Also The Space Within Which Politics Comes To Be Worked Out.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: A Concise History of British Presence in India: Establishing and Withdrawing an Empire Barid Baran Mukherjee, 2024-10-10 This book provides a linear history beginning at the time of the East India Company's arrival, with its near 250 year struggle to the formation of the British Raj, and the withdrawal of the Raj in the 90 years following, highlighting how the EIC rode to power and its administration replaced the Mughal's system, while describing how the Indian intellectual middle class developed. This work then describes how the Indian National Congress was established as a platform for nationalism and opposed British ambitions. This work emphasizes the events of about the last fifty years of the Raj which survived with domestic pressure and two great wars. It is a complicated political history of conflicts between nationalists and Imperialists surrounding communal agendas of the Muslim League, and interprets how two great wars consumed the resources of Britain as well as caused the decline of the Indian economy, and how the British trajectory tended to swing towards its withdrawal. The last chapter describes how Lord Mountbatten endeavored to effectuate the transfer of power which was constrained due to communal passion.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: The Steel Frame: A History of the IAS Deepak Gupta, 2019-03-19 Deepak Gupta did his BA from Allahabad, MA from St Stephen's college and MPhil in International relations from JNU. From the IAS batch of 1974, he has spent many years in the field in the erstwhile state of Bihar, including two districts (Saharsa 1979-80; Rohtas 1986-88) as Collector. He served in many departments in state and center and was also posted in India Trade Centre, Brussels and spent a year as WHO Advisor on TB in Delhi. He retired in 2011 as Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. After retirement he consulted with the World Bank and UNIDO and writes on issues of energy and sustainable development. He was Chairman of UPSC from November 2014 to September 2016. His published works include Documentation of Participatory Irrigation Management, Covering a Billion with DOTS, Achieving Universal Energy Access in India: Challenges and Way Forward, and Caught by the Police.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: Sovereignty, International Law, and the Princely States of Colonial South Asia Priyasha Saksena, 2023-05-11 What constitutes a sovereign state in the international legal sphere? This question has been central to international law for centuries. Sovereignty, International Law, and the Princely States of Colonial South Asia provides a compelling exploration of the history of sovereignty through an analysis of the jurisdictional politics involving a specific set of historical legal entities. Governed by local rulers, the princely states of colonial South Asia were subject to British paramountcy whilst remaining legally distinct from directly ruled British India. Their legal status and the extent of their rights remained the subject of feverish debates through the entirety of British colonial rule. This book traces the ways in which the language of sovereignty shaped the discourse surrounding the legal status of the princely states to illustrate how the doctrine of sovereignty came to structure political imagination in colonial South Asia and the framework of the modern Indian state. Opening with a survey of the place of the princely states in the colonial structures of South Asia, Sovereignty, International Law, and the Princely States of Colonial South Asia goes on to illustrate how international lawyers, British politicians, colonial officials, rulers and bureaucrats of princely states, and anti-colonial nationalists in British India used definitions of sovereignty to construct political orders in line with their interests

and aspirations. By invoking the vernacular of sovereignty in contrasting ways to support their differing visions of imperial and world order, these actors also attempted to reconfigure the boundaries among the spheres of the national, the imperial, and the international. Throughout the eighteenth, nineteenth, and early twentieth centuries, debates and disputes over the princely states continually defined and redefined the concept of sovereignty and international legitimacy in South Asia. Using rich material from the colonial archives, *Sovereignty, International Law, and the Princely States of Colonial South Asia* conveys an understanding of the history of sovereignty and the construction of the modern Indian nation-state that is still relevant today. A riveting read, this book will be of considerable interest and importance to scholars of international law and South Asia, legal historians, and political scientists.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: Routledge Handbook of the History of Colonialism in South Asia Harald Fischer-Tiné, Maria Framke, 2021-09-01 The Routledge Handbook of the History of Colonialism in South Asia provides a comprehensive overview of the historiographical specialisation and sophistication of the history of colonialism in South Asia. It explores the classic works of earlier generations of historians and offers an introduction to the rapid and multifaceted development of historical research on colonial South Asia since the 1990s. Covering economic history, political history, and social history and offering insights from other disciplines and 'turns' within the mainstream of history, the handbook is structured in six parts: Overarching Themes and Debates The World of Economy and Labour Creating and Keeping Order: Science, Race, Religion, Law, and Education Environment and Space Culture, Media, and the Everyday Colonial South Asia in the World The editors have assembled a group of leading international scholars of South Asian history and related disciplines to introduce a broad readership into the respective subfields and research topics. Designed to serve as a comprehensive and nuanced yet readable introduction to the vast field of the history of colonialism in the Indian subcontinent, the handbook will be of interest to researchers and students in the fields of South Asian history, imperial and colonial history, and global and world history.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: The Secret Life of Another Indian Nationalism Shail Mayaram, 2022-06-16 Nationalism is among the most influential ideas that has shaped the 'Metamorphoses of the Political' in the long twentieth century. This book focuses on exclusivist Indian nationalism and identifies its distinction from inclusivist nationalism. It highlights shifts in 'another Indian nationalism' over the last two centuries as the geopolitical context has transitioned from the Pax Britannica to the Pax Americana and its war on terror. The book braids the following three strands together: first, a majoritarian nationalist ideology called Hindutva; second, the making of popular history as a precolonial epic is highlighted, depicting the defeat of the last Hindu Emperor by a conquering Muslim Sultan purportedly leading to eight centuries of Hindu enslavement and third, the 'reconversion' of a community by the Visva Hindu Parishad with consequences for Lived Hinduism and Indic civilisation with its complex identities.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: A Passionate Life Ellen Carol DuBois, Vinay Lal, 2017-06-30 Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay (1903-1988) was a remarkable woman of many passions and gifts. She played an important role in the struggle for Indian independence and was similarly a key figure in the international socialist feminist movement. She was India's ambassador to Asia and Africa, an articulate and unflinching exponent of the idea of decolonization, and one of the earliest advocates of the idea of the global South. A staunch champion of women's rights, she held views on women's equality that continue to resonate in our times. Greatly disheartened by the partition of India in 1947, Kamaladevi became involved in the resettlement of refugees and appeared to withdraw from political life. Indeed, the Kamaladevi that most Indians are familiar with is a figure who, above all, revived Indian handicrafts, became the country's most well-known expert on carpets, puppets and its thousands of craft traditions, and nurtured the greater majority of the country's national institutions charged with the promotion of dance, drama, art, theatre, music and puppetry. Throughout her life, however, she upheld with all the intellectual vigour and emotional force at her command the idea of the dignity of every human life. Kamaladevi wrote voluminously and her

sojourns took her all over the world. She travelled in China during World War II, lectured in Japan, visited Native American pueblos in New Mexico, and forged links with working women and anti-colonial activists in countries across Asia, Africa and Europe. Sadly, most of her writings have long been out of print. The editors of this comprehensive anthology, which is the first serious scholarly attempt to grapple with Kamaladevi's life and body of work, have sought to represent the wide range of her interests. The extensive selections, comprised largely of journal articles and excerpts from Kamaladevi's books, are accompanied by a set of original essays by contemporary Indian and American scholars which analyse and contextualize her life and work. This volume should provide the resources for further examination and appreciation of Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay's unusual gifts and her place in modern Indian and world history. Published by Zubaan.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: *The Changing World of Caste and Hierarchy in Bengal* Sudarshana Bhaumik, 2022-08-26 This book challenges the prevalent assumptions of caste, hierarchy and social mobility in pre-colonial and colonial Bengal. It studies the writings of colonial ethnographers, Orientalist scholars, Christian missionaries and pre-colonial literary texts like the Mangalkavyas to show how the concept of caste emerged and argues that the jati order in Bengal was far from being a rigidly reified structure, but one which had room for spatial and social mobility. The volume highlights the processes through which popular myths and beliefs of the lower caste orders of Bengal were Sanskritized. It delineates the linkages between sedantized peasant culture and the emergence of new agricultural castes in colonial Bengal. Moreover, the author discusses a wide spectrum of issues like marginality and hierarchy, the spread of Brahmanical hegemony, the creation of deities and the process of Sanskritization, popular Saivism, the cult of Manasa in Bengal and the revolt of 1857 and the caste question. Rich in archival sources, this book will be an essential read for scholars and researchers of colonial history, Indian history, political sociology, caste studies, exclusion studies, cultural studies, social history, cultural history and South Asian studies, especially those interested in undivided Bengal.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: *Fathers in the Motherland* Swapna M Banerjee, 2022-08-03 This monograph breaks new ground by weaving stories of fathers and children into the history of gender, family and nation in colonial India. Focusing on the reformist Bengali Hindu and Brahmo communities, the author contends that fatherhood assumed new meaning and significance in late nineteenth and early twentieth-century India. During this time of social and political change, fathers extended their roles beyond breadwinning to take an active part in rearing their children. Utilizing pedagogic literature, articles in scientific journals, autobiographies, correspondence, and published essays, *Fathers in a Motherland* documents the different ways the authority and power of the father was invoked and constituted both metaphorically and in everyday experiences. Exploring specific moments when educated men—as biological fathers, literary activists, and educators—assumed guardianship and became crucial agents of change, Banerjee interrogates the connections between fatherhood and masculinity. The last chapter of the book moves beyond Bengal and draws on the lives of Mohandas K. Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru to provide a broader salience to its argument. Reclaiming two missing links in Indian history—fathers and children—the book argues that biological and imaginary fathers assumed the moral guardianship of an incipient nation and rested their hopes and dreams on the future generation.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: *Globalization and the Millennium Development Goals* Manmohan Agarwal, Amit Shovon Ray, 2007 Contributed articles with reference to India.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: *The Enigma of the Kerala Woman* Swapna Mukhopadhyay, 2007 Contributed articles with reference to the state of Kerala, India.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: *Rethinking untouchability* Jesús F. Cháirez-Garza, 2024-03-12 This book examines the transformation of untouchability into a political idea in India during the first half of the twentieth century. At its heart is Ambedkar's role and the concepts he used to champion untouchability as a political problem. Ambedkar's main objective was to comprehend the numerous avatars of untouchability in order to eradicate this practice. Ambedkar

understood untouchability beyond aspects of ritual purity and pollution by stressing its complex nature and uncovering the political, historical, racial, spatial and emotional characteristics contained in this concept. Ambedkar believed the abolition of untouchability depended on a widespread alteration of India's political, economic and cultural systems. Ambedkar reframed the problem of untouchability by linking it to larger concepts floating in the political environment of late colonial India such as representation, slavery, race, the Indian village, internationalism and even the creation of Pakistan.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: The Quest for Modern Assam: A History Arupjyoti Saikia, 2023-08-28 'A model work of historical scholarship'-Ramachandra Guha 'The most well-researched, comprehensive history of contemporary Assam ever written'-Partha Chatterjee The crucial battles of World War II fought in India's north-east followed soon after by Independence and Partition-had a critical impact on the making of modern Assam. In the three decades following 1947, the state of Assam underwent massive political turmoil, geographical instability, and social and demographic upheaval, among others. Later, the truncated state suffered widespread unrest as various groups believed their cultural identity and political leverage were under threat. New social energies and political forces were unleashed and came to the fore. Definitive, comprehensive and unputdownable, *The Quest for Modern Assam* explores the interconnected layers of political, environmental, economic and cultural processes that shaped the development of Assam since the 1940s. It offers an authoritative account that sets new standards in the writing of regional political history. Not to be missed by any one keen on Assam, India, Asia or world history in the twentieth century.

a history of modern india ishita banerjee dube: The Colonial Origins of Ethnic Violence in India Ajay Verghese, 2016-03-02 The neighboring north Indian districts of Jaipur and Ajmer are identical in language, geography, and religious and caste demography. But when the famous Babri Mosque in Ayodhya was destroyed in 1992, Jaipur burned while Ajmer remained peaceful; when the state clashed over low-caste affirmative action quotas in 2008, Ajmer's residents rioted while Jaipur's citizens stayed calm. What explains these divergent patterns of ethnic conflict across multiethnic states? Using archival research and elite interviews in five case studies spanning north, south, and east India, as well as a quantitative analysis of 589 districts, Ajay Verghese shows that the legacies of British colonialism drive contemporary conflict. Because India served as a model for British colonial expansion into parts of Africa and Southeast Asia, this project links Indian ethnic conflict to violent outcomes across an array of multiethnic states, including cases as diverse as Nigeria and Malaysia. *The Colonial Origins of Ethnic Violence in India* makes important contributions to the study of Indian politics, ethnicity, conflict, and historical legacies.

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