

Book Notes*

M. Aslam Chaudhry. *Agricultural Development and Public Policy with Special Reference to Baluchistan.* Lahore: Izharsons. 1989. xiii + 231pp.

This book is the first of its kind that entails a comprehensive regional analysis of the agricultural sector and economic development of Pakistan, with special reference to the under-developed regions like Balochistan, within an historical and empirical framework.

The main topics of discussion are regional agricultural productivity, sources of agriculture growth and the spread of the green revolution.

The material presented in this study is done in a comprehensive manner that could be useful for graduate students, teachers, scholars, and policy-makers.

P. Radhakrishnan. *Peasant Struggles, Land Reforms and Social Change: Malabar 1836–1982.* New Delhi: Sage Publications Pvt. Ltd. 1989. 289pp.

The purpose of this book is to provide a detailed study of the relationship between peasant struggles, land reforms and social change in the context of the historical processes in the Malabar region of Kerala. The book also gives a new perspective to the analysis and understanding of rural social change on the basis of land reforms.

This book is useful to scholars in the field of sociology, anthropology and political science.

M. V. Nadkarni with Syed Ajmal Pasha and L. S. Prabhakar. *The Political Economy of Forest Use and Management.* New Delhi: Sage Publications Pvt. Ltd. 1989. 6–182pp.

This book is the outcome of the research unit at the Institute for Social and Economic Change for the Study of Ecology Economics. The book focuses on the relationship between ecology, environment and the sustainable use of national resources in the course of economic development in India, especially in Karnataka.

The book provides a different perspective to the problem of forest use at two levels. Firstly, it combines historical analysis with the field study of the contemporary situation in forest resources utilization. And secondly it uses the political economy approach in analysing the class structure of the target population which has been selected on the basis of a household survey of certain villages.

The concluding part of the study discusses political and economic aspects of the problem. It suggests some policy options to deal with the problems encountered and suggests that an

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alternative institutional forms be evolved which involve local populations including poor peasants and the landless in forest management, not just in India, but in other developing countries as well.

This book is useful to those concerned with ecological and environmental issues.

Krishna Kumar. *Social Character of Learning.* New Delhi: Sage Publications Pvt. Ltd. 1989. 140pp.

This book presents four studies on content analysis critically evaluated by the author which explores the interactions between teachers and pupils, curriculum materials and school rituals, by examining different types of educational materials.

The first study deals with language readers. The second is about the history lessons on ancient India, the third looks at the literacy primer prepared under an international programme while the fourth study deals with development communications by television.

This book deals with the reconstruction of knowledge in curriculum and teaching material keeping in mind social reality. Going through this book an important question strikes the mind 'does education threaten the established patterns of socio-economic relationship or is it supportive of change'?

This book is useful for students of education, mass media and additional reading for teachers, social workers and sociologists.

Zoya Hasan. *Dominance and Mobilisation: Rural Politics in Western Uttar Pradesh 1930–1980.* New Delhi: Sage Publications Pvt. Ltd. 1989. 9–195pp.

Examination of the future of agrarian society and role of the rural power structure has become an important issue in the analysis of political change in India. The aim of this study is to look into changes in agrarian relations and their impact on socio-political processes in Aligarh District in Western U.P.

This book tries to explore this theme in four phases. The first phase covering 1930–1946 with the emergence of the Indian National Congress, and then its dominance in the second phase of 1960. The third phase is from 1967–69 which examines the discontent with the Congress. And finally the 1974–1980 period in which inter party competition was found. And within this framework the book further goes on to analyse the structure and issue of the response of certain caste and class in this district.

The authors outline the pattern and shifts in mobilization in the fifty year period and then assess the extent to which these are related to changes in the political economy of the district.

A. P. Thirwall. *Growth and Development with Special Reference to Developing Countries.* Hong Kong: Macmillan Education Ltd. 1989. xv+435pp.

This is a very useful textbook for students of economics and the social sciences who are taking a first course in economic development. The purpose of the book is to introduce to students the challenging subjects of development economics. It combines description and analysis with emphasis on the detailed simple and useful theoretical models. The book lays stress on the economic obstacles to development and economic means by which developing countries may

raise their rate of growth of output and living standards.

Divided into 15 different chapters the text discusses various issues: such as the development gap between rich and poor countries; the role of agriculture and surplus labour in the development process; the importance of capital accumulation and technical progress in development; hindrances in development growth like population, trade inequalities etc.

Muhammad A. Al-Burney. *Administrative Development: An Islamic Perspective*. London: Kegan Paul International. 1985. (Paperback edition 1988) 470pp.

This book is written with the purpose to present Islam as an alternative role model in the socio-economic and political development of man which is different from the prevailing western one. While attempting a fresh Islamic outlook on administrative development this book does not try to give a theory or model of Islam but an Islamic perspective on development, particularly administrative development.

An important contribution of this research is that it offers solutions to the existing problems based on the conviction that the restoration of society springs from within and cannot come from without. This book provides comprehensive reading in Islamic administration for anyone interested in Islamic economics.

LIST OF BOOKS RECEIVED

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