

The Changing Role of Women in Bengal, 1849-1905

Borthwick, Meredith

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Anup Taneja



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The Changing Role of Women in Bengal, 1849-1905 Meredith Borthwick, 2015-12-08 Basing her work on Bengali language sources such as women's journals, private papers, biographies and autobiographies, Meredith Borthwick approaches the lives of women in nineteenth century Bengal from a new standpoint. She moves beyond the record of the heated debates held by men of this period over matters such as widow burning, child marriage and female education to explore the effects of changes in society on the lives of women and to question assumptions about advances prompted by British rule. Focusing on the wives, mothers and daughters of the English educated Bengali professional class, Dr Borthwick contends that many reforms merely substituted a restrictive British definition of womanhood for traditional Hindu norms. The positive gains for women—increased physical freedom, the acquisition of literacy and limited entry to non-domestic work—often brought unforeseen negative consequences such as a reduction in autonomy and power in the household. Originally published in 1984, *The Changing Role of Women in Bengal, 1849-1905* is now available in paperback and hardcover editions. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.

The Oxford History of Hinduism: Modern Hinduism Torkel Brekke, 2019-06-27 The *Oxford History of Hinduism: Modern Hinduism* focuses on developments resulting from movements within the tradition as well as contact between India and the outside world through both colonialism and globalization. Divided into three parts, part one considers the historical background to modern conceptualizations of Hinduism. Moving away from the reforms of the 19th and early 20th century, part two includes five chapters each presenting key developments and changes in religious practice in modern Hinduism. Part three moves to issues of politics, ethics and law. This section maps and explains the powerful legal and political contexts created by the modern state, first the colonial government and then the Indian Republic, which have shaped Hinduism in new ways. The last two chapters look at Hinduism outside India, focusing on Hinduism in Nepal and the modern Hindu diaspora.

Domesticity in Colonial India Judith E. Walsh, 2004-05-05 *Domesticity in Colonial India* offers a trenchant analysis of the impact of imperialism on the personal, familial and daily structures of colonized people's lives. Exploring the intimacies of empire, Judith E. Walsh traces changing Indian gender relations and the social reconstructions of the late nineteenth century. She sets both in the global context of a transnationally defined discourse on domesticity and in the Indian context of changing family relations and redefinitions of daily and domestic life. By the 1880s, Hindu domestic life and its most intimate relationships had become contested ground. For urban middle class Indians, the Hindu woman was at the center of a debate over colonial modernity and traditional home and family life. This book sets this debate within the context of a nineteenth century world where bourgeois European ideas on the home had become part of a

transnational hegemonic domestic discourse a global domesticity But Walsh s interest is more in hybridity than hegemony as she explores what women themselves learned when men sought to teach them through the Indian advice literature of the time As a younger generation of Indian nationalists and reformers attempted to undercut the authority of family elders and create a new patriarchy of more nuclear and exclusive relations with their wives elderly women in extended Hindu families learned that their authority in family life however contingent was coming to an end But young women learned a different lesson The author draws on an important advice manual by a woman poet from Bengal and women s life stories from other regions of India to show us how young women used competing patriarchies to launch their own explorations of agency and self identity The practices of family home and daily life that resulted would define the Hindu woman of the twentieth and twenty first centuries and the domestic worlds in which she was embedded

The World of Muslim Women in Colonial Bengal, 1876-1939 Sonia Amin,2021-10-11 This highly interesting book studies the cultural context of modernisation of middle class Muslim women in late 19th and 20th century Bengal Its frames of reference are the Bengal Awakening the Reform Movements Brahmo Hindi and Muslim and the Women s Question as articulated in material and ideological terms throughout the period Tracing the emergence of the modern Muslim gentlewomen the bhadramahil starting in 1876 when Nawab Faizunnesa Chaudhurani published her first book and ending with the foundation in 1939 of The Lady Brabourne College the book gives an excellent analysis of the rise of a Muslim woman s public sphere and broadens our knowledge of Bengali social history in the colonial period

British Women Missionaries in Bengal, 1793-1861 Sutapa Dutta,2017-11-30 British Women Missionaries in Bengal 1793 1861 looks at the arrival of the early British women missionaries in Bengal especially when travelling to India or working in missions was neither a spontaneous nor an acceptable career decision for white women The book aims to throw light on a key moment in colonial contact a new interface between two races religions and ways of life From a hesitant beginning as helpmeets to a more confident phase of mission activities in the form of setting up formal educational institutions writing books and so on comprise a long legacy of white women s participation in overseas colonial encounters Historicizing imperial feminism will enable those who choose to use the past to locate and interrogate its ramifications on more modern notions of feminism The advent of the Baptist missionary William Carey in Bengal in 1793 followed by others significantly altered how mission activity was perceived in India From Hannah Marshman who helped her more famous missionary husband Joshua Marshman to open schools for girls to Mary Ann Cooke the first single British woman missionary to come and work in India to Hannah Mullens s contributions to zenana education were all part of a long journey which helped professionalize women s missionary work in the colonies With the death of Hannah Mullens in 1861 the early phase of missionary work came to an end and then began a more proactive phase of evangelization and missionary activity in India

Feminist Review The Feminist Review Collective,2005-08-03 Feminist Review is the UK s leading feminist journal It has a unique place in the women s movement internationally This

issue focusing on Nationalism and National Identities features articles by Nahid Yegeneh and Catherine Hall **Gandhi, Women, and the National Movement, 1920-47** Anup Taneja, 2005 This Book Critically Analyses The Success Achieved By Gandhi In Mobilizing Women On A Mass Scale For The Cause Of The Country S Independence **Colonial masculinity** Mrinalini Sinha, 2021-06-15 *How to be the Goddess of Your Home* Judith E. Walsh, 2005 In the late nineteenth century as dominance of British power in India led to the imposition of an alien culture on indigenous life ways the entire world of local domestic life and its most intimate relationships became contested ground This anthology offers translated selections from nine Bengali domestic manuals written by both men and women in the course of these debates and contestations In simple and often colloquial language these how to do it books act as guides to conducting relations within a family context child rearing and household management Often presented in the form of an intimate dialogue between husband and wife in the dead of the night the translations provide an unusual insight into the home of the Bengali bhadralok in colonial times As one hurtles from one representation of middle class reformism to another it becomes clear that this anthology is an invaluable addition to the rather thin collection of translated primary sources of this period The book will be of interest to students and scholars of gender studies history sociology lay readers interested in the culture of the colonial period as well as all informed women readers The Journal of Asian Studies Association for Asian studies (Etats-Unis), 1997 **Empire and Leprosy in Colonial Bengal** Apalak Das, 2024-03-12 Leprosy widely mentioned in different religious texts and ancient scriptures is the oldest scourge of humankind Cases of leprosy continue to be found across the world as the most crucial health problem especially in India and Brazil There are a few maladies that eventually turn into social disquiets and leprosy is undoubtedly one of them This book traces the dynamics of the interface between colonial policy on leprosy and religion science and society in Bengal from the mid nineteenth to the first half of the twentieth centuries It explores how the idea of degeneration and the desolates shaped the colonial legality of segregating lepers in Indian society The author also delves into the treatments of leprosy that were often transfigured from original English texts written by American or British medical professionals into Bengali Rich in archival resources this book is an essential read for scholars and researchers of history Indian history public health social history medical humanities medical history and colonial history **Contested Masculinities** Nalin Jayasena, 2013-10-18 Exploring how English masculinity that was so contingent on the relative health of the British imperial project negotiated the decline and ultimate dissolution of the empire by the middle of the twentieth century this book argues that by defining itself in relation to indigenous masculinity English masculinity began to share a common idiom with its colonial other The rhetoric of indigenous masculinity therefore both mimicked and departed from its metropolitan counterpart The study combines an interdisciplinary approach with a focus that is not limited to a single colonial society but ranges from colonial Bengal Burma Borneo and finally to colonial Australia *Breaking Out of Invisibility* Aparna Basu, Anup Taneja, 2002 Since the mid 1970s gender has been introduced as a fundamental category of

social cultural and historical reality perception and study Social history is becoming more intelligible through recent studies on women Women are no longer invisible in history This monograph marks a welcome recognition of the importance of situating women s history within the broader perspective of social history and illustrates the wide variety of themes in women s history on which historians have been working over the last few decades The essays in this monograph have been written with great insight and bear ample evidence of painstaking research

The Violence of Development Karin Kapadia,2002
Comprises 12 papers which assess the contemporary situation of women in India in four broad domains the cultural the social the political and the economic Argues that despite apparently positive indicators of progress particularly education and paid employment little has changed

The Publishers' Trade List Annual ,1985

Grounds for Play Kathryn Hansen,2023-12-22 The nautanki performances of northern India entertain their audiences with often ribald and profane stories Rooted in the peasant society of pre modern India this theater vibrates with lively dancing pulsating drumbeats and full throated singing In Grounds for Play Kathryn Hansen draws on field research to describe the different elements of nautanki performance music dance poetry popular story lines and written texts She traces the social history of the form and explores the play of meanings within nautanki narratives focusing on the ways important social issues such as political authority community identity and gender differences are represented in these narratives Unlike other styles of Indian theater the nautanki does not draw on the pan Indian religious epics such as the Ramayana or the Mahabharata for its subjects Indeed their storylines tend to center on the vicissitudes of stranded heroines in the throes of melodramatic romance Whereas nautanki performers were once much in demand live performances now are rare and nautanki increasingly reaches its audiences through electronic media records cassettes films television In spite of this change the theater form still functions as an effective conduit in the cultural flow that connects urban centers and the hinterland in an ongoing process of exchange The nautanki performances of northern India entertain their audiences with often ribald and profane stories Rooted in the peasant society of pre modern India this theater vibrates with lively dancing pulsating drumbeats and full throated singing In DIV

Western Women and Imperialism Nupur Chaudhuri,Margaret Strobel,1992-05-22 Western Women and Imperialism provides fascinating insights into interactions and attitudes between western and non western women mainly in the 19th and early 20th centuries It is an important contribution to the field of women s studies and primarily British imperial history in that many of the essays explore problems of cross cultural interaction that have been heretofore ignored Nancy Fix Anderson A challenging anthology in which a multiplicity of authors sheds new light on the waves of missionaries memsahibs nurses and feminists Ms a long overdue engagement with colonial discourse and feminism excellent essays The Year s Work in Critical Cultural Theory

[The Journal of Women's Studies](#) ,1997

Education and Empowerment ,2001 With special reference to India

Mind, Body, and Society Rajat Kanta Ray,1995 Mind Body and Society explores the various levels of mentality in a colonial society especially with regard to gender sex and the young The

experiences of children at school and adolescents in college are addressed as are the confrontations of Bhadrakalok Baul and Mullah and the muted voices of women in purdah

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