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# ***Current Contents***

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## **FOREWORD**

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- 1 Woman the hunter: The physiological evidence/ Ocobock, Cara; Lacy, Sarah , pp. 7–18

Myths of “Man the Hunter” and male biological superiority persist in interpretations and reconstructions of human evolution. Although there are uncontroversial average biological differences between females and males, the potential physiological advantages females may possess are less well-known and less well-studied. Here we review and present emerging physiological evidence that females may be metabolically better suited for endurance activities such as running, which could have profound implications for understanding subsistence capabilities and patterns in the past. We discuss the role of estrogen and adiponectin as respective key modulators of glucose and fat metabolism, both of which are critical fuels during long endurance activities. We also discuss how differences in overall body composition, muscle fiber composition, the metabolic cost of load carrying, and self-pacing may provide females with increased endurance capacities. Highlighting these potential advantages provides a physiological framework that complements existing archaeological (Lacy and Ocobock, this issue) and cultural work reassessing female endurance and hunting capabilities as well as the sexual division of labor. Such a holistic approach is critical to amending our current understanding of hu(wo)man evolution.

- 2 Woman the hunter: The archaeological evidence/ Ocobock, Cara; Lacy, Sarah , pp. 19–31

The Paleo-fantasy of a deep history to a sexual division of labor, often described as “Man the Hunter and Woman the Gatherer,” continues to dominate the literature. We see it used as the default hypothesis in anatomical and physiological reconstructions of the past as well as studies of modern people evoking evolutionary explanations. However, the idea of a strict sexual labor division in the Paleolithic is an assumption with little supporting evidence, which reflects a failure to question how modern gender roles color our reconstructions of the past. Here we present examples to support women's roles as hunters in the past as well as challenge oft-cited interpretations of the material culture. Such evidence includes stone tool function, diet, art, anatomy and paleopathology, and burials. By pulling together the current state of the archaeological evidence along with the modern human physiology presented in the accompanying paper (Ocobock and Lacy, this issue), we argue that not only are women well-suited to endurance activities like hunting, but there is little evidence to support that they were not hunting in the Paleolithic. Going forward, palaeoanthropology should embrace the idea that all sexes contributed equally to life in the past, including via hunting activities.

- 3 Fear the Native woman: Femininity, food, and power in the sixteenth-century North Carolina Piedmont/ Briggs, Rachel V.; Rodning, Christopher B. , pp. 32–46

Native women in Indigenous-Western colonial entanglements are often portrayed as passive agents with little transformative social power in an otherwise dynamic landscape. However, Native women throughout the European colonial world many times controlled the most important resource required by European colonists: the knowledge and materials necessary to transform raw materials into “food.” Their control over this invaluable resource provided Native women with avenues of power both within their own societies and in European colonies. Here, we explore constructions and perceptions of

Native women's power during the period of sixteenth-century Spanish expeditions into the Carolina Piedmont and mountains by reviewing documentary data from entradas led by Hernando de Soto and Juan Pardo, as well as archaeological data from the Indigenous town of Joara and the Spanish colonial outpost of Cuenca and Fort San Juan at the Berry site (31BK22), located near Morganton, North Carolina. Employing an Indigenous feminist framework, we argue that the power vested in Native women through their own societies, as well as by Spaniards through their dependence on them for survival, provided Native women with far greater agency and power in entanglements with Spanish colonists, and interactions with European colonists more broadly, than previously recognized.

- 4 Weathered remains: Bioarchaeology, identity, and the landscape/ Ellis, Meredith A. B. , pp. 47–58

This article explores the making of identity for two sets of human skeletal remains, labelled 1928 Hurricane Victims 1 and 2 Belle Glade. The remains are so poorly preserved that traditional bio archaeological analysis to explore their per mortem identity is not possible. However, an exploration of their post-mortem identity allows us to examine the relationship between landscape, soil, memory, and bodies in bioarchaeology. This article challenges us to consider how bioarchaeology “makes” identity. It does so against the backdrop of one of the worst natural history disasters in United States history, the 1928 Lake Okeechobee Hurricane in Belle Glade, Florida. The loss of some 2,000 to 3,000 individuals in one night, primarily Black migrant farm labourers, is little remembered in national history, but it profoundly shaped the region, and contributes to an ongoing creation of a category of skeletal remains found in the area even today and labelled hurricane victims.

- 5 At home in my enemy's house: Israeli activists negotiating ethical values through ritualized Palestinian hospitality/ Mautner, Ori , pp. 59–70

Engaged Dharma Israel (EDI) activists resist their state's occupation of West Bank Palestinians by offering them solidarity and support. Whereas most Israelis consider such Palestinians’ houses unsafe, EDI participants “feel at home” when acting as polite guests there, experiencing the hospitality of their politically subordinate counterparts as poignant. Such activists value intimacy—crossing boundaries between self and other on both personal and national levels—which they substantially realize during their visits. However, they also seek to promote Israelis’ and Palestinians’ mutual autonomy, or non-intervention in each other's personal and communal affairs, an often-competing value that the visits likewise help effectuate. These capacities of hospitality result from its ritualized nature—namely, its tendency to follow conventional scripts that do not require certain inner states (e.g., sincerity). Hospitality can therefore be usefully approached as a ritualized arena that enables people to promote multiple values, or culturally valorised ideals, including ones frequently found in tension. This ability of hospitality to work out and negotiate participants’ plural ethical commitments is embedded in the power dynamics and political inequalities that normally characterize hospitality events

- 6 Evolving payoff currencies through the construction of causal theories/ Hong, Ze ; Henrich, Joseph , pp. 71–82

Payoff-biased cultural learning has been extensively discussed in the literature on cultural evolution, but where do payoff currencies come from in the first place? Are they products

of genetic or cultural evolution? Here we present a simulation model to explore the possibility of novel payoff currencies emerging through a process of theory construction, where agents come up with “channels” via which different cultural traits contribute to some ultimate payoff and use such “channels” as intermediate payoff currencies to make trait-updating decisions. We show that theory-building as a strategy is mostly favoured when the noise associated with the ultimate-level payoff is high, selective pressures are strong, and the probability of arriving at the right theory is high. This approach provides insights into both the emergence of payoff currencies and the role of cognition for causal model building. We close by discussing the implications of our model for the broader question of causal learning in social contexts.

- 7 Incommunicable: Decolonizing perspectives on language and health/ Briggs, Charles L. , pp. 83–95

This article fosters a new relationship between linguistic and medical anthropology by decolonizing foundational conceptions of language and health. It reintroduces John Locke as a philosopher-physician who used diagnosis of language disorders to impose a regime of communicability—reducing language to exchanging transparent, stable, purely referential signs. By deeming white, elite, able-bodied European men alone capable of enacting this self-help program, he connected communicability to whiteness and turned it into a means of evaluating and subordinating all others. Communicability also enabled him to shape how physicians produce knowledge in empiricist, a theoretical, observational fashion. I then trace physician-philosopher Frantz Fanon's critique of how colonialism denies communicability to racialized subjects. Fanon's analysis of colonial medicine shows how clinical encounters can produce incommunicable subjects. Given that constructions of communicability have become highly visible features of medical education and practice and social-scientific research on it, the article extends Fanon's analysis of physician-patient communication more generally to ask if contemporary efforts to regiment clinical interactions and assess the communicable success of patients and doctors alike turn them into sites of incommunicability—assessments of communicable failure—for both parties. The article ends by imagining worlds beyond the oppressive weight of communicability and the stigma of incommunicability.

- 8 Leaving traces: Fairy houses, kindness stones, and constructed heritage/ Turner, Michelle I.; Turner, Derek D. , pp. 96–108

The National Park Service and many other federal, state, and local land managers in the US enjoin visitors to “leave no trace” when visiting parks and wilderness areas. At the same time, practices that involve leaving traces—painted rocks, rock cairns, and fairy houses—have become well established on some public lands. Public discussions reveal deep divides in how people view these traces in a time of increased pressures on public lands. This article develops an anthropological analysis of the practice of leaving traces at Mesa Verde National Park, in Colorado, and Machimoodus State Park, in Connecticut. Taking an approach that aligns with recent work on archaeologies of the contemporary, we interrogate the meaning of these material traces and consider how these practices of constructing cultural heritage in spaces perceived as “natural” provide a quasi-archaeological experience and reenact colonialist processes.

- 9 Welcoming the foreigner: Notes on the possibility of multispecies hospitality/ Kavesh, Muhammad A. , pp. 109–119

By examining the moral attitude created through the acceptance of European racing pigeons in Pakistan and the capture of Pakistani “spy pigeons” at the India-Pakistan border, this article unknots multiple meanings of arrival and explores how shared values of hospitality and hostility emerge and interplay when a more-than-human Other arrives in a foreign land as an invited guest or an uninvited intruder. Drawing on Jacques Derrida's (2000) construction of hospitality and Punjabi Sufi poet-philosopher Waris Shah's discussion of *badal* (reciprocity), this article contends that in South Asia, reciprocal exchanges produce and sustain cooperative, competitive, or antagonistic bonds and propound an analytical avenue to critically rethink deconstruction of the home as a sovereign space.

- 10 Blood for bread: Necro-labor, nonsovereign bodies, and the state of exception in Rojhelat/ Mohammadpour, Ahmad , pp. 120–134

As members of a stateless nation that is geopolitically divided across Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Turkey, Kurds are known mainly in the West as excellent fighters and political revolutionaries. Amid the devastation of war and political unrest, most Kurds struggle for economic survival. This is especially true for Eastern Kurds living under Iranian rule. They have seen their lands confiscated, their resources plundered, and their access to capital and educational mobility severely restricted. Moreover, under the rule of the Iranian Persian-Shi'i necropolises, Kurds have been culturally and economically subjected to a regime of internal colonialism that has eroded their capacity for economic survival. Building on the literature on sovereignty and violence, this article investigates the nexus between precocity, spatiality, and necropolises as embodied in the practice of Kurdish cross-border labour, or *kolberi*. I argue that the Iranian state deploys the discourse of a securitized borderland as a weapon to inflict a permanent state of exception on Rojhelat, condemning Kurds to the status of living dead through the imposition of precarious necro-labor practice. Furthermore, this study articulates the border as an archive where registers of state necropolises are deposited, preserved, and revealed in the lives of *kolbers*.





- 11 More-than-human supremacy: Himalayan lessons on cosmopolitics/ Bhan, Mona ; Govindrajan, Radhika , pp. 182–193

How might our analysis of fascism be enriched if we turn our attention to how contemporary supremacist movements self-fashion themselves as more-than-human formations? How is fascist politics naturalized through claims that it is fuelled by the agency and vitality of not just humans but also other-than-humans? How do right-wing supremacists' assertions that theirs is an indigenous more-than-human politics that suffered but endured the violence of colonialism support the framing of fascism as a decolonizing project? In this article, we ground these questions in an ethnographic analysis of what we call the more-than-human turn in contemporary Hindu-supremacist politics in the north-western Himalayan region, focusing specifically on two political projects: the Hindu right-wing's rediscovery of "ancient" Hindu rivers and communities in Ladakh and cow protection in Uttarakhand. In contrast to ontological anthropologists who suggest that cosmopolitics is plural and liberatory, we demonstrate how the inclusion of nonhuman entities in political life can serve to naturalize a fascist politics that seeks the extermination of those who are not part of the natural order of life. We urge anthropologists to make room for scepticism and critique in their analysis of Cosmo political formations instead of prematurely celebrating "ecopolitics" as anti-Western and anticolonial.

- 12 "Our blood is becoming white": Race, religion, and Siddi becoming in Hyderabad, India/ Reddy, Gayatri , pp. 194–203

This was a constant lament I heard from siddis in contemporary Hyderabad, India—third- and fourth-generation descendants of East African slaves and soldiers recruited by the local ruler or Nizam in the 1860s to form the African Cavalry Guard in his army. The article explores this siddi lament and the multivalent symbols—of color, blood, affect, belonging—latent in it. It draws on fieldwork conducted over the course of the last decade among siddis in Hyderabad, ambivalently situated as Indian citizens who are racialized as "Black" in an Indian and global order that denigrates Blackness and marked by their religious identification as Muslim in a virulently Hindu nation. The article unpacks these contexts, exploring the forces of empire and region and constructions of race, gender, and religion that have prodded and inflected siddi processes of becoming. In so doing, it unearths the ways in which Blackness, Muslimness, and masculinity are constituted as (intersecting) social and political categories, caught in the dialectics of alienation and intimacy, belonging and otherness, with enduring effects on the lives and cosmologies of siddis in Hyderabad and on the contemporary politics of race, gender, and religion in India.

- 13 Pitch Black: How design entrepreneurs are rethinking race in post-Katrina schools/ Tompkins, Christien , pp. 204–215

Putting anthropologists of design in conversation with Black studies, this article demonstrates how a group of repentant education entrepreneurs in post-Katrina New Orleans mobilized racialized affective and narrative surplus within an information economy based on design rituals and protocols. I examine how this splinter group of

education reformers established design communities through ritualized “pitches” and show how the egalitarian aspirations of designers rely on forms of empathetic erasure rooted in narratives of spectacular violence and universalist assumptions about the motivations, behaviors, and capacities of so-called users and so-called designers. While it is easy to laud the “empathy principles” of design thinking for taking seriously the agency and intellectual capacity of its racialized “users,” this article shares anti-Blackness theorists’ skepticism of liberal humanization projects and is concerned with the burdens that the relationship between designers and users entails. What is the human at the center of design? Humanity here is not a shared essence, nor an egalitarian relation, but in this instance marks a process through which surplus affect and the spectacle of Blackness is instrumentalized and transmuted into racial capital.

- 14 Mockery amid shooting: Laughter as an expression of expertise at a public clinic in Greater Rio de Janeiro, Brazil/ Lima, Pedro Silva Rocha , pp. 216–226

Laughter is one of the “weapons of the weak,” a means of degrading those in a position of power. Seeing laughter as such, however, only offers a view into what the performance does to its target, by belittling it, without saying much about what it does to the performer within a given power relation. This article investigates the potential of mockery and laughter to become expressions of expertise when they establish the performer as a knowing subject in relation to their target. Based on fieldwork conducted at a public clinic in Duque de Caxias, Brazil, this article analyzes how locally resident staff, through their extended work and dwelling in a neighborhood where shootings are frequent, mocked their superiors who did not know how to appropriately assess and react to the sound of shooting. By establishing the performer as the knowing subject in relation to those being mocked, laughter in this setting had the potential to unsettle classed hierarchies of knowledge.

- 15 Shxwelí li te shxwelítemelh xíts'etáwtxw: The museum's confinement of Indigenous kin/ Robinson, Dylan , pp. 233–247

Across the globe, museums filled with glass and plexiglass vitrines display collections of Indigenous belongings. The typical display scenario for such belongings places them upon plinths, underneath plexiglass. These cases render the life they contain into objects of display, things to be seen but not touched. For Indigenous people, experiencing this objectifying system of display is often traumatic because that which is on display fits neither category of object nor thing. They hold life, and are beings or ancestors; they are treated as kin. Alongside the life of ancestors who take material form, thousands of Indigenous songs collected by ethnographers on wax cylinder recordings and reel-to-reel tape are similarly confined in museum collections. These songs also hold life, but of different kinds from their material cousins. To reassess the role of the museum as a place that confines life is to put into question its relationship to incarceration. If the museum is a carceral space, how then, might we define repatriation alongside practices of “reentry” and kinship reconnection?

- 16 What is “heard” at a pipeline hearing?: The gerrymandering of aurality in British Columbia, Canada/ Veeraraghavan, Lee , pp. 248–259

This article explores how sound technologies are deployed by government agencies to produce legitimacy in the struggle over oil pipelines in British Columbia, Canada.

Activists seeking to stop the Northern Gateway and Trans Mountain pipelines have mobilized noise and silence as tactics of protest and refusal. For example, one thousand demonstrators make a cacophony outside a Vancouver hotel in protest of the Northern Gateway pipeline. Communications technology, though, is deployed here by the state to compress and control. In one of the hotel's small, impregnable conference rooms, public hearings over the pipeline are taking place—only the public is not allowed inside: the proceedings are being livestreamed to a hotel two kilometers away. On unceded Coast Salish territory, the legitimacy of pipeline hearings is also contested because the continued existence of Indigenous legal orders represents a challenge to the pipelines in question. Technological mediation makes it possible to satisfy one requirement of legitimacy: democratically granted representative power. The challenge to the legal system highlighted by the continued existence of the Indigenous, though, is managed through audible techniques deployed as anthropoid technologies. The implications for a politics of sound must be considered in light of sound's mediation, which is never politically neutral.

- 17 FandangObon: Amplification, counter-publics, and fugitive spaces of belonging in Los Angeles/ Lipsitz, George , pp. 260–270

The festive celebration known as FandangObon is made possible by workshops and satellite performances that *artivistas* (art activists) stage throughout the year in a variety of community venues. The event transforms the annual Japanese American Buddhist Obon ceremony honoring ancestors into an antiracist polyculture performance. Through improvisation and invention, colourfully adorned participants blend the dances, songs, and costumes of the Japanese *bon odori* circle with Mexican *son jarocho fandango* practices and West African ballet and *egungun* drum and dance circles. Each of the groups represented in FandangObon brings to the mix its own form of circle dancing, collective singing, and instrument playing, yet *bon odori*, *fandango*, and *egungun* do not fuse together seamlessly in these gatherings. Instead they coalesce as a conversation among equals in which each tradition remains faithful to itself in the process of making changes through engagement with others. The concepts of amplification, counter publics, and fugitive spaces of belonging serve in this article as central interpretive frames of a cultural critique of the historical and cultural conditions for the celebration's emergence, articulation, and implementation (Marcus and Fischer 1986).

- 18 Pocodisco: The sonic performativity of grief, grievance, and joy in diaspora/ Kheshti, Roshanak , pp. 271–281

This article examines the intersection between diasporic melancholia, dance, and world music. These phenomena coalesce at postcolonial discos, or public gatherings where political movement takes the form of dance, sound, and eros. I explore the network that connects various times and places to this fantastical dreamland of a sonic postcolonial future and the DJs and producers who keep those records spinning. Focusing especially on the queer and feminist nature of these spaces and sounds, I explore how these artists/activist/curators work outside of institutional contexts as public media archaeologists who excavate and re-present sounds thought long lost to diasporic communities who occupy a precarious relationship to histories of belonging. These artists contribute to radical acts of space-making that are not merely fleeting and ephemeral events but instead participate in a legacy of the postcolonial disco, or acts of place-making

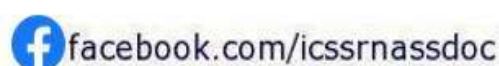
with the potential for radical forms of diasporic and postcolonial belonging across space and time.

19 El disco es cultura: Sonic artifacts and Latinx Chicago/ Chávez,Alex E. , pp. 282–294

In music production, a sonic artifact refers to sonic material that is accidental or unwanted, typically the result of the manipulation of sound. This understanding connotes both physical and figurative meanings: artifact as material alteration and as subjectively defined auditory disturbance. Both meanings attune the act of listening to noise—the perception of which relies on normative conceptions of rationality. This article takes up the sonic artifact as an aesthetic figure to listen to Latinx Chicago with attention to vinyl records (or discos) as literal material artifacts and asks: how do discos broadcast—in embodied and symbolic ways—the racialized politics of urban territory, and in turn amplify forms of spatial entitlement? Chicago's racial geography relies on the social reproduction of valuable forms of inequality that render Latinx communities displaceable, or unheard. What place-making strategies emerge given such profound and intersecting dispossessions, and how are they amplified within the aural public sphere? *El disco es cultura* provides one answer. As curatorial practice, it embodies a phonoaesthetic assemblage of transcultural and trans hemispheric sounds and connections that avails sonic artefacts as layered auditory experiences forged within the politics of displacement, pointing us toward the materiality of Latinx place-making aesthetics and auditory fields of social recognition.

20 Textures of Black sound and affect: Life and death in New Orleans/ Sakakeeny, Matt , pp. 295–310

In a traditional New Orleans jazz funeral, the characteristic shift from mourning to joy is propelled by brass band musicians weaving melodies and rhythms together. This article is about how these thickly layered textures of sound elicit shared sentiments of lament and of joy. More than an accumulation of individual layers, the textures and emotions compose an atmosphere, in both the physical and metaphorical sense, of mutual aid. The relative openness of the sound—the fact that it cannot be reduced to its communicative content—means that it can also be heard as a political act of refusal, rebellion, or something else altogether. An underrecognized keyword in sound studies, texture is placed here in a web of relations with other keywords: affect, assembly, atmosphere, care, fugitivity, joy/lament, life/death, mutual aid, rebellion, refusal, religiosity, voice/instrument. Textures of sound do not explicitly call for an end to anti-Black violence, and I am hesitant to even characterize the jazz funeral as an act of resistance. But I suggest that the assemblies of Black sounds and bodies “speak” to the possibility of liberation and generate an atmosphere of mutual aid.



- 21 Descriptive and Symbolic: The Connection Between Political Representation and Citizen Satisfaction with Municipal Public Services/ Forman-Rabinovici, Aliza; Beerli, Itai, pp. 3–18

While theories of local democracy mark political representation as highly important in determining the quality and perception of public services, little has been done to explore the empirical connection. This represents a lacuna in our understanding of how representation affects citizen wellbeing and how citizens determine their satisfaction with public services. We focus on descriptive and symbolic dimensions of representation to elucidate how representation influences citizens', and minority citizens' in particular, experience with public services. Utilizing a survey of residents of Haifa, Israel, our findings imply that beyond the descriptive makeup of municipal elected bodies, symbolic dimensions of representation might be even more important for understanding citizen satisfaction. Symbolic representation may impact satisfaction directly and through its contribution to other feelings about government. These findings expand understandings of the importance of diversity in political representation, determinants of satisfaction and how dynamics of good governance contribute to citizens' experiences.

- 22 The Effects of Organizational Scandals on the Desirability of Public Organizations as Places to Work: Evidence From the VA Waitlist Scandal/ Lee, Shinwoo; Abner, Gordon; Hameduddin, Taha , pp. 19–32

Public administration scholars have extensively explored organizational scandals through two lenses: (1) inside stories of organizational scandals examining the main causes of scandals and (2) the effects of scandals on trust in government, trust in governmental officials, and public financing. Yet, we know little about how organizational scandals affect government employees' work attitudes. Understanding how public employees react to organizational scandals deserves scholarly attention because public employees not only execute their agencies' key functions and programs but are involved in actively addressing the organization's failures. To address this gap, we apply a quasi-experimental approach using the 2014 Department of Veterans Affairs waitlist scandal, with a specific focus on the effects of the scandal on employee job satisfaction and perceived organizational attractiveness. Empirical results using the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey from 2011 to 2017 show that the organizational scandal had a negative effect on both outcomes.

- 23 First Responders and the COVID-19 Pandemic: How Organizational Strategies Can Promote Workforce Retention/ Remington, Christa L.; Witkowski, Kaila; Ganapati, N. Emel; Headley, Andrea M.; Contreras, Santana L., pp. 33–56

Workforce retention is a current challenge for public administration, and there are continued questions about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the public safety workforce and their willingness to serve. Past studies have shown there are limits to what first responders will endure during complex and uncertain emergencies, leading them to potentially leave their position. Using a nationwide survey (n = 3,582), in-depth interviews (n = 91), and a visual methodology called PhotoVoice, this study examines the factors impacting threats to workforce retention (i.e., role abandonment and turnover

intentions) among first responders and the ways public organizations can mitigate this negative impact. The results show personal or family risk may contribute to first responders' decisions to quit, while an understanding of public risk may promote retention. We identify several organizational strategies (e.g., emotional safety, sufficient protective equipment, standard operating procedures) that may reduce retention threats.

- 24 *Acquiesce, Compromise, or Avoid? Collaboration, Coordination, & Cooperation as Different Strategic Responses to Institutional Pressures/* Sedgwick, Donna; Lemaire, Robin Hargroder, pp. 57–70

Collaboration is often touted as the ideal inter organizational relationship (IOR) to tackle many challenging social problems; however, collaboration is just one of many types of IORs that public managers can undertake. This article presents public managers' decisions to cooperate, coordinate, or collaborate with program partners as strategic responses of avoiding, compromising, or acquiescing, respectively. We argue that perceptions of coercive, normative, and mimetic pressures influence the likelihood to undertake different IORs; specifically, as managers experience combined isomorphic pressures, they are more likely to acquiesce and collaborate with program partners. Findings from our qualitative study of federal and state preschool programs in Virginia, USA reveal that as managers perceive additional pressures they are more likely to pursue more involved IORs. Unexpectedly, we find that cooperators perceive few isomorphic pressures, and we also find that perceived deterrent isomorphic pressures distinguish coordinators from collaborators. These findings offer insight about how organizational field pressures can affect strategic IOR responses.

- 25 *Public Sector Unionization and Government Contracting: A Meta-analysis of Four Decades of Empirical Evidence/* Lu, Jiahuan; Chenm, Yiying; Hung, Wan-Ju , pp. 71–89

Within the large body of literature on government contracting, the effect of public sector unionization on contracting out is still unsettled even after decades of research. Previous literature proposes that unionization may both inhibit and motivate contracting out, making the net effect difficult to predict. Through a meta-analysis of 232 effects drawn from 49 existing studies spanning over four decades, we find that jurisdictions with higher levels of public sector unionization generally contract out more in public service delivery. Further metaregression analysis suggests that unionization has a weaker effect when governments engage in intergovernmental contracting but a stronger effect when governments contract out for technical services. Unionization also has a stronger effect on how much a government contracts out than on whether a government contracts out. Overall, unionization is a relevant, but not necessarily robust, factor in driving contracting out, and its exact effect may vary slightly by context.

- 26 *Technology 3.0: Police Officers' Perceptions Towards Technology Shifts/* Aviram, Neomi Frisch; Correa, Catarina; Oliveira, Roberto, pp. 90–103

Police units worldwide are going through a three-generational technological shift: from “street” to “screen” to “system” technologies. This paper focuses on how these digital shifts shape police officers' perceptions. First, concerning the change from “street” to “screen” police, it focuses on how it changes police officers' perceptions of discretion and burnout. The shift from “screen” to “system” policy focuses on how perceptions towards “screen” technologies shape the receptivity of “system” technologies. We address these

questions using a mixed-method approach to analyze Brazilian police officers' shift from the Military Police to the Environmental Military Police. Findings suggest that changing from "street" to "screen" police reduces burnout and limited discretion among police officers. Moreover, usefulness in achieving professional goals and perceptions of monitoring via "screen" technology predict receptivity to "system" technology. We conclude that street-level bureaucrats' perceptions of technological shifts are essential to acknowledge when planning and implementing such changes.



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- 27 Public Service Motivation and Trust in Government: An Examination Across the Federal, State, and Local Levels in the United States/ Jensen, Colt; Piatak, Jaclyn , pp. 107–118

In the United States, trust in government across the federal, state, and local levels has been on the decline for decades. With increasing polarization and politicization, the work of public administrators is frequently made more difficult by challenges that stem from low levels of public trust—responding to these challenges as well as recent calls that encourage public administrators to regain the trust of the public they serve. Could public service motivation (PSM) promote trust in government? We examine the association between PSM and trust in government across the federal, state, and local levels of government in the United States. We find that the association between PSM and governmental trust varies by level of government. At the state and local levels, PSM is positively associated with trust in government. However, we find no significant relationship between PSM and trust at the federal level. Thus, there exists the potential for state and local administrators to use PSM to build trust in the government and to facilitate improved policy implementation. Our findings also provide insight into how key predictors of public trust in government vary at the federal, state, and local levels of the U.S. government.

- 28 Trust and Street-Level Bureaucrats' Willingness to Risk Their Lives for Others: The Case of Brazilian Law Enforcement/ Cohen, Nissim; Lotta, Gabriela; Alcadipani, Rafael; Lazebnik, Teddy, pp. 119–134

Trust has proven to be a predictor of organizational outcomes. In some cases, such as law enforcement, achieving organizational goals requires workers to be willing to risk their lives. Is there a link between street-level bureaucrats' (SLBs) willingness to endanger their own lives for the public and their trust in their peers, managers, and the institution to which they belong? Using a national survey of 2,733 police officers in Brazil and machine-learning-based methods, we found that there is a significant link between their willingness to risk their lives for others and their trust in their peers, managers, and the institution to which they belong. Our findings indicate that while these SLBs were very willing to risk their lives for certain groups, their willingness declined sharply for others such as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ)+ people and the homeless. In addition, police officers' perceptions about discrimination, police professionalism, and organizational commitment and support are linearly linked to their willingness to risk their lives. Our findings demonstrate the important role of trust in understanding public servants' practices in the extreme context of risking their lives for others.

- 29 Police Mentoring of At-Risk Youth: Case Study of Police-Led Mentoring Program Leadership Development/ Estorcien, Vernise, pp. 135–150

Police-led organizations provide officers with the ability to mentor youth in a nurturing environment that empowers them to succeed academically, behaviourally, and socially. This article focuses on how police officers mentor youths in a major urban area in the southeast. A case study was presented of a police-led organization, which included in-



depth interviews with program leaders and mentors, participant observations, and a review of secondary sources over 2 years. The main findings from the study are as follows: (1) program leaders emphasize that caring mentors need to be empathetic toward youth exposed to gun violence, (2) officers' previous experiences matter for their motivation to become mentors, and (3) officers stimulate students by taking them out of their usual social environments. This research expands the theoretical understanding of how police-led organizations influence the lives of youth exposed to gun violence. The characteristics of police officers who serve as mentors are crucial and can impact program outcomes. Practical implications for program leaders are discussed.

- 30 The Role of Organizational and Client Reactions in Understanding Representative Bureaucracy/ Davidovitz, Maayan; Shwartz-Ziv, Tamar, pp. 151–162

The public administration literature has long observed the efforts of street-level bureaucrats to actively represent the clients with whom they share a social or demographic identity. However, it has not examined the responses that street-level bureaucrats receive when they represent minorities and how these responses shape how they use discretion in implementing policies. We explore these issues empirically through in-depth interviews with 23 Israeli Arab social and community workers and 32 Israeli LGBTQ+ teachers. This exploratory study reveals the variety of reactions that street-level bureaucrats encounter when representing minorities. Furthermore, it highlights the significant role of reactions from clients and organizations in encouraging, reducing, or impeding the efforts of minority street-level bureaucrats to represent those with whom they share an identity, which, in turn, underscores the importance of external responses for confirming and legitimizing active representation.

- 31 Recategorization: An Approach to Extending the Symbolic Benefits of Bureaucratic Representation to the Majority Group/ Kang\*, Inkyu; Lee\*, Cheon, pp. 163–179

Research has argued that the symbolic benefits of bureaucratic representation for marginalized social groups may come at the expense of the attitudes of the majority group. In this study, we investigate whether recategorization—that is, reframing previously separate groups as an inclusive common ingroup—can shift the majority group's perception of bureaucratic representation from a threat to a benefit. We conducted two vignette experiments with a representative sample of U.S. adults ( $n = 1,040$ ), in which we tested the same treatments in two policy domains: policing and healthcare. The results support our main hypothesis in the policing context. The effect of police chiefs' race being African American on white respondents' trust in the chief shifted from negative to positive when the chiefs portrayed African Americans discriminated by the police as members of American community, a superordinate common ingroup that encompasses every race, rather than simply as African Americans.

- 32 What Drives the Attractiveness of Public and Private Employers? Comparative Evidence From an Online Employer Review Platform/ Vogel, Rick; Satzger, Melissa, pp. 180–197

Employees' attraction to public or private employers is an issue of enduring practical concern and scholarly debate, with inconclusive evidence of both the levels and the drivers of employer attractiveness. This study builds on online reviews of more than 5,000 U.S.-based organizations by more than 200,000 current and former employees, using their recommendations as a behavioral and consequential measure of employer

attractiveness. Results of a relative weight analysis show that public employees place less importance on altruistic and intrinsic attributes compared to their counterparts in the private sector when they recommend or do not recommend their employers, but more importance on social attributes; while no sector differences emerge for extrinsic and prestige attributes. These patterns remain stable when we focus on an industry with little occupational variation across the sectors. As some of these results contradict previous scholarship, they suggest that employer attractiveness at the post-entry stages of the human resource cycle, when preferences may change as a consequence of employee expectations and experience, is a puzzle that deserves more scholarly and practical attention.

- 33 The Experience of Active Representation in South Korea: How Marriage-Based Immigrant Public Servants Represent Their Clients/ Choi, Junghwa; Robinson, Scott, pp. 198–211

A long research tradition has argued that representative public servants regularly advocate for the interests of clients like themselves—whether similarity is based on race, ethnicity, or gender. This article broadens the representative bureaucracy literature to explore a different basis for advocacy (marriage-based immigrant status) using unique qualitative data. To explore the experience of representation from the perspective of public servants, we conducted semi-structured interviews with marriage-based immigrant public servants in South Korea in 2017. Our results indicate that while marriage-based immigrant public servants actively attempt to address the needs of the marriage-based immigrant population, advocacy is often a learned behavior rather than the reason public servants sought their positions. It is also observed that their efforts to represent the marriage-based immigrant population are heavily limited by institutional factors of South Korea such as insecure job status and the lack of a critical mass of marriage-based immigrant public servants.



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- 34 Social Equity, Intellectual History, Black Movement Leaders, and Marcus Garvey/ Moloney, Kim; Lewis, Rupert, pp. 215–228

This paper engages the U.S.-focused social equity literature and its ahistorical understanding of its pre-1968 intellectual histories. We use racial contract theory to highlight the epistemological necessity of a disciplinary reconsideration. We suggest that intellectual histories bound to an exclusively academic voice negate a fuller understanding of lived realities. By engaging the work of a Jamaican-born activist like Marcus Garvey and his significant inroads into 1910s and 1920s America, we create an updated historical understanding of social equity that challenges the disciplinary script.

- 35 Reconceptualizing the Politics-Administration Dichotomy to Better Understand Public Leadership in the Twenty-First Century: A Multilateral Actors Model/ Callahan, Richard; Mau, Tim A. , pp. 229–241

The long-standing discussion of the politics-administration dichotomy is as relevant in contemporary public administration as at any time in the past. The significant changing context and persistence of the discussion on the practice of the politics-administration dichotomy calls for addressing what Overeem observes as the need to better describe the highly complex relations between politicians and administrators. Two implicit assumptions drive the continued relevance of the discussion of political-administrative interactions. First, the discussion matters because the actors in question fulfill various public leadership roles. Second, the political-administrative dialogue matters to questions of constitutionalism, values of representative government, and facilitating institutions of democracy. In this article, we offer a model of public managers' engagement in the "how" with a framework that explicitly outlines the range of relationships. We draw on empirical research to outline the current reality of at least five significant types of actors, often working collaboratively in multilateral relationships. The first section of the article discusses the genesis and implications of the politics-administration dichotomy. It then proceeds to establish its persistence over time, followed by an explanation of the logic of our approach. Next, the discussion shifts to the analytic advantage of a continuum model across five categories of actors within the governance process, each possessing the potential for public leadership, showing how this model illustrates paths for addressing the problem we have identified. Finally, we discuss the implications of our proposed model for future research design and practice.

- 36 What Can Reform Street-Level Bureaucrats' Unwarranted Discretionary Behaviors? Principles? Principals? Or Both?/ Carroll, Deborah A.; Yeo, Jungwon , pp. 242–254

In this paper, we ask whether principles—relevant institutions, including administrative reform, legal and judicial support, and information and communication technology (ICT)—and principals—ordinary people that are capable, knowledgeable, and willing—can help enhance accountability of street-level bureaucrats (SLBs) by mitigating unwarranted discretionary behaviors. We examined the New York City Police Department by constructing and analyzing a unique dataset drawn from multiple sources and by using the SLB literature to inform our empirical model specification. Fixed effects regression analysis revealed the potential of principles and principals in motivating or reducing police officers' use of force resulting in substantiated civilian complaints.

Specifically, proactive policing strategies, exonerated civilian complaint dispositions, court summons following arrests, and ICT are the principles, and a low-poverty population served by police are the principals we found to influence discretionary police behaviour.

- 37 The Adoption and Implementation of Artificial Intelligence Chatbots in Public Organizations: Evidence from U.S. State Governments/ Chen, Tzuhao; Gascó-Hernandez, Mila; Esteve, Marc , pp. 255–270

Although the use of artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots in public organizations has increased in recent years, three crucial gaps remain unresolved. First, little empirical evidence has been produced to examine the deployment of chatbots in government contexts. Second, existing research does not distinguish clearly between the drivers of adoption and the determinants of success and, therefore, between the stages of adoption and implementation. Third, most current research does not use a multidimensional perspective to understand the adoption and implementation of AI in government organizations. Our study addresses these gaps by exploring the following question: what determinants facilitate or impede the adoption and implementation of chatbots in the public sector? We answer this question by analyzing 22 state agencies across the U.S.A. that use chatbots. Our analysis identifies ease of use and relative advantage of chatbots, leadership and innovative culture, external shock, and individual past experiences as the main drivers of the decisions to adopt chat bots. Further, it shows that different types of determinants (such as knowledge-base creation and maintenance, technology skills and system crashes, human and financial resources, cross-agency interaction and communication, confidentiality and safety rules and regulations, and citizens' expectations, and the COVID-19 crisis) impact differently the adoption and implementation processes and, therefore, determine the success of catboats in a different manner. Future research could focus on the interaction among different types of determinants for both adoption and implementation, as well as on the role of specific stakeholders, such as IT vendors.

- 38 Understanding Gaps Between Objective and Subjective Performance Measures: Accreditation of Public Service Organizations and Citizen Satisfaction/ Lee, Jae Bok; Kim, Soojin , pp. 271–286

Governments use various performance measures to ensure that public services delivered by private-sector providers are safe and meet citizens' particular needs. These measures can include awarding accreditation and assessing citizen satisfaction. However, few studies have investigated how objective performance measures relate to citizens' subjective evaluations of providers from the perspective of service users. To fill this gap in the literature, this study closely explores a particular case of the Korean childcare market in which governments administer a large number of private-sector providers that play a dominant role in delivering public services. Our findings indicate the positive accreditation–satisfaction link is weakened when parents may not be aware of a provider's accreditation status or when their selected service provider is nonprofit, as opposed to for-profit. Overall, this study suggests that it is important to understand why there is some degree of incongruence between objective and subjective measures and how these two different performance indicators converge in the data. Special attention should be given to bridging the gap by closely reviewing institutional pressure on service providers and a symbolic impression of accreditation.

39 Getting a Grant is Just the First Step: Administrative Capacity and Successful Grant Implementation/ Shybalkina, Iuliia, pp. 287–302

This study examines the link between the pace of utilizing the awarded intergovernmental grants and the administrative capacity of recipient government organizations. Past research focused on the relationship between higher administrative capacity and obtaining grants. However, there is a lack of attention to how capacity affects grant funds utilization, which is critical for achieving societal impact. To address this issue, the study analyzes the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) established by the CARES Act to aid state and local governments with COVID-19-related expenses. The study justifies and performs multiple regression analyses using data from various sources, including the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the U.S. Census Annual Survey of Public Employment and Payroll, and the Government Finance Officers Association. The study discovered that financial administrative capacity was positively linked to the proportion of funds spent early in the CRF program rollout, a finding that withstood scrutiny when employing various measures of administrative capacity. However, the connection between capacity and spending tapered off toward the end of the program rollout, potentially due to workload stabilization, increased program clarity from the federal government, capacity-building by recipients, and the use of external experts. The findings of this study carry significant implications for both research and practice, underlining the necessity of studying the implementation stage of government grant programs and investing in building administrative capacity within recipient organizations.



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- 40 The Transaction Costs of the Administrative Presidency: Evidence From a Trump-Era Clean Water Act Enforcement Reduction/ Barnes, Jesse L.;Farmer, Jayce L., pp. 307–322

Over the last two decades, political polarization has gridlocked federal congressional capacity to meet environmental regulatory demands. As a result, presidential authority has expanded to overcome this legislative impediment leading to a new era of “administrative presidency.” In this new era, presidents have increasingly used their administrative authority to meet politically driven environmental goals. Yet, we still know little about how federal-level executive political actions impact the outcomes and operations of local regulatory environmental systems. This study fills this scholarly void by empirically testing the effect of a federal COVID-19 Clean Water Act (CWA) enforcement reduction on Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) implementation outcomes for local community water systems (CWSs) sourcing from surface waters (SWs). Using a framework grounded in transaction cost federalism, we argue that a politically motivated executive reduction in federal CWA enforcement is associated with poor local SDWA implementation outcomes. We test this assumption with a differences-in-differences econometric approach using data drawn from the federal Safe Drinking Water Information System database. Our findings suggest that the CWA enforcement reduction resulted in an over 50% increase in SDWA health violations by CWSs sourcing from SWs. The implications of this study extend to U.S. water policy and environmental federalism, highlighting the need for better coordination between the CWA and SDWA and the potential risks associated with relying on broadened executive actions to drive U.S. environmental policy. Further research is warranted to understand the consequences of administrative policy changes on U.S. environmental governance.

- 41 Am I My Brothers’ Keeper? A Critical Review of Mandated Collaboration Research/ Sullivan, Andrew Alfred; Yeo, Jungwon; Kim, Saerim, pp. 323–336

To synthesize and examine the growing literature on mandated collaboration, we conducted a critical literature review of the growing literature on mandated collaboration, asking what the field of public administration knows about its purposes, mechanisms, contexts, and performances. Mandated collaboration occurs when a third party requires and enforces collaboration among other potential collaborators. We find four takeaways: (a) mandators require collaboration to address complex problems; (b) mandators enforce collaboration through hierarchical authority and market-based incentives; (c) mandated collaboration occurs across several policy contexts; and (d) the context surrounding the collaboration affects its success. We conclude with three unknowns, regarding how mandated collaboration achieves policy goals, if mandators are collaborators, and the willingness of participants required to collaborate. Our review enhances public administration's understanding of collaborative governance by offering insight into the governance tool of mandating collaboration, contexts under which it succeeds, and steps for future research.

- 42 Bureaucratic Beliefs and Representation: Linking Social Identities, Attitudes, and Client Outcomes/ Favero, Nathan, pp. 337–353

Representative bureaucracy theory posits that the demographic makeup of a bureaucracy can affect how policy is implemented, especially when bureaucrats engage in “active representation” or behaviour that directly advances the interests of a particular group in society. It is often assumed that active representation is motivated by the unique beliefs, convictions, or affinities experienced by bureaucrats holding particular social identities. But few studies of representative bureaucracy have attempted to directly measure the attitudes of bureaucrats, and even fewer studies examine whether such attitudes are meaningfully linked to policy outcomes. This study examines the social identities, self-perceived roles, and political preferences of local school administrators in Texas. The results confirm a link between bureaucratic managers’ social identities and distributional policy outcomes, while also suggesting that distinctive bureaucratic attitudes (as observed here) can offer at best a partial explanation for why the social identities of bureaucrats are linked to policy outcomes.

- 43 Which Matters More in Coproduction? Political Message, Policy, or Factual Information/  
Li, Huafang; Lu, Elaine Yi , pp. 354–376

To coproduce better policy outcomes, governments and citizens need to work together. However, information asymmetry between the two parties influences the coproduction adversely. Nowadays, the multiplicity of information and its potential incongruence add to information asymmetry and make the impact of information on coproduction trickier than ever. This study examines the effects of political message, policy, and factual information on citizens’ coproduction activities. Analyzing the effects of federal and state leaders’ tweets, New York City’s COVID-19 policies, reported COVID-19 cases and deaths, and the city’s visits and public transportation ridership, the findings show that politicians’ message, congruent or not, did not influence citizens’ coproduction activities as measured by visits and public transit ridership. Policy implementation information improved coproduction, and the perceptions of factual information contributed to intended coproduction.

- 44 Religious Environments, Governments, and the Density of Nonprofit Organizations/  
Subedi, Meena; Liu, Gao, pp. 377–392

This study examines the impact of religious environments on the jurisdictional density of non-profit organizations. It has been argued that religiosity can affect non-profit activities by promoting prosocial attitudes, collectivism, collaborating and bonding, and business ethics. While prior research has investigated the effects of religiosity on various aspects associated with non-profit activities, such as volunteering, generosity, non-profit management, and prosocial attitudes, there remains a dearth of studies exploring the direct relationship between religious environment and the size of non-profit sectors. Existing research yields mixed results with certain limitations. This research addresses these limitations and finds that a more vibrant religious environment contributes to a higher density of both religious and nonreligious non-profit organizations. The study also finds that the effect is more pronounced in areas with a higher government presence. This finding is consistent with the prediction of interdependence theory but not government failure theory.

- 45 Bureaucracy’s Disquieting News: Entangled in Uncertainty/ Goodsell, Charles T. , pp. 393–399



Government bureaucracy is widely ignored, condemned, ridiculed, and misunderstood. In this article, combined stories by reporters for The New York Times and The Washington Post reveal that federal agencies seldom reach planned goals unambiguously without complication from external forces. A total of 28 articles is summarized, classified under five ideals, and equally divided between failures and successes. A later companion piece is entitled “Bureaucracy's Welcome News: More Women at the Helm,” based on data in successive editions of the United States Government Manual.



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- 46 The Chinese Educational Idioms That the Chinese Shall Live By/ Liu, Wei; Zhang, Xiaojun, pp. 7–21

With the conviction that formulaic expressions in a language are carriers of stable thought patterns of its culture, the paper conducts a thematic analysis of Chinese educational idioms with the goal of exploring the traditional Chinese educational values reflected in the Chinese language use. Altogether, about 100 Chinese idioms that pertain to teaching, learning and parenting are identified from a Chinese Chengyu (idioms) dictionary. Findings of this study challenge the common practice of borrowing Western pedagogical discourses to justify curriculum change initiatives in China, arguing that the traditional Chinese educational discourses should be retained in order to secure a strong cultural identity for young generations.

- 47 Reforms, International Crisis and Growth of Chinese and Indian Economies/ Agarwal, Manmohan; Banerjee, Adrita, pp. 22–40

The considerable similarity in the growth paths of the Chinese and Indian economies since their respective reforms has changed after the 2008 crisis. This article tries to understand the trajectories of different parameters of economic growth in the two countries, and how these changed after the crisis. Growth has declined in both the economies, more consistently in China, compared to India. The share of exports in GDP has also declined in both economies. The dependence of the Chinese economy on exports has decreased; however, its dependence on investment has increased. Investment's share in GDP in China has increased, whereas it has decreased in India. The structure of the manufacturing sector in China has undergone changes, which is not the case for India. The increase in the share of services and decline in the share of manufacturing in China implies that the production structure is becoming less unbalanced.

- 48 The Resurgence of Chinese Exceptionalism Under Xi's Leadership/ Abdollahpour, Behzad , pp. 41–56

This article examines a historical process of Chinese exceptionalism throughout history. Shedding light on different forms of exceptionalism from imperial China till now, I argue that a new form of exceptionalism appeared under Xi's administration. Recent studies about this concept seem to dismiss the identity factor and its relations with Chinese exceptionalism. Additionally, the literature on the resurgence of exceptionalism under Xi's era has been less discussed. In order to address this gap, I identify the common features of Chinese exceptionalism and underline the continuities and changes it has during Chinese history to better explain its traces under Xi's leadership. The article concludes that Chinese exceptionalism is a narrative that helps Chinese leaders, including Xi Jinping, to give credentials to their domestic and international politics. Furthermore, through my evaluation of the pertinent literature, I suggest that Xi's exceptionalism is the combination of previous forms of exceptionalism in the past with a subtle difference that paves the way for China to be an active rising power.

- 49 New OTC Derivative Instrument for BRI Grand Strategy Integration: Case of 'China, Mongolia and Russia'/ Shichalina, Valeriia A., pp. 57–75

The Belt and Road Initiative is an economic integration plan. But at regional level, the financial capabilities of route countries do not allow the implementation of the Belt and

Road. This is the need for and creation of a new financial form. This study aims to theoretically justify a new financial form for economic integration—new type of over-the-counter derivative financial instrument. This adaptation addresses the case of the transport corridor ‘China–Mongolia–Russia’ and ‘resident status’ of the Joint Economic Zone that will serve as a guarantee for the financial assets of the Belt and Road companies and increase their financial sustainability and investment revival in regions. In general, this has a positive effect on the development of the accounting system and increases the financial and investment interests of business participants, which can lead to new forms of entrepreneurial activity and become a catalyst for improving the welfare of regions of China–Mongolia–Russia transport corridor, and it is in line with the goals and investment initiatives of the Belt and Road project.

- 50 The Historical Different Meanings of Chinese Communist Party’s ‘The Party Commands Gun’ Under Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping/ Fang, Daqi (Reinhardt), pp. 76–89

Since the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) established its own military force (People’s Liberation Army [PLA]), it has always emphasised ‘The Party Commands Gun’ (dangzhihuiqiang, 党指挥枪<sup>1</sup>). However, the high-ranking CCP leaders who hold ‘military power (junquan, 军权)’ would also use their influence in the PLA to influence or even change the direction of Chinese politics. In addition, the meaning of ‘The Party Commands Gun’ also varies by period, and the meaning of it is also quite different in different eras in the CCP party history. In this article, the author aims to analyse the connotation changes of the CCP’s political slogan ‘The Party Commands Gun’ from the perspective of historical evolution. Based on examples from the history of the CCP, the focus will be compared to the CCP’s revolutionary era, the Mao Zedong era and the post-Mao era of ‘The Party Commands Gun’. From the perspective of empirical analysis and historical evolution, the author reveals the evolution of the purpose of ‘The Party Commands Gun’ from the revolutionary era to Deng Xiaoping era.



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- 51 Trade–Finance Nexus: The Centrality of the Quality of Institutions in Sub-Saharan African Leading Economies/ Fagbemi, Fisayo; Fajingbesi, Adeyemi; Nzeribe, Geraldine Ejiaka, pp. 7–25

The study examines the interaction effect of trade and institutional quality on financial sector development in 20 leading economies in sub-Saharan Africa selected based on 2018 GDP per capita ranking (top 20 richest economies by GDP per capita released by the IMF) over the period 2005–2020. Using system-generalised method of moments estimation, the results indicate that the effect of the interaction term of trade and regulatory quality on financial development is positive and significant. Further findings show unidirectional causality running from the interaction term to financial development, implying that the likelihood of trade enhancing financial development depends on the soundness of the regulatory framework. It is confirmed that the magnitude and direction of the effect of trade on financial development are sensitive to the quality of institutions. Therefore, the poor quality of regulations on business activities and financial services could undermine the salutary impact of trade on financial development. It is suggested that creating a conducive regulatory environment to improve the level of financial development is crucial for mitigating the potential impact of the weak institutional quality risks. This remains a significant prerequisite for having a competitive business environment, thereby stimulating the role of trade in the process of financial development.

- 52 Future Prospects of the Gravity Model of Trade: A Bibliometric Review (1993–2021)/ Jadhav, Suhas; Ghosh, Ishita , pp. 26–61

The gravity model of trade (GMoT) has become popular among practitioners and academics lately, essentially because of its power to provide a comprehensive explanation of real-world trade data. Complementing this are Viner's concepts of trade creation (TC) and trade diversion (TD), which have been crucial in the development of a conceptual framework for evaluating the trade implications of a trade agreement. This article attempts to conduct a bibliometric analysis for estimating TC and TD using the GoMT. It has been observed that the TC and TD estimations following the use of the GoMT are few. Additionally, TC and TD estimations for free trade agreements (FTA) have been conducted, but not so much for regional trade agreements (RTA). As a result, a broad range of research can be conducted, especially given the recent dynamic environment for new RTAs. A bibliometric analysis was undertaken to evaluate the current level of research on GMoT. The search was conducted through Scopus where 648 documents were retrieved and examined. The article indicates key findings and discusses future research prospects.

- 53 Globalisation and Inclusive Growth in Africa: The Role of Institutional Quality/ Kumeka, Terver Theophilus; Raifu, Isiaka Akande; Adeniyi, Oluwatosin, pp. 62–97

This study examines the relationship between globalisation and inclusive growth by considering the modulating role of institutional quality. To achieve our broad objective, we use data from 45 African economies over 1996–2018 to determine the panel cointegration and cointegrating regression association between inclusive growth,

globalisation and institutional quality. To determine a suitable estimation technique for the empirical analysis, several pre-estimation tests were conducted. After confirming the existence of cointegration and slope heterogeneity, we adapted the long-run panel cointegrating methods—the fully modified ordinary least squares and dynamic ordinary least squares estimations. The results from both show that aggregate globalisation and its various dimensions have positive and significant effects on inclusive growth. Besides the direct positive impact on inclusive growth, globalisation has indirect positive and significant impact on inclusive growth through institutional quality. Finally, some policy implications are highlighted.

- 54 Comparative Performance of Trade Openness and Sovereign Debt Accumulation in Fostering Economic Growth of Sub-Saharan African Countries/ Edo, Samson, pp. 98–116

In the last four decades, sub-Saharan African countries have witnessed a substantial increase in trade openness and sovereign debt (foreign public debt and domestic public debt). The direct and interactive effects of these factors on economic growth are investigated in this study. The investigation covers the period 1980–2020 and employs the generalised method of moment methodology. The estimation results reveal that the direct effect of trade openness and domestic public debt is significantly favourable. The direct effect of foreign public debt is, however, found to be unfavourable. The results also reveal that the interactive effect of trade openness and domestic public debt is significantly favourable, whereas the interactive effect of trade openness and foreign public debt is fairly favourable. The estimation results thus imply that trade openness and sovereign debt are complementary drivers of economic growth in sub-Saharan African countries. In spite of the favourable role of trade openness and sovereign debt, economic growth has yet to achieve the desired level, which does not augur well for employment and welfare. The prospects of growth could be enhanced by strengthening the impact of trade openness and sovereign debt. However, policy makers should be aware of the direct negative impact of foreign public debt on economic growth, and the need to put measures in place to manage it.

- 55 How Can Tariff Elimination and Trade Facilitation Affect East African Economies?/ Bakouan, Pousseni; Diarra, Mahamadou; Ouedraogo, Idrissa M. , pp. 117–145

The article assesses the potential economic implications of tariff elimination and trade facilitation (TF) in the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement for East Africa. Using the most recent GTAP database and computable general equilibrium model, the article provides additional evidence on the socio-economic benefits of the ongoing trade integration process. The results show that the elimination of tariffs would improve economic dynamism in most sectors of activity and household consumption. However, the elimination of tariffs alone would not be sufficient to achieve a significant level of trade integration. From a policy perspective, although a gradual implementation of tariff elimination is more beneficial for the zone, the results highlight the relevance of combining tariff elimination with complementary TF reforms. These reforms amplify the socio-economic gain from the AfCFTA.

- 56 Impact of SADC Free Trade Area on Southern Africa's Intra-Trade Performance: Implications for the African Continental Free Trade Area/ Moyo, Busani , pp. 146–180

The main *raison d'être* of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Free Trade Area (FTA) implemented in 2012 was to inter alia boost intra-regional trade and promote regional trade integration. The low levels of growth and mixed trade performance of countries, eight years after, raises questions about the success of the FTA. The success of the recently launched African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) partly hinges on the performance of the regional FTAs like the SADC FTA. This is because it is unlikely that the African Union through the AfCFTA will achieve continentally what regional economic communities failed to achieve at the regional level. We use a gravity model as well as the difference in difference estimator to evaluate, ex-post, the impact of the SADC FTA on total and sectoral intra-exports. Using data from 2001 to 2019, results show that the full implementation of the SADC FTA did not significantly affect export performance with the export difference between countries that joined the FTA and those that did not being insignificant. These results do not change even when using sectoral exports.



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- 57 Intensive and Extensive Margins of Export Diversification as Strategies for Sustainable Economic Growth: Evidence from the Nigerian Economy/ Young, Ademola Obafemi, pp. 187–224

Two opposite strands of literature analysing export diversification's role in promoting sustainable growth have evolved in international economics and development, namely, the intensive and extensive margins of exports. This study empirically investigates which of the margin is more useful towards promoting sustainable growth using annual time series data of Nigeria for the period 1960–2021. Autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL) and innovative accounting procedure were employed. The ARDL results reveal that both margins significantly enhance growth in short and long run. However, importance of the extensive margin, in aggregate, dominates that of the intensive margin. Likewise, the results from innovative accounting procedures reveal that although both margins contribute positively to growth, the contribution to growth of extensive margin dominates over that of the intensive margin. These results, thus, lend credence to the extensive-margin exposition, which postulates that the export of extant commodities to new market destinations or export of new commodities to new and/or old market destinations plays a relatively more important role in export growth/diversification and, ultimately, sustainable growth. The study recommends that governments should develop and implement economic policies aimed at enhancing exports of value-added commodities—due to their relatively high income and price elasticities over primary commodities—to maximise the benefits in the extensive margin.

- 58 Inflation Adjustment, Endogenous Risk Premium and Exchange Rate: A Theoretical Analysis/ Basu, Moumita; Basu, Rilina; Nag, Ranjanendra Narayan , pp. 225–251

This article develops a full employment monetary framework that deals with the interaction between exchange rate and inflation rate dynamics, emphasising the existence of risk premium. The economy consists of internal and foreign bonds. These are close substitutes since there exists a risk premium that depends on inflation rate, budget deficit and net exports. According to the monetary policy rule, both inflation rate and exchange rate negatively influence money supply. Overtime, changes in inflation rate are proportional to the excess supply in the money market. The dynamic adjustment of exchange rate arises due to discrepancy between home interest rate and world rate of interest and risk premium. Based on this framework, we investigate the implications of increase in exports, technological innovation and policy mix for the interaction between exchange rate and inflation rate.

- 59 Dynamics of Price Transmission: Evidence from India's Import Basket/ Choudhry, Sonam; Narayanan, Abhinav; Anshul, pp. 252–278

This article uses granular information on trade flows between India and its trading-partners to estimate the impact of price changes on the import basket in general. We first investigate whether a change in world prices at the commodity level triggers a reorganisation of trading partners. Second, we examine the degree of transmission of world prices to Indian import prices. Lastly, we look at whether India imports less from countries that charge a higher markup on a product. Our results indicate that a change in

world prices does not significantly change the set of importing countries. Using the country–product level price changes, we find a higher degree of transmission as compared to the world prices. This provides an important policy implication. In order to determine how the transmission of world prices to import prices works, we need to pay attention to the product price changes in the partner countries rather than focusing on the world prices. Lastly, we find that India imports less of a particular product on average from a country that charges a higher markup for that product relative to the average export prices charged by that country.

- 60 Impact of Exchange Rate on Trade Balance of India: Evidence from Threshold Cointegration with Asymmetric Error Correction Approach/ Mallick, Lingaraj; Behera, Smruti Ranjan; Bhattacharya, Mita , pp. 279–308

In this research, we investigate the dynamic relationship between the trade balance and exchange rate in the case of India using threshold cointegration and an asymmetric error-correction model. Empirical results validate that the long-run dynamic relationship between the trade balance and exchange rates is asymmetric. In the short run, the trade balance responds only due to positive deviations in the exchange rate. In contrast, in the exchange rate model, the exchange rate reacts only due to negative deviations in the trade balance. In addition, the results exhibit that the adjustment following variation in the exchange rate seems higher than the adjustment in the trade balance in the short run. Besides, the results indicate that the speed of adjustment due to the positive and negative shocks differs in the trade balance and the exchange rate models. Further, the uni-directional Granger causality result suggests that the trade balance substantially affects the exchange rate. However, the Granger causality effect of the exchange rate on the trade balance seems minimal. Finally, our results validate the impact of momentum equilibrium adjustment path asymmetric effects between the trade balance and exchange rate, indicating that the adjustment path is asymmetric in the long run. Therefore, policy planners in India should consider the asymmetric adjustment between these two drivers to overcome trade balance discrepancies in the short and long run.

- 61 Determinants of Foreign Direct Investment: A Systematic Review of the Empirical Studies/ Islam, Mohammad Shaiful; Beloucif, Ahmed , pp. 309–337

A growing body of literature is concerned with the factors that determine the inflows of foreign direct investment (FDI) into a host country. However, hardly any literature has been carried out to provide a systematic literature review (SLR) of the FDI determinants. An SLR methodology underlies this conceptual paper to evaluate and categorise a literature survey of 112 empirical studies published from 2000 to 2018. The result indicates that the size of the host market is the most robust determinant, followed by trade openness, infrastructure quality, labour cost, macroeconomic stability, human capital, and the growth prospect of the host country. Market size is highly significant in virtually all studies. This partly reflects the fact that most of the world's FDI are market-seeking. This study provides a clear understanding of the scope of the research in the field of FDI determinants as the practical implication for future research.

- 62 Bounded No normativity of Heterosexuality: Gendered Sex Partying in Hong Kong/ Tsui, Pamela P. , pp. 07–32

Despite queer theory's intention to critically analyse the institution of heterosexuality, how heterosexual men and women are differently constrained by normativity—or potentially rupture it—is underexplored. Through an ethnography of sex partying, I integrate queer and feminist perspectives to examine how people navigate and cope with institutionalized heterosexuality and compulsory monogamy. This study finds a contradictory relationship between sex partygoers and normativity: They embrace the ideal of straight manhood and womanhood but simultaneously feel constrained by and desire to transgress it. Therefore, the bounded no normativity of sex partying, which allows the compartmentalization of normative and no normative desires, is instrumental in helping them cope with the contradiction. This paper contributes to gendering transnational queer sociology by highlighting the distinct experiences of men and women in relation to the regime of normalcy in Hong Kong.

- 63 Essentialized Utility: Organizational Adaptation to Diversity Initiatives/ Simon, Samantha J. , pp. 33–59

Contemporary U.S. organizations are increasingly adopting diversity initiatives. However, what diversity means and how these efforts are implemented remain contested. This article uses the case of women in policing to examine how organizational diversity initiatives can either alleviate or entrench existing inequalities. Drawing on 1 year of ethnographic fieldwork at four police training academies and 40 in-depth interviews with officers, I argue that during the on boarding process, police departments use women to bolster the existing masculine organizational ethos of policing. Police departments use a framework of essentialized utility, in which essentialized perspectives of minoritized groups—in this case, women—are used to reify organizational inequalities.

- 64 Policing Motherhood, Controlling Families: Race, Reproductive Governance, and Trans Women's Parenting Rights/ Siegel, Derek P. , pp. 60–88

Transgender people face multiple challenges to securing and maintaining parenting rights, yet most studies on trans parenthood focus exclusively on trans masculine people's experiences and feature majority white samples. To address gendered and racialized gaps in knowledge, I conducted 54 semi-structured interviews with trans women in the United States, who parent or wish to parent, across race and class backgrounds. Using the intersectional frameworks of racialized transmisogyny and reproductive governance, I examine the barriers to parenting rights that trans women encounter in adoption and custody disputes. I find that judges and case workers use racist and anti-trans stereotypes when evaluating "parental fitness," which (1) institutionalizes racialized transmisogyny in the law, (2) increases the regulatory power of legal institutions, and (3) reinforces dominant mothering ideologies. I also discuss how everyday people (i.e., partners and family members) co-construct the legal and symbolic meaning of motherhood, illustrating the centrality of trans reproduction to the policing of trans and other minoritized communities.



- 65 Stories of Antiracist Gay/Lesbian Gender Alliance: Articulating Intersectional Solidarity in the 1980s/ Broad, K. L. , pp. 89–113

This article shows how in the early 1980s, Black and White Men Together (BWMT), an interracial group of antiracist gay men, constructed relations of connection with antiracist feminist lesbians of color. My analysis details how BWMT engaged in storytelling through newsletters, reporting their creation of relations of connection with Black, “Third World,” antiracist lesbians and constructing these relations as a multidimensional gender alliance involving important processes of creating networks of reciprocal solidarity, forging political alignment, and creating intentional spaces of camaraderie to sustain intersectional solidarity. This research substantively expands our understanding of U.S. LGBTQ+ intersectional movement(s) activism with the concept of multidimensional gender alliance and analytically expands our understandings of intersectional solidarity.



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- 66 The Myth of Mutuality: Decision-Making, Marital Power, and the Persistence of Gender Inequality/ Wong, Jaclyn S.; Daminger, Allison , pp. 157–186

Invisible power—the ability to resist changing one’s behavior because of an unspoken consensus that the status quo is natural or inevitable—upholds gender inequality in different-gender marriages. Yet the “consensus” that Aafke Komter documented more than 30 years ago—one in which both men and women endorsed male primacy and believed it natural for women to enjoy housework and men to pursue professional ambition—has weakened among the college-educated, upper middle class. We ask: What is the new consensus upholding gendered power imbalances among contemporary highly educated couples? We draw on 112 interviews with members of 44 such couples making career and family decisions to update theorizing on invisible power. Examination of decision-making processes and outcomes across work and family domains over time, including in cases of apparent agreement, reveals the consensus now upholding men’s interests to be couples’ conviction they are practicing mutuality. Partners’ belief that they are mutually pursuing both individuals’ and the family’s best interests by emphasizing “us” and balancing a decision portfolio helps them overlook unsuccessful attempts to minimize power imbalances. Progress toward gender equality among different-gender couples will likely remain stalled as long as efforts to practice mutuality overshadow critical evaluation of their success.

- 67 Couple Identity Work: Collaborative Couple hood, Gender Inequalities, and Power in Naming/ Sue, Christina A.; vasquez-tokos, Jessica; Núñez, Adriana c. , pp. 187–215

The study of baby naming is valuable for understanding how gender inequality is reproduced in families. Often treated as an event, baby naming also represents an important social and cultural process that can reveal gendered dynamics in couple decision-making. Baby naming, which represents a highly visible and symbolic family milestone, is a strategic site in which to examine how couple identities are constructed—for self, partner, and others—through the naming process and through stories parents tell of how they named the baby. Drawing on 46 interviews with U.S. Mexican-origin heterosexual parents, we expose tensions that result when practices do not align with a desired (egalitarian) couple identity and detail the ensuing cognitive, emotion, and narrative labor that parents—primarily women—perform to reconcile inconsistencies. We introduce the concept of couple identity work, or the work involved in creating and projecting a desired impression of a relationship for multiple audiences, to provide a theoretical framework for these gendered dynamics. We show how couple identity work is enacted—and power expressed—through men’s and women’s strategies of action/inaction and storytelling, and how this work reproduces and obscures gendered power and inequality in the intimate context of baby naming.

- 68 “I Am A Feminist, But . . .” Practicing Quiet Feminism in the Era of Everyday Backlash in South Korea/ Jung, Gowoon; Moon, Minyoung , pp. 216–243

In this study, we investigate the practice of feminism among young South Korean women in the era of backlash. Drawing on interviews with 40 female college students in South Korea, we found that most of the participants self-identify as feminists who engage in

feminist activities primarily in private offline settings on their college campuses. To understand this phenomenon of quiet feminism, which contradicts the global trend of postfeminist attitudes and online feminism, we link the students' offline practice of everyday feminism with what we term everyday backlash. Our findings reveal that these young women have encountered widespread antifeminist sentiments in both online and offline everyday contexts since the rapid popularization of feminism in South Korea in the late 2010s. We argue that this pervasive everyday backlash not only motivates the students to create safe spaces within their college campuses but also discourages them from publicly disclosing their feminist identities. Through this research, we contribute to the literature on contemporary feminist practice and its relationship with backlash by offering a nuanced understanding of the local context in South Korea.

- 69 Loosening The Grip: Delegation of Financial Decision-Making to Spouse in Old Age/ Hohn, Sylvain; Basu, Anup , pp. 244–275

Gender inequality in control of household finances is a well-known phenomenon. We investigate whether such imbalance also extends to the delegation of financial decision-making (FDM) responsibilities to one's spouse in old age. This study reports the results from an incentivized delegation experiment among Australian couples of age  $\geq 60$  years. Participants were required to complete FDM tasks, which they had the option of completing independently or delegating to their spouse. The odds of women delegating to their spouse were found to be nearly 25 times higher than that of men. This gender difference in delegation was not explained by differences in financial competence, education, age, or cognitive status. The likelihood of delegation increased with the financial competence of the spouse. Individuals who had the option to delegate selectively delegated more often and earlier than those who could only delegate irrevocably. Our evidence suggests that gender norms and control play a dominant role in the delegation of FDM within older couples and can override specialization or efficiency considerations.

- 70 Women And Forests In Solidarity: A Multispecies Companionship Case From the Aegean Forests of Turkey/ Bozok, Nihan , pp. 276–298

Building on a feminist multispecies perspective, this article examines the interwoven relationships between forest ecosystems and the lives of rural women living along the Aegean coast of Turkey. Ethnographic fieldwork conducted in the Aegean region's forest settlements between 2018 and 2022 forms the basis of this study. I focus on three ways women highlight their entanglements with forests into weaving conjoined webs of life: First, rural women's recollections of the forest and their understanding of the forest's ecosystem are firmly rooted in the ways they have grown up, providing a cultural context for women's subsequent forest advocacy. Second, rural women have a profound understanding of the edible plants that grow in the forests. Third, because they regularly forage with other women, rural women form deep relationships with other women and with the forests themselves. I show how these three factors—childhood memories, expertise in foraging and forest management, and deep ties of sociality—provide the impetus for rural women to protest deforestation. Such protests are driven by a collective concern for their own well-being, the good of their communities, and for forests.

- 71 Dr Hunter's Plague: Gender, Race and Photography in British India/ Arnold, David , pp. 7–27

From politicians to physicians, the opening years of India's plague epidemic (1896–1900) have conventionally been treated as a male-dominated sphere of activity. This article argues for the centrality of female actors—as doctors, nurses and 'ward ayahs'—and across the social spectrum from dalits to Europeans. Photography demonstrates the prominence and diversity of women's plague roles; it helps to complicate a text-based narrative of plague at the intersection of gender, race, class and colonialism. Images augment and not merely document. The value of combining visual and textual sources is underscored by focusing on a single institution, the General Plague Hospital in Poona (Pune) and on a woman doctor, Marion Hunter, whose photographic presence and whose views in and after India highlight the tensions and contradictions of a gendered as well as racialised imperial presence.

- 72 Gender During the Pandemic: Issues at Stake/ Suneetha, A. , pp. 28–42

The COVID pandemic exacerbated existing inequalities as well as those between researchers and the researched. This experiential note discusses the ethical dilemmas and practical difficulties that I as a feminist researcher and activist have encountered between 2020 and 2022. This was while in the process of my research as well as engagement with COVID-19-related advocacy work. I argue that, even as one was displaced from one's status as a researcher, these skills were required in advocacy with various branches of the government. Formal research investigations involving fieldwork required that I attend to the needs of the 'researched' through humanitarian outreach and advocacy. Such a displacement of the identity of the researcher, I argue, points to the issues at stake in doing feminist research, even during ordinary times.

- 73 An Auto ethnographic Reflection of COVID-19 and/as Biographical Disruption/ Ghai, Anita; Tenneti, Suchaita , pp. 43–60

The COVID-19 pandemic and concomitant measures to mitigate it have exacerbated pre-existing social inequalities and have proven to be major disruptive phenomena at both individual and community levels. People with disabilities and chronic illnesses have been some of the most drastically impacted social groups during the pandemic whose isolation and vulnerabilities have often been compounded in the wake of the massive social upheaval. Through an auto ethnographic account of a woman with a physical disability in India who has also survived polio, heart disease, cancer and COVID-19, this article captures some of the complex and conflicting emotions and experiences of a life lived at the intersections of various embodied precocities and demonstrates how a social disaster can itself constitute a biographical disruption.

- 74 The Impact of COVID on Kerala Fish-vending Women/ Jament, Johnson; Osella, Caroline , pp. 61–84

This article discusses women's role in Kerala's small-scale marine fishing industry and changes that took place during COVID-19. Pandemic conditions enabled and accelerated the restructuring of Kerala's fishing industry practices, leaving marginal groups even

more marginal. Small-scale producers and sellers were edged out by larger players in a new wholesale market. Meanwhile, female vendors who utilised public transport and face-to-face sales methods found themselves locked out from new retail methods introduced during the pandemic, which made use of smartphone apps, online platforms, and private light vehicles. Underemployed workers with access to digital technology and mobility moved in to fill the lockdown retail gap. The Gulf states' continuing squeeze on jobs and resultant migration slow-down contributed to these trends. Female fish-vending activity has also been affected by Kerala's acceleration of bourgeois respectability norms. The state government's modernisation and centralisation policies also led to the shrinking of women's spaces in fish auction markets. Recent inequalities in digital and mobility access sit on top of longstanding entrenched class and status inequities and conservative gender norms, while the enduring chronic 'wicked problem' of Kerala's unemployment levels demands urgent attention.

- 75 Counting the Numbers: Nationalism and the Question of Surplus Women/ Pan, Anandita , pp. 85–101

The 'evils' of sati and widowhood constituted two of the major elements of social reformation and women's progress in India in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These 'evils' were rooted in casteist and sexist ideologies and practices, aspects that remained largely unrecognised by the dominant reformist agendas. The narrative of social progress of women focused only on the upper-class and upper-caste women whose lives were prescribed by brahmanical and patriarchal ideals of chastity, purity, and devotion to husbands. Consequently, 'patriarchy' was interpreted as a traditional system oppressing the upper-class upper-caste women. The social reformations such as companionate marriage, widowhood, sati, were practices predominant only in upper-caste communities. It is also significant to note that social reformation was intended to revive the 'great' Hindu tradition and rid it of its bad elements exhibited through the practice of sati. This article, through a comparative reading of the discourses on sati and widowhood by Raja Rammohan Roy and the idea of endogamy by B. R. Ambedkar, examines the roots of brahmanical patriarchy to delineate the gendering of caste in imposing a false homogeneity of nationalism.

- 76 Gender Portrayals and Perceptions in the New Age Society of India/ Barthwal, Sunil , pp. 102–121

There has recently been a shift in the portrayal of women in Indian media, from a domestic background and docile image to a more professional and empowered representation. This study explores whether such changed portrayals in the media are also positively perceived and if there is an impact on the status of women in the social reality of India. The study examined gender perceptions through focus group discussions with participants from Gen X and Gen Z cohorts. Gen Z, conditioned in an age of technology and liberalisation, was expected to have different gender perceptions than Gen X, conditioned in a pre-liberalised traditional India. The discussions revealed the participants' complexities, dilemmas and compromises regarding gender stereotypes and the modern versus traditional portrayal of women in Indian media. While Gen X participants were bound to old gender structures and equations, the iconoclastic Gen Z participants appeared to be on setting a change in gender perceptions of India.

- 77 Interested Gazes and Invisible Audiences: Judicial Narratives on Sex Work/ Rai, Stuti , pp. 159–176

The dominant paradigm in Indian legal review is doctrinal and empirical. However, judgements of the Supreme Court of India are often couched in rhetoric and literary sources. In this regard, the law and literature paradigm has created different interpretive tools, including law as literature and literature in law. These are the tools that I utilise to explore how sex work is understood and how the ideal sex worker is conceptualised by the judges of India. Judgements on sex work are particularly conducive to a law and literature analysis as in these cases, the courts are called upon to justify legal rationality, forcing them to draw upon popular morality, best reflected in persuasive literature. Judicial dicta in four cases that have come before the Supreme Court over the span of half a century (1964–2012) are analysed to provide a cultural critique of the post-colonial and neoliberal sensibilities that underlie judicial discourses.

- 78 Reading Between the Lines: Maternity Benefit Law in India and Whom It Truly Benefits/ Dadke, Suma , pp. 177–199

The gendered and performative role of motherhood, an ideal of patriarchy, has been codified into the letter of the law. A feminist lens has been applied to understand how motherhood and patriarchy interact within the maternity benefit law in India, which is primarily regulated by the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, as amended in 2017. An attempt is made to determine whether the extant law truly benefits all women equally without discrimination. It is critically examined, using an intersectional approach, to ascertain whether it ensures the welfare of all women or is yet another systemic attempt to further the patriarchy. The progress of the law is evaluated and corporate maternity benefit policies in India are analysed to assess whether the law requires revisions and of what type to achieve its true objective.

- 79 Constructing Adolescent Sexuality Through Schooling: Analysis on Gender Socialisation in All-girls Schools at the Secondary Level in Kerala/ Narendran, Sathya , pp. 200–223

This article seeks to understand the processes of gender socialisation in schools. The article endeavours to analyse the construction of normative femininity in the strict contours of schooling and to capture the response of students to it. The context of this article is the critique of the celebrated Kerala development model, suggesting that a better status for women continues to be a challenging process. The research was carried out on adolescents in two all-girls schools in Kerala, a convent private school and a government school. Qualitative research methods were used for the study. The research foregrounds how schooling continues to perpetuate the social control of girls that undercuts the efforts and aims of the curriculum. The article presents key aspects of the socialisation of female sexuality that spawns a stereotypical and rigid femininity.

- 80 Social Implications of In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) on Women in India/ Raj, Papia , pp. 224–237

In vitro fertilisation (IVF) is a technological innovation enabling infertile women to conceive through medical procedures. However, social inferences of IVF need to be

contextualised within gender dynamics, especially in India. Though several studies have examined specific social aspects of IVF none have delineated the combination of determinants as well as implications of IVF for women. The present study assesses various social factors influencing choices for infertility treatments like IVF, and also the implications for women undergoing IVF. For a nuanced understanding of these conditions in the larger social context of India, 41 studies discussing important indices like gender dynamics, health status, power relations and social vulnerabilities of women experiencing IVF have been critically reviewed. Based on the review we contend that social pressures, gender identity, desire for a biological child, fear of marital discord and loss of self-esteem are most important factors determining such decisions.



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- 81 The Hindrances to Income Growth of Smallholder Sunflower Farmers in Tanzania: A Market Knowledge Aperture Cause?/ Rugeiyamu, Rogers; Chilingo, Kidney; Chisanza, Joachim , pp. 7–23

Income growth for smallholder sunflower farmers is persistently dominating the writing due to the crop's contribution to the national economy. Ponders are proceeding to divulge challenges going up against smallholder sunflower agriculturists around the globe. This study assesses whether the market knowledge gap hinders the income growth of smallholder sunflower farmers. Kongwa district of Tanzania is recruited as a study area. A Case study is used as a design where data were collected through interviews, Focus Group Discussion and observation from thirty (30) participants. The findings discovered that limited market knowledge attributed to an unfriendly selling system affects the income growth of smallholder sunflower farmers. Also, poverty and lack of a communication platform between the LGA and smallholder sunflower farmers are other discovered factors. The study recommends changing the modality of using middlemen to allow farmers to sell crops directly to the buying companies, establish farmer's cooperatives and ensure continuous sharing between smallholder sunflower farmers and the LGA.

- 82 Agricultural Producer Markets in the Maldives: How Poor Market Connectivity Between Farmers and the Markets can be Enhanced/ Driessche, Paul Arthur Van, pp. 24–44

In 2018, a multisite case study investigated the agricultural challenges faced by Maldivian farmers and farming stakeholders. The study interviewed a total of 373 farmers and stakeholders from 51 islands across 15 atolls. In their own words, farmers and stakeholders identified factors in macro and micro levels agricultural systems that are related to poor connectivity between farmers and the markets. This research article conducts a deeper investigation into these factors using the Ecological Systems Theory. In this investigation, the data clearly reveal that any efforts towards market connectivity resolution must address the individual within the context of the greater, extrinsic challenges present in the interrelated systems of farming in the Maldives. While the individual is placed at the smallest level of a greater system, and the interconnections of the larger systems are great in impact, the individual is ultimately the decision maker on what and how things work, and how effective they will be. In this article, five recommendations are identified to enhance farmers' connectivity to markets. This first-person perspective of smallholder farmers is an essential contribution to understanding what measures are needed to address connectivity challenges between Maldivian farmers and the markets they would like to supply.

- 83 Supply Chain Vulnerability and Resilience: A Case of Harvested Shrimp from Kerala, India/ Vijay T., Asha; Raju, M. S. , pp. 45–64

Recurrent natural disasters, the impact of economic turbulences, the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors have heightened concerns about constructing resilient systems. Supply chain weaknesses have been demonstrated in the past, encouraging the creation of preventative capabilities to retain competitiveness and respond to changes in both macro and local contexts. Examining the multiple risks presented in the culture and



marketing of shrimp, as well as the measures taken by shrimp farmers to overcome the disturbances (producers of the group's most valuable commodity), could provide insight into the current situation and aid in decision-making. Agility, distribution network structure, visibility relating producers to final consumers, communication between supply chain partners, sharing of benefits and uncertainties, global mapping and collaborative actions across supply chain partners were the drivers of supply chain resilience. Uncertainties associated with demand, supply, operational and environmental conditions were identified as supply chain vulnerability factors. The shrimp farmers maintain a balance between dependability measures and risks in the industry and continue the business, knowing that overcoming vulnerability could result in even higher susceptibilities.

- 84 Local Food Entrepreneurship in Rural India: Modelling the Challenges/ Panghal, Anupama; Sindhu, Shilpa; Dahiya, Shweta , pp. 65–84

Local food entrepreneurship plays a vital role in promoting and distributing regional foods. To link local food with the market, there is a need to develop local food systems that promote and support local food, its distribution and consumption. Local food entrepreneurs are constrained due to various factors prevailing in the entire rural ecosystem, which hinders their prospects of business expansion. This study focussed on identifying the commercially feasible local food products that can be produced and marketed by local entrepreneurs. Also, this study is an effort towards identifying and analysing the challenges perceived by local food entrepreneurs in rural India. The challenges were identified through a literature review and the personal interviews of the rural entrepreneurs and were then modelled through the DEMATEL (decision-making trial and evaluation laboratory) approach. The modelling of challenges helped in identifying the priority areas, based on which focused strategies were suggested for the promotion of local food entrepreneurs. From this study, it emerged that product quality issues, lack of buyers and inconsistent government policies are the most significant challenges perceived by entrepreneurs. This study also includes resource mapping for the local entrepreneurs to present a comprehensive scenario of the prevailing ecosystem.

- 85 Impacts of Training Rural Dairy Producers in India: Role of Dairy Vigyan Kendra/ Misra, Harekrishna; Parida, Yashobanta; Jadav; Sanjay J. , pp. 85–105

The state of Gujarat, home to a vibrant network of dairy cooperatives, plays a significant role in milk production, accounting for 7.69% of the country's total milk output. It ranked fifth in milk production among all Indian states and union territories in 2017–18. The state piloted a unique and specialised dairy extension program for dairy farmers through Dairy Vigyan Kendra (DVK) to promote dairy farming in its Panchmahal district. The DVK aimed to train rural dairy farmers and improve their socio-economic conditions. This study examines how DVK interventions increase the income from dairy, the herd size and milk production of the beneficiary farmers in the Panchmahal district. The result shows that farmers' participation in DVK training increased their income from dairying. Further, the results highlighted that DVK intervention significantly increased milk production in the Panchmahal district. Our results conclude that the government can replicate the DVK training model in other districts of Gujarat, helping millions of dairy farmers enhance their skills and obtain more output and income from dairy farming.

- 86 Climate Change-induced Salinity Intrusion and Livelihood Nexus: A Study in Southwest Satkhira District of Bangladesh/ Fahim, Tasneem Chowdhury; Arefin, Sabrina, pp. 106–123

Anthropogenic climate change-induced extremities have turned southwest Bangladesh into one of the most climate-vulnerable regions of the Earth. The southwestern coastal Satkhira District of the country is alarmingly exposed to climate change-driven salinity intrusion. This research attempted to explore the challenges faced by the informal livelihood-dependent households in the presence of salinity, changing livelihood patterns of the salinity-affected households and the nature of sector-specific adaptation strategies aimed at improving livelihood in Satkhira District. Based on the survey of 180 households and the in-depth interview, focus group discussion and participatory rural appraisal, this study uncovers different livelihood challenges faced by the local households. Increasing salinity forced 27% of households to change their livelihood patterns. Livelihood adaptation strategies of the local households are analysed according to their opinions. Saline-tolerant crop cultivation has emerged as a very effective adaptation measure in the area, where replacing crop fields with fish enclosures is not creating a substantial impact on the local community. The importance of nature-based solution has increased in recent days to adapt to the impacts of climate change. More than half of the respondents are satisfied with the recent adaptation initiatives championed by the government and non-government organisations.

- 87 Development of a Model for the Assessment of the Performance of Rural Producers' Cooperatives: A Case Study of Isfahan Province, Iran/ Najafi, Maryam; Nouri, Hedayat; Amini, Amir Mozafar , pp. 124–144

The present study pursues a two-fold objective: to evaluate the performance of rural producers' cooperatives in Isfahan Province, Iran, and to develop a general model for this purpose. To develop a model for the comprehensive assessment of rural producers' cooperatives in Isfahan, the survey method is employed in the present descriptive-analytical study and use is made of an especially-designed questionnaire as well as the structural equation modelling. Efforts are also made to include in a most comprehensive and systematic manner all the parameters involved in rural producers' cooperatives. The statistical population comprises all the membership and decision-making bodies (including the General Assembly, Board of Directors and Inspectors) of the cooperatives in Isfahan. The sample size as determined by Cochran's formula comprises 375 people. Sampling is accomplished using a two-stage stratified and cluster sampling with simple random sampling included. Results indicate that 63.36% of the cooperatives investigated record a satisfactory performance and that, from among the independent variables, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) behaviour records the highest direct impact on the performance of the cooperatives. Finally, the model fit indices reveal the capability of the proposed model in performing a comprehensive assessment of rural producers' cooperatives.

- 88 Finances of Gram Panchayats in West Bengal: Disparities and Determinants/ Chattopadhyaym, Seemantini , pp. 145–164

Acknowledging the importance of fiscal decentralisation, this paper evaluates the fiscal performances of all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) in Birbhum and North 24 Parganas of West Bengal and identifies the determinants of disparities in their fiscal performances. Our analysis reveals that smaller GPs generate greater own source revenues per person, receive higher grants per person and spend more per person. Several factors including

demographic characteristics, socio-economic characteristics and geographical locations shape the needs and priorities of the GPs and, therefore, are important for explaining the variations in their fiscal performances. The regression results reveal that willingness to pay taxes is greater among literate people and also the incidence of expenditure is significantly higher for GPs with higher literacy rates. The proportion of agricultural labour and concentration of scheduled caste/scheduled tribes population in the GPs show a negative impact on the collection of own source revenue and also on per capita expenditure but a positive impact on the grants and transfers received from higher levels of governments.



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- 89 Ethical Theories in Business Ethics: A Critical Review/ Melé, Domènec , pp. 15–25

Numerous ethical theories have been proposed as a foundation of business ethics, and this often brings about appreciable perplexity. This article seeks to identify specific problems for a sound foundation of this discipline. A first problem is this multiplicity of ethical theories, each with its own metaethics, often accepted without a serious discussion of their philosophical grounds. A second problem is the fragmentation of theories; some centred on duties or obligations, others on consequences, virtues, or moral sentiments. In addition, some theories focus on universal principles, while others take the singularity of each situation as their focal point. A third problem is that not every ethical theory covers the personal, organizational and societal dimensions of business ethics, and this introduces reductionism. These problems cannot be satisfactorily addressed through ‘ethical pluralism’, in which all theories are accepted, without falling into ethical relativism. ‘Ethical pragmatism’, which welcomes any ethical theory only on the basis of their practicality, is also questioned. Furthermore, there is the problem of integrating ethics into business theory, which is often extrinsic to the economic function. After analysing these problems, the article concludes by exploring some proposals that might serve to build a sound and complete ethical theory which includes human goods (objective values), principles (or norms) and virtues. The necessity of reconsidering the human action for a closer integration of ethics into business theory is also suggested.

- 90 Bring Back Philosophy: The Roots of Both Business and Ethics/ Jasinska, Aleksandra , pp. 26–31

Managers face increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous situations that are more and more challenging to navigate. Ethical decision-making has become particularly complicated considering that codes, frameworks and protocols have proven deficient in resolving moral dilemmas. Managers’ unpreparedness to handle such challenges reflects the ineffectiveness of business ethics education, calling for new approaches towards training managers. This article makes a case for transforming business ethics education by taking it back to its roots. This implies the re-incorporation of its foundational discipline: philosophy. Philosophy offers a rigorous approach for decision-making, which helps managers face the unknown. It helps them analyse situations from different perspectives, reconsider how things are done and examine the underlying premises of their thinking. It can strengthen one of the most central managerial competencies: the ability to reason, especially ethically. As the foundational discipline of business, ethics and their intersect, philosophy is uniquely positioned to elevate business ethics education for managers at all levels. It can help current and future managers to reflect more deeply and critically on the ethical issues they face.

- 91 Corporate Accountability. Not Moral Responsibility/ Rønnegard, David , pp. 32–37

The aim of this article is to briefly spell out why corporate moral agency is a fallacy and to show how this conclusion should shift the field of business ethics more in the direction of political philosophy and the rule of law. An argument based on a false assumption can be valid, but it cannot be sound. If corporate moral agency is a fallacy, and thus also moral prescriptions for corporations, how do we salvage the field of business ethics? To the

extent that business ethics is about corporate behaviour (rather than individual managerial behaviour), the field can shift its foundational paradigm from ethics (which requires the attributes of moral agency) to legal accountability (which can be imposed instrumentally on corporate legal agents). By letting our elected representatives legislate the norms of acceptable corporate behaviour we can hold corporate legal entities legally accountable. What these norms should be then becomes the central focus of business ethics seen through the lens of political philosophy.

92 Some Modest Proposals for Improving Business Ethics from Primarily an Aristotelian Perspective/ Koehn, Daryl , pp. 38–51

The long-term health of business ethics is suspect. In particular, there are some troubling trends within the discipline's methodology that should be closely monitored and, in some cases, countered. Furthermore, business ethicists and management theorists should take some steps to make business ethics more robust and more relevant to actual business practice. Part 1 of this article argues that, while the dominance of the social science approach should be curtailed, relations between normative and empirical scholars need not be hostile; on the contrary, there are some modest ways in which the two approaches could complement each other more than they have to date. Part 2 examines why business ethics needs more systems thinking. Part 3 explores why business ethicists in general should follow the lead of some of our colleagues who are engaging in powerful and influential research with direct and immediate practical applications. The article closes with a few modest suggestions for enhancing business ethics theorizing and provides some concrete ways for scholars to become more involved with business practitioners and business practice and to learn from the latter in ways that can productively feed research streams.

93 After Business Ethics/ Dierksmeier, Claus , pp. 52–58

Lamenting the deplorable state of business ethics is, itself, a staple of the deplorable state of business ethics. But if, as its many critics claim, business ethics continuously fails to deliver on its promise, what could take its place in management education? After business ethics—How else can we integrate ethics into the curriculum? This article argues that an ethical grounding of business theory and corporate practice requires a critique of conventional economics, replacing the mechanistic paradigm that predominated economics over the last 200 years with a humanistic alternative.

94 Freedom, Markets and Moral Motivation: Towards a More Adequate Account of the Implicit Morality of the Market/ Bernacchio, Caleb , pp. 59–74

The market failures approach is amongst the most influential theories of business ethics. Its interest within the field is, in large part, a result of its rejection of moralism and any sort of applied ethics approach, favouring, in contrast, a focus on the institutionally embodied goal of economic activity, which it takes to be that of Pareto efficiency. From this articulation of the goal, or purpose, of markets, a set of efficiency imperatives are derived that are taken to comprise the implicit morality of the market. However, the market failures approach has not adequately explained the basis of market actors' moral motivation, that is, the reasons individuals have to self-consciously adhere to moral norms governing market transactions. This failure, I argue, stems from its misspecification of the purpose of the market. After explaining this failure to address the problem of moral motivation, I argue that a distinctive mode of freedom understood as a

form of self-authorship is better seen as the purpose of the market, a goal that actually animates individual market participants. I then argue that this notion of freedom is intrinsically linked to a conception of responsibility and that this notion of responsibility can be more adequately conceptualized as involving a set of market virtues focused on promoting mutually beneficial transactions. Thus, the link between freedom and responsibility, stemming from an individual's need to legitimize their freedom in a market context, provides the basis for a self-conscious sense of moral motivation. As such, this approach better captures the implicit morality of the market while also addressing the problem of moral motivation.

- 95 Reimagining Business Ethics as Ethos-Driven Practice: A Deweyan Perspective/ Gohl, Christopher , pp. 75–90

As business ethics is grappling with criticisms of its relevance for ethical practice, it may find perspective and direction in various conceptions of ethos. While 'ethics' is rooted in 'ethos', a term with a long and rich history of interdisciplinary research, conceptions of ethos are so far scarcely discussed in business ethics. The purpose of this conceptual article is to explore the potential of a pivot towards business ethics as an ethos-driven practice, drawing on John Dewey's work. First, it introduces four conceptions of ethos from interdisciplinary research and explores their varied resonance in business ethics. Second, it offers a unified conception of ethos that builds on John Dewey's approach to economics, moral life and ethics, particularly on his understanding of habits and forms of valuation. It is then argued that understanding ethos in terms of 'valued modes of embedded, embodied and associational conduct' encourages business ethics to engage in the intelligent, practical and meaningful reconstruction of evolving business practices. The article concludes that an 'ethotical turn' for business ethics would not only invigorate practical, corporeal and environmental perspectives but also open the field to interdisciplinary insights and ideas.



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- 96 A Study of the Relationship Between Organizational Culture and Psychological Capital and Its Impact Using Systematic Literature Review/ Aggarwal, Saumya , pp. 105–118

The article discusses the relationship between organizational culture and psychological capital through a systematic literature review. The exploratory research methodology is adopted to identify and study the existing gap in the available literature on the relationship between organizational culture and psychological capital from year 2000 to 2021. The articles from the ‘Scopus’ and ‘Web of Science’ databases were selected for the review. The literature review mentions a positive interplaying role between organizational culture and PsyCap that influences several factors including work happiness, job performance, Organizational Citizenship Behaviour, burnout, innovation, etc. The article explores several antecedents and consequences of the two-way relationship between organizational culture and PsyCap.

- 97 Cognitive (In)justice and Decoloniality in Amitav Ghosh’s *The Nutmeg’s Curse*/ Karmakar, Goutam , pp. 119–133

Amitav Ghosh’s *The Nutmeg’s Curse* (2021) is an insightful deliberation on the layered inequities and asymmetries created by the intersection of colonialism and anthropogenic activities. In *The Nutmeg’s Curse*, Ghosh conceives the present-day climate and ecological crisis as fallouts of colonial thinking and its manifestations in dominant epistemic and ethical constructions. This article underscores Ghosh’s critique of the Eurocentric discourses for their instrumentality in producing the totalitarian binaries of human and non-human, in which the ‘human’ was always the whites and the ‘non-human’ comprised all ‘others’—the non-whites, indigenous people, nature and ecology. In attributing agency and signifying authority to the white capitalist, this dualistic thinking has always conceived of the ‘others’ as non-humans—those who could be objectified, commodified and tampered with. This article explores how Ghosh repudiates this colonialist monolithic demarcation, which, in compliance with the discourse of the Anthropocene, had annihilated non-Western forms of signification, knowledge and ethics. The article focuses on how the systemic othering of Western modernity’s episteme had been incremental, leading to occurrences of ‘testimonial injustices’ and ‘hermeneutical injustices’—which had culminated in severe forms of epistemicide and unleashed, what Boaventura de Sousa Santos terms ‘cognitive injustice’—relegating indigeneity and ecology to precarious conditions. In accordance with this, this article argues that Ghosh envisages a critical necessity to dismantle the matrix of Western capitalist modernity and its associated narrative of the Anthropocene and claims for a conceptualization of decolonial ecological ethics that would prioritize an encompassing of the episteme produced by the ‘other’. An engagement with the indigenous voices and a restoration of non-Western modes of knowledge production are crucial, as they can offer new ethical dimensions to envision ecology and life with its multiplicities and facilitate ‘cognitive justice’ for the oppressed and unrepresented ‘other’.

- 98 How Does CSR Orientation of CEOs Associate with Financial Performance and Online Reputation: A Longitudinal Analysis/ Thakur, Shivani , pp. 134–149

This study aims to explore how CSR-related messages posted by CEOs on social media are beneficial in fostering social capital, which in turn impacts the FP and online



reputation of the firm. The study also examines whether there is any difference in FP due to sharing of CSR-related messages by CEOs before and during the pandemic. Hierarchical regression is used to examine the influence of CEOs CSR related tweets on FP and online reputation. The study reveals that by posting CSR-related messages on Twitter, CEOs can build social capital available on social media, which leads to better FP and online reputation. Findings also indicate that there is no statistically significant difference in FP and online reputation of the firm due to sharing of CSR-related messages by CEOs before and during the pandemic. Our research makes a significant addition to the empirical studies of CSR, social media and social capital theory.

99 Meaning Autonomy and Objective Meaning in Life/ K gler, Peter , pp. 150–159

Subjectivism states that meaning in life is determined by what subjects regard as meaningful. Objectivism denies this. The main argument against subjectivism is that it allows for seemingly worthless, or even immoral, sources of meaning. Objectivism, on the other hand, does not do justice to the role of subjective perspectives in the quest for meaning. This paper addresses the shortcomings of both positions by referring to the objective value of ‘meaning autonomy’, defined here as the freedom to determine for oneself what is meaningful in life. While the notion of meaning autonomy is compatible with realist objectivism, objectivity is understood in a non-realist sense in this paper, as being based on cultural standards of meaningfulness. Subjective meaning may be attached to ‘worthless’ activities, but it cannot contradict the moral norms of the society that grants its members meaning autonomy.

100 Religiosity, Spirituality or Environmental Consciousness? Analysing Determinants of Pro-environmental Religious Practices/ Chavan, Pravin; Sharma, Anil , pp. 160–187

This study examines factors influencing pro-environmental practices for Ganesh idol immersion, a major Hindu religious celebration. The study explores whether environmental consciousness or spiritual beliefs and values are antecedents of pro-environment religious practices adopted for the Ganesh idol immersion. The survey used validated scales to assess spiritual beliefs, spiritual values, environmental consciousness and behaviour, and religious practices. Confirmatory factor analysis and Cronbach alpha ensured spiritual beliefs and values, environmental consciousness and behaviour, and the scale’s reliability and validity. The study has established a positive relationship between spiritual values, environmental consciousness and behaviour and pro-environmental religious practices. Spiritual belief inversely influences pro-environmental religious practices. The two-stage cluster analysis classifies respondents as environmental stewardship, pro-environmentalist, environment and religious neutral, extrinsic religiousness and intrinsic religiousness, aligning with established theory. Segmenting respondents into profiles provides insights to develop focused pro-environmental messaging that resonates across diverse audiences. These findings offer important practical implications for policymakers and environmental agencies seeking to balance religious traditions and ecological impact. Finally, the study advocates religious environmentalism to foster pro-environmental behaviour.

101 Transforming Caste Domination and the Challenges of Structural Transformations and Transformation of Consciousness: Ambedkar, Shankara and Beyond/ Giri, Ananta Kumar , pp. 188–201



Caste is a multidimensional reality in history and society, and it has manifested itself through varieties of structures of domination which are simultaneously cultural, economic, political and ideological as caste has also been related in complex ways with structures of class and gender domination. These structures of domination have led to the annihilation of self and society. This led Ambedkar to challenge us for annihilating caste. For Ambedkar, annihilation of caste calls for the realization of each person as an individual and not just a caste person. It also calls for the destruction of caste privileges, discrimination and their scriptural legitimation. However, this call for annihilation mainly has been a structural project without enough attention to the project of transformation of consciousness—self and social. There is a hint of this in Ambedkar's Annihilation of Caste when he urges us to realize each one of us as unique individuals beyond the holes of caste which is further deepened in his Buddha and His Dhamma. Transformation of consciousness is also suggested in Adi Shankara's treatise on self, Atmastakam. The essay engages itself with Ambedkar, Shankara, Gandhi and Sri Aurobindo, among others, as they help us in the transformation of caste domination and present a new hermeneutics of self-realization and social liberation. It deals with the simultaneous challenges of structural transformation of caste as well as consciousness of caste at the levels of both self and society which can draw on multiple sources of critique, creativity and transformations in India and the world.



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- 102 Remittances and Economic Growth: Empirical Analysis from a Panel of Selected Asian Nations/ Dutta, Ujjal Protim; Saikia, Brajendra, pp. 5–23

This article's endeavour is to explore the consequences of remittances on the growth of an economy by employing a panel of 17 selected remittance-receiving Asian nations over the years, stretching from 1993 to 2017. Initially, the study used the panel unit root test to identify whether the variables are stationary or not. Subsequently, by using cointegration test, a long-run association among the variables was seen. Finding a long-run relationship, 'fully modified ordinary least square' method has been applied to examine the impact of remittances and other explanatory variables on the output per capita of Asian nations. The coefficient of remittances being positive and statistically significant implies that remittances enhance growth in these countries. Inflows of remittances to the Asian region are abundant and, considering the present trend of migration, it is likely to grow. To maximize the developmental effects of these inflows, developing pro-remittances in formal public and private infrastructure are a crucial policy target for governments in the region. Moreover, in addition to conventional determinants of growth like investment in human and physical capital, trade and foreign direct investment (FDI), Asian countries can increase their growth by mobilizing the remittances.

- 103 The Effect of Fragility on Labour Market Employment and Wages in the Philippines/ Leonardo A. Lanzona, Jr., pp. 24–50

Fragility refers to weak regional institutions that fail to respond to specific risks and needs of the community. The article aims to measure fragility and its effects on labour market employment and wages. The observed non-work-related migration is used to derive annual fragility indices for regions that are then incorporated into standard labour market employment and Mincer wage equations. The estimates indicate higher employment but lower wages in fragile regions. Under weak institutions, workers will decide to engage in alternative low-paying work arrangements in anticipation of conflict, environmental or income shocks. Furthermore, biases on effects of macroeconomic policies can be noted in regression estimates that do not control for fragility.

- 104 Fiscal Dominance and the Inflation Dynamics in Pakistan: An Empirical Analysis/ Batool, Irem; Chandia, Khurram Ejaz; Sarwar, Binesh; Iqbal; Muhammad Badar, pp. 51–71

The presence of high inflation coupled with a persistent and ever-increasing fiscal deficit is the key problem being faced by the developing economies. The fiscal dominance hypothesis suggests that a developing economy is prone to high persistent inflation when government authorities run huge persistent budget deficits and get them financed through money creation. The primary objective of the current study is to test and examine the presence of the fiscal dominance situation over the period 1971–2020. The current study has modelled inflation as a fiscally driven monetary phenomenon by combining monetary and fiscal variables. The study has used the autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL) technique to analyse the long-run and short-run dynamics in a unified framework. The empirical results point to strong and statistically significant long-term

relationships between budget deficits and money growth and between money creation and inflation. The study validates the presence of the fiscal dominance hypothesis in the case of a developing economy. The results imply that fiscal dominance handling through a realistic and continuous process of fiscal adjustments on the back of supported monetary policy is necessary for attaining and sustaining price stability in developing countries like Pakistan. In the context of public finance, a broad and wide-ranging tax reforms (increasing the tax base, designing an inflation-proof tax system, and improving tax administration and collection), rationalized government expenditures and privatization of loss-making state enterprises are crucial in establishing the trustworthy fiscal policy.

- 105 Social, Political and Cultural Remittances: Implications for the Origin and Destination Countries/ Ullah, A. K. M. Ahsan; Ferdous, Jannatul; Chattoraj, Diotima, pp. 72–88

Remittances have been one of the most critical components of the population migration debate. Since migration has been studied academically, the ‘remittance equals cash’ idea has dominated other types of remittances. This study focuses on in-kind remittances, which are transfers of goods and services sent by migrants (other than money) from their destination country. We examined the literature using content analysis. The research investigates how a nation takes shape through the injection of remittances in kind (RK) brought by ‘migrant populations’ of both origins and destinations, using empirical and theoretical evidence. RK are worth considering for a variety of reasons, the most important of which is that they play an essential part in international collectivist development. Second, they highlight the societal effects of migration. Third, they have a chance of gaining public support. With great transformative power, RK has the capacity to alter a nation’s economy, values and lifestyle. This article establishes for the first time, by re-conceptualizing conventional wisdom, that the major development paradigm shift that has occurred in Asia’s economies over the decades has been largely due to the contribution of RK brought and sent to by individuals such as Gandhi in India, Ho Chi Minh in Vietnam, Shinawatra in Thailand, Jose Rizal in the Philippines and Suu Kyi in Myanmar. We conducted qualitative research and relied heavily on secondary data sources. This article delves into a fresh idea about migration and remittances. This is a new addition to the migration and development scholarship.

- 106 The Failure of Constitution-making in Sri Lanka (2015–2019)/ Pushparajah, Nadarajah; Balamayuran, Malini , pp. 89–106

When the coalition government known as the National Unity Government of 2015 initiated the promulgation of a new constitution for Sri Lanka, it had embraced transparent and inclusive procedures that were never rehearsed in the constitutional politics since independence. As part of the progress, within one and half years’ time, the members of the steering committee set up by constitutional assembly, presented the interim proposals on the new constitution. Impressive progress was made by the government, yet the task of moving towards a new constitution experienced a deadlock and had to be discontinued. This article examines constraints experienced by the National Unity Government during 2015 and 2019 that at some point sabotaged the project of constitution-making. By utilizing the insights of Jon Elster in this regard, this qualitative study finds that political parties serving at both constitutional assembly and parliament have influenced the progress of the constitution-making and contributed to its failure. This study reveals that group interest and permanent passion (the loyalty to their own

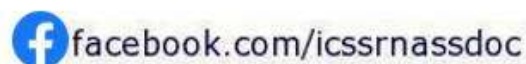
ethnic population) have encouraged certain groups and factions within the constitutional assembly and the parliament to wield it as a tool of political capital. Therefore, Government of Sri Lanka should rethink the parliament serving as constitutional assembly and adopt compulsory equilibrium between publicity and secrecy.

- 107 Disempowerment of Women: The Experience of Indian States/ Mishra, Tanusree; Banerjee, Tanmoyee, pp. 107–137

The present study uses National Family Health Survey, 2015–2016 (NFHS-4) data to compute a multidimensional disempowerment index for women from India. A state-level analysis shows that disempowerment levels of women from the states of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Bihar are found to be higher, with that of Bihar being the highest. Next, using a multilevel logistic model, the study explores the determinants of the level of women disempowerment. The probability of disempowerment is high among rural unemployed young Muslim women from joint families with low asset and education endowment and who witnessed parental violence as a child. Further, we found that the level of disempowerment of women from the state of Haryana is much higher as compared to its neighbouring state Punjab, where Haryana was an integral part of Punjab till 1966. A non-linear decomposition analysis reveals a significant contribution of Sikh religion on women's autonomy in Punjab vis-à-vis Haryana.

- 108 Comparative Performance of Cooperatives and Producer Companies in Member Producer's Income Enhancement: A Case Study of the Milk Sector in Indian Punjab/ Kaur, Manpreet; Singla, Naresh, pp. 138–159

Small producers' participation in milk collectives such as dairy cooperatives and producer companies is seen as one of the several ways to institutionalize the dairy value chains and leverage their production and marketing strengths. In this context, the study has explored procurement practices of a dairy cooperative vis-à-vis producer company that have recently ventured into direct procurement, processing and retailing of the milk in Indian Punjab and understood their economic impact on the milk producers in Indian Punjab. The findings of the study suggest that both the milk collectives offer higher prices to the producers, resulting in higher profitability than their counterpart non-member milk producers. The findings of the study suggest that the milk collectives need to take additional responsibilities in terms of advancing credit, introducing new production technologies to increase milk productivity and encouraging participation of women milk producers to make such linkages inclusive, effective and sustainable.



- 109 Does Volatility Cause Herding in Malaysian Stock Market? Evidence from Quantile Regression Analysis/ Loang, Ooi Kok; Ahmad, Zamri , pp. 197–215

This study examines the existence, tendency and determinants of herding in the Malaysian stock market under market stress from 2016 to 2020. This study adopts ordinary least square and quantile regression models to estimate herding. Three types of measurements are used to capture volatility, which are realized volatility, Parkinson volatility and Garman and Klass volatility. The result shows that herding exists in the Malaysian stock market. Investors are observed to herd stronger in the bearish (down) market condition compared to bullish (up) market condition, especially in the upper quantile ( $\tau > 50\%$ ). Realized volatility is found to be significant in every quantile except for the median quantile ( $\tau = 50\%$ ) and Garman and Klass's volatility is significant in the upper quantiles of 0.75 and 0.90. This study assists analysts and investors to formulate better investment strategies. Regulators and policymakers shall also control and regulate the herding behaviour of investors, which can deviate the stocks from their fundamentals. The existence of herding also violates the assumptions of EMH in assuming that investors are rational.

- 110 Whither Demarginalization, Inclusion and Effectiveness? Challenges of Local Government Planning in Nepal/ Acharya, Keshav Kumar; Zafarullah, Habib , pp. 216–235

The planning system in local government follows a formal process mandated by legislation and a corpus of regulations. While these strongly advocate citizen participation in selecting, implementing and managing development projects at the local level, in practice, the mechanism is hamstrung by an inadequate social inclusion perspective. The elites continue to play a significant role in the process that marginalizes women, Dalits or minorities in decision-making, resource mobilization or project prioritization. This has demeaned community ownership of development plans and affected the delivery of public services. Because of their perceived lack of capacity, the marginalized communities are denied leadership roles in local government committees and in mobilizing resources or prioritizing their demands. However, with federalism and a robust legal framework in place, the seven-step planning mechanism has, to some extent, been able to address the problem of social exclusion, marginalization and ineffectiveness in local level planning and budgeting.

- 111 Indonesia Sustainable Tourism Resilience in the COVID-19 Pandemic Era: Case Study of Five Indonesian Super- priority Destinations/ Wibowo, Joshi Maharani; Hariadi, Sugeng, pp. 236–258

This study was conducted to know Indonesia sustainable tourism resilience in the COVID-19 era. The research was done through a qualitative approach then analyzed based on the sentiment analysis and tourism resilience theory. The data used on this study are review data related to five super-priority tourism destinations in Indonesia, which are Borobudur Temple, Lake Toba, Labuan Bajo, Mandalika and Likupang since January 2020 to March 2021 from TripAdvisor. The result of this study shows that Indonesia sustainable tourism resilience during the pandemic COVID-19 era does not have strong enough resilience in facing the unstable recessions conditions and following

new tourism trends that have emerged in the pandemic era or after the pandemic ends. This study provides two recommendations to overcome those problems: (a) Indonesia needs to develop local tourism activities based on the e-tourism concept and (b) the tourism activity must integrate with digitalization and local wisdom to create local common branding in the destination.

- 112 Regional Organizations and States in International Relations: A Study of India's Approach Towards Regional Organizations/ Kumar, Suneel , pp. 259–277

Regional organizations (ROs), a key component of the global order, have become a significant tool for achieving foreign policy objectives of the member countries. Amidst the prevailing politico-strategic environment, a speckled range of national interests of the regional states and non-regional states has motivated or compelled the states to create, collaborate and participate in the functioning of ROs. India is associated with those ROs that possess objectives convenient in pursuit of its national interests and also identical to its foreign policy targets. In this context, this article argues that India's policy towards ROs is shaped by the Cold War and post-Cold War developments along with the emerging strategic and security environment in the twenty-first century. These developments have created a divergence or convergence of India's preferences and beliefs with other countries and have determined its participation in the ROs. It is participating actively in the functioning of ROs in pursuit of its national interests in diverse arenas. The ROs, especially South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and even European Union (EU) and Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) are the key instruments for India to achieve the objectives of respective Neighbourhood First Policy (NFP), Look East Policy (LEP), Act East Policy (AEP), Look North Policy (LNP), Connect Central Asia Policy (CCAP) and Indo-Pacific Vision (IPV) frameworks of its foreign policy towards South Asia, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, Indo-Pacific and the globe. Apart from economic, strategic and security cooperation in the regional context, the ROs can help India in bolstering its image and status as a key power in global affairs.

- 113 Institutional Strengthening of Farmer Producer Organizations and Empowerment of Small Farmers in India: Evidence from a Case Study in Maharashtra/ Lalitha, N.; Viswanathan, P. K.; Vinayan, Soumya, pp. 278–299

Small and marginal farmers contribute significantly to agricultural production and livelihoods all over the world. The small size of operational holdings, however, makes them highly susceptible to market risks leading to low levels of farm income. The farmer producer organizations (FPOs) are considered as effective mechanisms as they give voice to the small farmers, help overcome the challenges, by reducing the transaction costs and improving market access. However, in India, farmer collectives suffer from several institutional and structural impediments that affects their performance and thereby not resulting in empowerment and wellbeing of the farmers. In this regard, this article discusses the role of FPOs based on an empirical case study of Sahyadri Farmers Producer Company Ltd (SFPCL) from Maharashtra. The case study analyses the specificities of a private initiative such as Sahyadri, which focuses on making farming viable for farmers with small holdings in particular. The Sahyadri model contributes building the social capital of the farmers and improving the farm income and sustainable livelihoods. The article uses logistic regression to determine the factors influencing collective action and

the Cobb–Douglas (CD) Production function to highlight the economic benefits realized by the farmers from being members of the Farmers Producer Company in case of Sahyadri in Maharashtra.

- 114 Liberalisation and Technological Accumulation Strategy in Industries from Developing Economies: An Analysis of Indian Capital Goods Manufacturing Firms/ Kaur,Swarnjeet; Mehta,Swati, pp. 300–326

Technological accumulation is a complex process of correct mix of indigenous and/or imported technology, mainly for the firms belonging to developing economies after opening their economies. To understand these issues, the case of Indian capital goods industry is taken for the years 1994–1995 to 2015–2016. It was found that only 39% of the firms belonging to Indian capital goods sector are technologically active, that is, resorting to either embodied or disembodied technology acquisition. Multinomial logit model is estimated to find the impact of various variables in determining the strategy of technology accumulation. The factors such as age, size, technology spillovers and outward foreign direct investment were found to have a positive impact on the firms to resort to ‘indigenous R&D only’ as a strategy of technology accumulation. While ‘disembodied technology import only’ is influenced by factors like embodied and disembodied technology imports. However, strategy ‘both indigenous R&D and disembodied technology import’ is found to be influenced by foreign equity participation, mergers and acquisitions.

- 115 Technical Efficiency Analysis of Indian IT Industry: A Panel Data Stochastic Frontier Approach/ Bhat,Nadeem Ahmad; Kaur,Sandeep , pp. 327–348

Globalization and the development of modern technologies have led to the emergence of service trade. The success of Indian information technology (IT) has changed perception of globe about India and has captured the attention of the globe as it seems a paradox that a developing economy is emerging as a global hub for software exports. In the past three decades, the contribution of the Indian IT industry to national income, employment generation and offsetting the current account deficit is remarkable. In this consideration, the present study is an attempt to analyse the technical efficiency of the IT industry of India during the period 2000–2016 by applying panel data stochastic frontier analysis approach. The study reveals that foreign capital, age and profit ratio have a significant impact on mitigating the technical inefficiency of the IT industry while the research and development (R&D) expenditure has turned out statistically insignificant in determining efficiency. Indian IT industry is mostly driven by service exports which are not survivable in the long run. The study suggests that the Indian IT industry has to transform itself from low value-added to high value-added, from service-driven to product-driven.



- 116 Access of Urban Poor to Basic Services: Concerns of Sustainability and Equity/ Kundu, Amitabh; Rahaman, Meheub; Khan, Khalid , pp. 7–35

Sharp inequality in India's urban economy, coupled with an increasing reliance on the market system for infrastructure and basic services, has led to inadequate access to and poor quality of amenities for the urban poor. Disparities in welfarist interventions by central and state governments, manifest in changing administrative paradigm, have impacted inequality trends and patterns. Given this macro scenario, this article is designed to achieve two objectives: one, an analysis of the differential access of urban poor to select basic amenities and changes therein over time at the national level. An attempt is also made to bring out the deficits in amenities for households in different asset quintiles within the framework of India's inclusive development strategy. Two, to analyse the pattern of access to basic services across the states, their changing pattern over time, and probe into their interdependencies with indicators of environmental sustainability. The basic idea is to examine quantitatively the complex relationship between the utilisation of natural resources, environmental degradation, and the provisioning of basic amenities to the poor. The possibility of the poor being forced to use non-renewable resources, posing serious threats to their micro-environment and its long-term implications are discussed using available secondary data and over-viewing empirical research on the subject. The article concludes by proposing broad directions in which solutions to the twin problems of providing a decent living environment to the poor and ensuring ecological sustainability can be sought.

- 117 Political Reservation for Women: The (Un)making and Futures of the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023/ Kannabiran, Kalpana, pp. 36–53

This article attempts to contextualise the issue of political reservation for women and trace the decadal shifts in articulation of this demand over 27 years, that is, since 1996, when it was first introduced as the 81st Amendment and defeated, until its passage as the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023. The wider contexts of the struggles for women's rights to voice, visibility, and equality; the implementation of reservation for women with internal reservation for women from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the 73rd and 74th Amendments; and the recommendations of the Mandal Commission and later the Sachar Committee guide us in historicising this moment and refusing its rhetorical appropriation by any particular political party. This context is examined through a close reading of parliamentary debates and reports of parliamentary committees in 1996–1997 and 2009–2010 and a brief glimpse at the other backward classes and Muslim feminist engagements within larger movements for equal citizenship.

- 118 Making Sense of the Gendered Realities in Science: An Exploration of the Indian Situation/ Dhal,Sunita;Sharma,Jyoti , pp. 54–67

The field of 'women in science' in India is evolving with policies that could support ending gender discrimination in the practice and culture of science. Gender inclusivity in science is a complex phenomenon, and it differs in forms and scale across institutions. This complexity has invoked feminist scholars, governments, and organisations to critically engage with issues of gender inequities in science. This article, based on a sample study, seeks to understand the idea of gender inclusivity in science, and the discrimination and





marginalisation women scientists face, while exploring how they negotiate institutional spaces and address specific and unique challenges in their everyday reality.

- 119 Reading Progress in Attainment of Higher Education Goals in India: Features and Characteristics/ Shukla, Vachaspati; Mishra, Udaya S., pp. 68–85

This article is an attempt at evaluating the progress in higher education attainment in India, using an innovative approach of reading such progress in terms of varying attainments by age cohorts (older to younger). In addition, characteristic differentials are accounted for in the evaluation of such progress. It reveals that group disparities tend to be lower among the younger age cohorts, and the pattern of social and gender disparities appears to be different in the rural and urban sectors. Gender disparity disappears in the youngest age cohort for the urban sector, while it remains significant in the rural sector, with a reasonable rural–urban disparity in overall progress in higher education. The urban female is perhaps the largest beneficiary of expansion in higher education, while the rural female remains most deprived and has benefitted the least.

- 120 Dependency/ World-systems Theories and Structural Position of Latin American Countries/ Ruvalcaba, Daniel Morales , pp. 86–107

One of the social sciences theories that has contributed significantly to the complex understanding of the modern capitalist/colonial world and the situation of Latin America in it has been the world-systems approach. However, world-systems theory cannot be separated from dependency theory since the latter provides theoretical bases for the former, especially regarding the distribution of countries into different special zones according to the functioning of the world economy. But how have these theorists positioned Latin American countries in the world system? How has their understanding of the region evolved? Through the review of the literature, systematised in three stages (pre-theoretical, synchronous, and diachronic), this article examines the historical peripheral and semiperipheral positioning of the Latin American countries and the basis for determining different degrees of peripheralisation and semiperipheralisation. The relative immobility of the countries in the region stands out, which over the decades has not improved their structural position, necessitating a review of the Latin American countries' development strategies for the twenty-first century.

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- 121 *Frontiers in the Duri Highlands, South Sulawesi: Control, Extraction and Ideologies/ Duile,Timo*, pp. 227-253

The Duri highlands in South Sulawesi have often been a contested frontier for resources, identities and political influence. This article discusses the issue of identities as ideologies within the framework of the political economies of the Duri highlands as a frontier region. It outlines different typologies of frontiers and explains how they have played a role in the history of the region. The article argues that the area was—and still should be—considered a frontier of extraction and of control. These frontiers formed in regard to different identities such as being Muslim, Indonesian or indigenous. Analysing more recent events, the article examines indigenous identity through which activists and local communities gain land titles. This process, it is argued, is of relevance in regard to the frontiers of control and extraction. The issue of indigenous land titles and the respective identities are the newest processes that shape the frontier, and while they discursively incorporate these areas into national development ideologies, they also make possible certain degrees of indigenous self-determination.

- 122 *Blackness in Malaysia: Indigenous Kensiu Semang and Tamil Indians/ Daniels, Timothy P.*, pp. 254-284

Blackness in Malaysia is associated with Semang or “Negritos” and Indians, ranked groups based on a mix of biological and cultural attributes in colonial and postcolonial racial worldviews. They inhabited separate but lower rungs of “civilized” and “aboriginal” slots in colonial Malaya and are treated as second-class citizens in postcolonial Malaysia. Ethnographic accounts demonstrate their experiences of prejudice and discrimination in contemporary Malaysia. Kensiu Semang and Tamil Indian racial projects for improving their conditions interact with other racial projects serving different interests. The social and cultural configuration shapes their positive self-identities that are not rooted in Blackness.

- 123 *Parallel Developments: Reform, Renovation, and the Language of Change in Chinese Scholarship on Vietnam since the 1980s/ Xun,Wang*, pp. 285-310

As one of China’s most significant neighbouring states, Vietnam has been a natural focus of Chinese scholars. This article analyses how Chinese scholars have interpreted changes in the Vietnamese political economy after 1975, usually characterized in English as a period of “reform” and “renovation” that created steady high economic growth in Vietnam. While Vietnamese reform has been positive, Chinese discourse on it has varied from criticizing it to using it as a reference point for Chinese reform. Although previous studies attributed these variations to fluctuating China-Vietnam relations, I argue that shifts in China’s domestic reforms also played a role.



- 124 *A Muslim of Chinese Descent in Soekarno’s Cabinet: The Multifaceted Life of H. Mohammad Hasan/ Habir,Manggi* , pp. 353-370

This research note traces the life of H. Mohammad Hasan, who was honoured posthumously in 1998 with the Bintang Mahaputra Adipradana—an award given in

recognition of extraordinary contributions and loyalty to the country. Born in 1925 as Tan Kim Liong in Dutch colonial Borneo, Hasan settled after independence in Jakarta, where he became a photojournalist. His work and passion for chess led him to befriend several up-and-coming politicians, including those from the Nahdlatul Ulama (NU). Chosen as NU's member of parliament in late 1956, he subsequently converted to Islam and adopted his Muslim name. As a cabinet minister during Soekarno's final years, he introduced the country's first tax amnesty programme to boost state revenues. Following the 1965 coup, Hasan moved to Hong Kong, where, in addition to engaging in business, he actively organized world chess tournaments. On returning to Indonesia in 1974, Hasan built Hasfarm, the country's largest private cocoa plantation. Hasan's multifaceted life journey ended in 1991 at the age of sixty-six.

- 125 Life and Livelihood Experiences of Myanmar's Displaced Women in Thailand/  
Soe, Sumitra Thidar; Worland, Shirley, pp. 371-389

This research note presents the findings of a project aimed at understanding the life and livelihood experiences of displaced Myanmar women in Thailand. Since the 2021 Myanmar military coup, thousands of people, including women of diverse socio-economic backgrounds, have fled Myanmar to neighbouring Thailand, where they are living as undocumented refugees with restricted livelihood opportunities. The results show that, in displacement, the lived experiences of these women vary according to their status and backgrounds. What is common, however, is that the displacement experiences of these women begin from a position of loss. Thereafter, their trajectories differ in terms of the way they seek to overcome the challenges of displacement and the associated traumatic experiences.

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- 126 Intergenerational Mobility in South Asia/ Khan,Zanbaz Ahmed; Patra,Biswajit, pp. 7–25

This article analyses the movement of intergenerational mobility (IGM) in South Asia from birth cohorts comprising 1950–1980 using the World Bank's data on IGM. The article compares the IGM movements across countries to account for the causal factors of the IGM. Exploratory data analysis and Bayesian regression have been used in this study for empirical analysis. We note that in the past three decades, the share of primary parental education in South Asia constitutes 79% of the total, while the children who achieved the highest level of education constitute only 10%. Children in Sri Lanka have been enrolled in school for the greatest number of years, but the absolute IGM in India is greater than Sri Lanka. Bhutan lags in average years of educational attainment, yet their relative mobility surpasses every country in South Asia. The likelihood that Pakistani children's status shall be independent of their parental status is as low as 20%. Despite variation in parental education, absolute IGM in India is highest in South Asia. Variation in parental education reduces the degree of independence in the next generation. Relative measure of mobility is a better indicator of social mobility than the absolute measure.

- 127 Investments in Innovations and Market Structure: A Semi-parametric Approach/ Singh,Sukhdeep , pp. 26–44

The economic literature suggests that there is an inverted-U type of relationship between innovation and product market competition. Existing empirical studies assume a quadratic functional form while estimating the relationship between the two variables. Using data on the Indian manufacturing industry, this article contributes by using a semi-parametric approach to test the 'Inverted-U' hypothesis without assuming a priori functional form. The estimation results suggest that the functional form of the relationship is contingent upon the choice of product market competition indicator in the model. When product market competition is defined as overall price competition, the empirical evidence confirms the inverted-U hypothesis. This implies that both escape competition and the Schumpeterian effect are observed as price competition increases. However, when product market competition is defined as domestic competition, only the escape competition effect is observed.

- 128 Drivers of Rural Non-farm Sector Employment in India, 1983–2019/ Pattayat,Shiba Shankar;Parida,Jajati Keshari , pp. 45–73

Using the national-level employment and unemployment surveys (NSS and PLFS) and the macro-level data for the period 2005–2019, this article explores the trends and recent growth patterns of rural non-farm sector employment in India. It also examines the micro-level factors determining individuals' preference towards non-farm sector jobs and the macro-level factors responsible for the growth of non-farm sector employment in rural India. The main findings of the study suggest that although rural non-farm sector employment is rising in absolute terms, its growth rate has slackened in recent years. While the level of education and skill training, market wage rates and socio-cultural setups are among the key micro-level factors determining farm–non-farm employment choices of rural folks, at the macro-level, the growth of investment in capital goods, the number of factories, investment in infrastructure development and the growth of the

manufacturing sector are crucial for the growth of non-farm sector jobs in India. Based on these findings, it is argued that the improvement of human capabilities through increased investment in education and skill, and the growth of non-farm sector employment through the development of rural infrastructure and industrialization measures, are necessary to sustain the structural transformation and to harness the demographic dividend in India.

129 Employment Adjustment During the Initial Outbreak of COVID-19: Empirical Evidence from Tourism Workers in Bhutan/ Choden,Rinzin; Pholphirul,Piriya, pp. 74–95

Even though quantifying the impacts of COVID-19 on jobs and employment has been studied in recent literature worldwide, not much research has attempted to investigate the impacts in terms of employment adjustment, especially during the initial outbreak of the pandemic. Using secondary survey data of 1,320 employees working in the tourism sector in Bhutan as a case study, our multinomial logit model estimations show that female workers were among the most vulnerable group to be asked to reduce some benefits from work, to receive only a partial salary or to leave without pay during the initial outbreak. However, when the situation became more severe (resulting in the laying off of employees), the tourism sector in Bhutan laid off male workers also. Negative impacts on their employment were likely to be found among workers with higher education, the relatively young and married workers. In addition, employment adjustments were also found to vary by tourism sub-sector during initial outbreaks. Workers in the entertainment sector seemed to experience the smallest hit from the initial outbreak since they still received some partial payments or were asked to only temporarily leave their jobs without receiving payment. Some sectors, especially tour guides, tour operations, river rafting and land transport, however, had to lay off their workers during the initial outbreak as those businesses rely mostly on international tourists. This study also discusses the policy recommendations to ensure employment stability during such a crisis in the future.



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- 130 Populism in Pakistan: The Exclusionary-Inclusionary Divide in the Politics of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Imran Khan/ Batool, Fizza , pp. 265–282

Prior research on Latin American and European populism has used the inclusionary and exclusionary distinction to differentiate between Left- and Right-wing populism. As Right-wing populists demand exclusion of immigrants and foreigners and Left-wing populists demand inclusion of the lower social class in the political landscape, the former is described as exclusionary and the latter as inclusionary. In this paper, I test this typology, comparing the populism of two political leaders in Pakistan across two different eras: Zulfikar Ali Bhutto during 1967–77 and Imran Khan during 1996–2022. I argue that in the absence of an overarching liberal discourse, the inclusionary-exclusionary distinction has no meaning because populists of illiberal democracies can rely upon a greater ideological malleability, swinging between inclusionary to exclusionary politics in accordance with the demands of the moment.

- 131 Songs of the Lake’: Understanding Cultural Expressions of Nature through Dwindling Folk-Songs and Mythologies in Bengaluru/ Sen, Amrita; Nagendra, Harini , pp. 283–302

Culture-specific knowledge plays an important role in shaping environmental conservation. Yet we lack a holistic and contemporary understanding of how such local cultural systems interface (d) with ecologies, especially in the fast-growing cities of the Global South which face profound environmental challenges. In this paper, we explore nature-based cultural systems embedded in folk-songs to understand situated social-ecological histories of human-inhabited peri-urban landscapes in the city of Bengaluru in South India. Drawing on empirical observations from the city, we trace local imageries of erstwhile lake-based social systems through folk-songs, mythologies and oral narratives. We demonstrate how many of these cultural narratives, largely embedded within symbolic linkages to the lake ecology, continue to manifest themselves as folk expressions in the city, despite the fact that most of the lakes have been polluted or are managed via restrictions that prohibit village residents from accessing them as they once did for agriculture, livelihoods and domestic use. The songs are also rich reminders of socialities, which, despite being divisive and hierarchical to a large extent, were symbolically and materially embedded in nature.

- 132 Film and Caste Anxieties in Early Twentieth-Century India/ Krishna, C. Yamini , pp. 303–317

Film was one of the new technological inventions of the ‘long nineteenth century’ that often instilled a fear of loss of the existing way of life and of disturbing existing social structures. In India, this manifested in a variety of ways, such as through the censorship of films by the government, but also by social codes which created major barriers for many to work in the film industry. In this article, I discuss film and its negotiations with caste in the twentieth century through close reading of the Indian Cinematograph Committee Report, film magazines, advertisements, audience responses and the speeches of nationalist leaders. I argue that rather than democratising desire by producing the universally desirable object of the star body, popular films in India

produced desire that conformed to existing caste structures. The paper contributes to debates about early cinema and caste beyond the question of representation.

- 133 *Inspectors of the Raj: A Pedagogy of Critical Conservatism in Odisha/ Patra, Umasankar* , pp. 318–335

This essay investigates new articulations of belonging and community identity that emerged in Odisha, on the eastern coast of India, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century through the works of an inspector of schools. Largely taken in the historiography to be mere bureaucrats, inspectors of schools, especially in colonial Odisha, were an important component in the administration of the province, and emerged as arbiters of taste, doyens of Odia literature, and public intellectuals. This essay proposes that their negotiation with the colonial apparatus and prevalent Odia linguistic nationalist spirit was carried out through a novel cultural ideology, ‘critical conservatism’. Deploying a comparative framework with the development of conservatism in Bengal, this essay examines the uniqueness of the conservative impulse in Odisha, thereby suggesting a rethinking of conservatism as a cultural enterprise. Moving away from the focus on the literary works of Fakir Mohan Senapati, this article throws light on the works and lives of other figures of modernity such as Radhanath Ray, Nanda Kishore Bala, Madhusudan Rao, and the Satyabadi School, a unique intervention in pedagogy taken up in Odisha in the early twentieth century.

- 134 *Theorising Marginality: Discourses on the Making of Modern Adivasi Communities in Kerala/ Rajesh, K. P. , pp. 336–352*

Despite the accepted usage of ‘marginality’ as a subcategory of subalternity, seldom has the meaning of marginality as a concept been expounded. This paper sets out to address this lack by conceiving of ‘marginality’ as a condition, by focusing on the lived experiences of Adivasis in Kerala through the discourses constructed by a contemporary social movement, the Adivasi Gothra Maha Sabha (AGMS). Discourse analysis is the methodological frame that I have used in this paper to analyse the descriptions produced by the AGMS and the state of Kerala, and this is broadly situated within the post-colonial political-sociological approach. Premised on this, I argue that while marginality is an essential concept for looking at contemporary Adivasi movements in India, it is productive to interrogate and explore expanding the varied meanings attached to this concept.

- 135 *From Communist Internationalism to a ‘New Humanism’: On M.N. Roy’s Confrontation with Fascism/ Christopher Balcom , pp. 353–369*

This paper investigates the thought of the Indian revolutionary and philosopher M.N. Roy (1887–1954). The essay argues that Roy’s pivot from Marxism to a liberal ‘New Humanism’ over the course of the 1930s and 1940s was shaped by his thinking about fascism and represents a broader turn away from a materialist reading of history and loss of confidence in the Indian working class. The paper begins with an analysis of Roy’s early communism, and considers his later critique, elaborated from the 1930s onwards, that ‘Gandhism’ represented an Indian form of fascism, and explores how these arguments led to his rejection of Marxism.

- 136 *Famine in a Rice Economy: Natural Calamities, Grain Scarcity and the Company-State in Bengal, 1770–1803/ Chatterjee, Baijayanti, pp. 370–387*

This paper analyses the conjuncture of factors that led to famines in late eighteenth century Bengal, a province in which, due to the fluvial ecology and monsoonal climate, the cultivation of rice predominated. I demonstrate that the exclusive dependence on rice crops created conditions of agricultural insecurity, which in turn was taken advantage of by merchants and hoarders of grain in a bid to profit from artificially enhanced prices. The East India Company, acquiring political authority in Bengal in the mid eighteenth century, was unable to break through the monopolies of the grain dealers. In addition, its experiment with grain storage in large public granaries (golas), intended to overcome food shortages, also failed on account of mounting costs and the irrevocable tension between laissez-faire and state interventionism, which ultimately led to the abandonment of the granary system. I argue that a combination of rice monoculture, mercantile strategies, and lack of effective state intervention was ultimately responsible for transforming natural calamities and the ensuing food shortages into full-scale famines in Bengal in the eighteenth century.

- 137 'Why Can't Our Bhuta Have a Mask?' Caste Contestations and Ritual Practice in Tulunadu/ Vijayashree, C.S. , pp. 388–406

The paper describes caste contestations around the Bhutaradhane tradition in the Tulunadu region of coastal Karnataka. Bhutaradhane is a pantheistic tradition of spirit worship which has been a key site for the assertion of regional identity claims in Tulunadu. The Bhutas (spirits) are ranked along a graded hierarchy that reflects the caste structure of the region. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork, the paper describes the interventions of a Dalit caste, the Mundalas, to rupture this hierarchical structure and challenge their low assigned status in the tradition and in society. It explores how they draw on narratives of the past to appropriate and reshape the Bhutaradhane tradition in line with their aspirations for upward mobility. The paper situates current contestations around the caste's patron Bhuta within the growing socio-political consciousness of the Mundalas, who have challenged the hegemonic discourse of Bhuta heritage, laying bare the operations of caste within the ritual as well as caste inequalities and exclusions in the region.

- 138 Leaving Comrades to Die: Shahadat, Soldiering and Accidental Death on the Siachen Glacier/ Khan, Sanaullah , pp. 407–424

The Siachen glacier, one of the longest non-polar glaciers in the world, turned into the world's highest battlefield in 1984, when both the neighbouring countries, India and Pakistan, deployed their troops for control over the glacier. The nature of warfare since then has changed from active operations to one of low-intensity warfare. In this changing nature of warfare, the article explores how meanings of death are reconfigured in personal recollections and public representations, when the terrain continues to inflict injuries, high-altitude illnesses and death in the absence of any direct enemy confrontation. The article compares personal experiences of death with media representations. While personal experiences of soldiers and officers who have served on the glacier show their grievances about having left comrades to die after they fell into deadly crevasses, media representations reinsert the Indian soldier and depict death in the company of comrades and family to justify the expensive and extremely difficult war over the glacier.



- 139 Leaving the Hindu Far Right/ Pal, Felix; Chaudhary, Neha , pp. 425–444

Why do people leave the world's largest far-right organisation? In this article, we analyse six autobiographical defection accounts of ex-members of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the apex organisation of the Indian Hindu nationalist movement. Compiled here for the first time, an analysis of these accounts reveals that even the most disciplined and ideologically coherent far-right organisations suffer from internal organisational messiness and attrition. These accounts challenge the unique mythology that surrounds the RSS and gesture towards the methodological possibilities of discarding the ideology-driven analyses of the far right in favour of material analyses of the lives of far-right organisational members.

- 140 The Indo-Myanmar Borderlands: Border Trade, Urbanisation and Ethnic Politics in Mizoram, India/ Sneathish Mitra, pp. 445–463

Since the 1990s, the Government of India has undertaken several policy initiatives to facilitate cross-border flows. Such initiatives can be read as an effort to transform 'battlefields into marketplaces'. This paper examines the rise of the border town of Champhai, located on the India-Myanmar border in the state of Mizoram in Northeast India. The formation of a new urban centre in a frontier region based on border trade reveals different dimensions of transition in Northeast India's borderlands. The paper explores two key themes: how border trade, comprised of legal and illegal flows, has transformed Champhai into Mizoram's third-largest city, and how increasing trade across the border reorients the interethnic dynamics with strong implications for ethnic and citizenship politics in Mizoram. The paper concludes by highlighting the different aspects discussed in the article that would determine the borderland dynamics in Mizoram.

- 141 Of Loss, Belonging and Remembrance: Indian Poetic Responses to World War I/ Banerjee, Argha Kumar , pp. 464–480

This article undertakes a critical exploration of the Indian poetic responses to World War I. The most striking feature of this poetry was its uniquely diverse nature, which reflected in full the multicultural character of the Indian army at the Western Front and elsewhere in the world. The immense diversity of Indian soldiers triggered a wide range of emotions and ideas from combatants and civilians alike. While we have established writers like Rabindranath Tagore and Sarojini Naidu on the one hand, we have a poetic miscellany of lesser known creative voices on the other, some even documenting their first-hand experiences of the War. Poems, lyrical propaganda, folk-songs, epistolary verse, elegies and even verses accompanying posters make up the various modes of literary circulation during this time of unprecedented global turmoil. Making use of both original compositions and various other works in translation, this article argues that most of this poetic evidence often serves as crucial testimonies, chronicling not only the major historical events of the War years, but also assiduously recording the wide gamut of feelings and emotions associated with the conflict.

- 142 Consuming Students: Advertisements and the Indian Youth Market, 1935–65/ Wilkinson, Tom , pp. 481–511

Advertisements for commodities offer a unique keyhole into the shifting consumption practices and media constructions of the youthful consumer. An analysis of five student and youth magazines foregrounds the gendered and materialistic idealisations of leisure

invoked to promote branded goods in the Indian youth market. Analysing advertisements in these magazines allows us to trace the increasingly sophisticated way in which capitalist actors stratified the domain of advertising by life stages during the late colonial and early post-colonial periods in India. This finding runs contrary to the grain of historiography that contends that the Indian 'market' failed to respond to the interests of consumers prior to the media liberalisation of the 1980s and 1990s.

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- 143 Persian Literati, Islam and Politics in Early Modern South Asia: Being a Muslim in ‘Abd al-Haqq Dehlawi’s Texts/ Banerjee, Sushmita , pp. 1115–1133

In the early modern period, Persian scholars deliberated on the complexities in the Islamic doctrines in distinct ways. Several Sufis and scholars engaged in intellectual debates regarding ideal Muslim conduct. This paper focuses on ‘Abd al-Haqq Muhaddis Dehlawi (1551–1642)—a polymath with specialised training in the Ḥadīṣ and Sufism—to situate his ideas within the larger intellectual discourse about Islam in South Asia. On account of his training and scholastic approach, an a priori label of orthodoxy and revivalism is associated with ‘Abd al-Haqq. However, his letters to Mughal courtiers and his Sufi tazkirāt showcase his complex pedagogy as a scholar of Islamic praxis and Sufism. This paper delineates his lucid approach in underlining Islamic tenets and the history of the Sufis in South Asia. In the early modern period, Persian scholars deliberated on the complexities in the Islamic doctrines in distinct ways. Several Sufis and scholars engaged in intellectual debates regarding ideal Muslim conduct. This paper focuses on ‘Abd al-Haqq Muhaddis Dehlawi (1551–1642)—a polymath with specialised training in the Ḥadīṣ and Sufism—to situate his ideas within the larger intellectual discourse about Islam in South Asia. On account of his training and scholastic approach, an a priori label of orthodoxy and revivalism is associated with ‘Abd al-Haqq. However, his letters to Mughal courtiers and his Sufi tazkirāt showcase his complex pedagogy as a scholar of Islamic praxis and Sufism. This paper delineates his lucid approach in underlining Islamic tenets and the history of the Sufis in South Asia.

- 144 Transformation of the Deities: Temples, Caste and Identity in Goa/ Parobo, Parag D. , pp. 1134–1150

This article analyses the history of village deities in Goa from premodern times in order to understand the interactions between received traditions, the temple and the colonial state with regard to rights over temples and ownership of temple assets. More specifically, it looks at these developments to understand the actual relationship between temples and articulations of caste identities, and the claims over them. Ultimately, rights over temples became the basis for the temple statutes, and a version of an acceptable suitable past with the colonial state mediating negotiations and the establishment of claims.

- 145 The ‘Migrant-Leper’ as the Undeserving Outsider: Historicising Leprosy Policy in Delhi, 1920–60/ Raturi, Manas , pp. 1151–1167

Discussions on migration and leprosy in India, largely absent from historical enquiries, feature dominantly in epidemiological studies that frame the migrant with leprosy as a bacterium-carrying outsider, crossing interstate boundaries to spread infection and increase prevalence rates in urban spaces. The paper seeks to reframe the debate by analysing the migrant with leprosy not as a risk factor, but as a social identity that has historically animated public policy. By analysing leprosy policy in Delhi from 1920 to 1960, the paper explores how leprosy-affected beggars in Delhi were seen as an indolent class of outsiders burdening state finances, unworthy of adequate support.

- 146 Communal Geographies: An Introduction/ Gupta, Charu , pp. 1168–1183

This paper introduces a special section comprising eight papers that delve into complex geographies of communal identities in modern South Asia. It situates these papers at a significant intersection of spatial histories and historical geographies of the region, with a focus on exploring the intricate relationship between community and religious identity on the one hand, and space and scale on the other. We take a broad view of communal geographies, reconsidering spatiality through community histories that encompass diverse contexts such as local mohallas and national statistics, rural and urban settings, and secular and religious spaces. It illustrates how religious communities have mapped their identities onto everyday arenas like borders, gurdwaras, homes, markets, mosques, shops, streets and temples. Drawing from various disciplinary and theoretical perspectives and employing methodologies ranging from archival research to oral history and ethnography, this special section expands our understanding of how social practices and religious interactions leave their footprints on geography.

- 147 Measuring Race, Space and the Citizen: Anthropology and Statistics in Early Post-Independence India/ William Gould, pp. 1184–1203

This article explores how Indian anthropologists employed abstract concepts of ‘space’ and ‘distance’ in the mid twentieth century to reconfigure the racial scientific approaches to caste and community. Looking at the relationship between statistics and physical anthropology via the work of P.C. Mahalanobis and D.N. Majumdar in the United Provinces in the mid to late 1940s, the article explores how conceptual (or Euclidian) space interacted with geopolitical space (lived distances) in definitions of caste. The combination of anthropology and statistics produced new measurements of difference and distance that, in turn, privileged Brahmanical conceptions of hierarchy, reinforced the idea of spatial homogeneity and contributed to new ethnic definitions of the citizen.

- 148 Business as Usual? Bazaars and Communalism in Colonial Delhi, 1913–32/ Vanaik, Anish , pp. 1204–1221

This paper uncovers a hitherto unnoticed pattern of communal segregation among establishments located in some of Delhi’s most important bazars. It demonstrates that this pattern, emerging between 1913 and 1932, was driven by structural features of the ways in which Delhi’s trade and retail interacted with communal violence in the 1920s. Those features include the dislocating effects of communal violence on bazars. More strident political activity by merchants, however, was important fuel to this fire. Merchants did not, also, restrict themselves to repeating communal tropes developed elsewhere. Their self-organisation gave shape to a conception of ‘Hindu’ and ‘Muslim’ trades. Rather than see a communal ‘pre-Partition’ in the 1930s, this evidence suggests that communal segregation was already well on the rise in the 1920s. Business as usual, then, was a source of deepening communal antagonisms rather than, as is sometimes assumed, a source of everyday bonhomie.

- 149 Forging Communal Space: Negotiating Streets and Practices in Delhi, 1922–65/ Ahmad, Saeed , pp. 1222–1239

This paper examines space-making in the Jangpura-Bhogal locality of Delhi by documenting communal conflicts in the late 1920s and 1950s. First, it addresses the production of a Hindu religious space by disavowing Muslim ritual practices under a colonial regime seeking to control religious conflict. Second, it unpacks the diverse mechanisms used to produce a Sikh political space during a nascent postcolonial state’s

management of linguistic subnationalisms. Grounded in power relations and cohesions around multiple social registers, these variegated spatial claims were made through political and religious processions, petitions and physical violence. These communal geographies highlight the importance of neighbourhood histories.

- 150 Communal Geographies and Peasant Insurgency in Colonial Myanmar/ Jonathan Saha, pp. 1240–1256

This article makes two arguments, one theoretical and the other empirical. The first is that Ranajit Guha's classic text, *Elementary Aspects of Peasant Insurgency in Colonial India*, contains generative but overlooked spatial concepts for uncovering communal geographies. The second is that the Hsaya San peasant rebellion, which rocked British authority in Myanmar from late 1930 until 1932, fostered a new communal geography. These two arguments come together through my elaboration and utilisation of Guha's ideas to interpret rebel violence against Chin villages.

- 151 Cartographic Anxiety on the Thar Desert: The Border Security Force and Jaisalmer's Tanot Mata Mandir/ Mukherjee, Nilanjana , pp. 1251–1275

The spatiality of the Tanot Mata Temple, in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan, places it at the crossroads of religion and nationalism. Firstly, its location near the international border makes it a marker of territorial integrity as well as the bearer of a 'cartographic anxiety' which aspires to keep the periphery intact and unharmed. Secondly, its spatiality is defined in terms of majoritarian religious beliefs which have been shaped in postcolonial India over a period of cultural and ideological interactions between the dominant and the marginal, mainstream and vernacular. Despite its past, which attests to fluid regional connections and itinerant migratory circuits, the temple's sacredness operates today within a repository of visual registers which celebrates a specific kind of patriotism that is both exclusive and retaliatory. This paper will discuss a range of literary and visual material that establishes the temple's legend on precincts founded on an imagined relationship of the citizen with the land.

- 152 Mill, Market, Mandir, Masjid: The Geographies of Communal Conflict in Colonial Bombay, c. 1929–39/ Kidambi, Prashant , pp. 1276–1293

This article reframes a crucial period in the history of popular politics in colonial Bombay. Focusing on Hindu-Muslim antagonism between 1929 and 1939, it highlights the centrality of everyday urban spaces and places in shaping the context, dynamics and nature of communal conflict in a putatively cosmopolitan city. The first section shows how recurrent communal discord in Bombay was the outcome of two spatially contingent political developments that occurred concurrently in the years between 1929 and 1933. On the one hand, intra-class tensions engendered by industrial strife in tandem with the rapid ascendancy of the communist-led Girni Kamgar Union in the mill districts resulted in a communal backlash. On the other hand, the launch of the Congress' Civil Disobedience movement deepened Hindu-Muslim differences in the market areas of the Indian town. The second section focuses on clashes over religious places and processions, which became a chronic feature of urban life in the 1930s. Through a range of examples, it underscores how local disputes over sacred sites and religious rites became integral to the political construction of communal identities in late colonial Bombay.

- 153 Prayers, Not Protests: Christian Internationalism and Young Womanhood in South India/ Krishnan, Sneha , pp. 1294–1312

Protestant communities in South India were vocal in dissenting against colonial rule and in expressing their discomfort with the demographic politics of nationalist discourse. Within this context, this paper focuses on young Christian women in Madras, who, in the 1930s and 1940s, articulated an internationalist ethic and a geography of ecumenical belonging that drew on their positioning within internationalist humanitarian, Christian socialist and global student Christian networks. Critiquing the narrowly regional and national geographies within which minoritised communities in South Asia have tended to be studied, I argue that these young women drew on social gospel theology to imagine an expansive international geography of social action, while critiquing their positioning as ‘minorities’ within the emergent Indian nation.

- 154 Communal Geographies: Space, Identity and Electoral Constituency in Colonial North India/ Parveen, Nazima , pp. 1313–1332

The Indian Councils Act, 1909, the Government of India Act, 1919, and the Government of India Act, 1935, defined political space—an arena of political negotiations through electoral representation—along religious lines. The most crucial aspect of these legislative-institutional developments was the definition and delimitation of ‘communal-territorial constituencies’, and franchisee qualifications. This specific colonial form of representative politics, which was debated, negotiated and translated by the religio-political elite in the arena of local politics, produced a communal notion of space. Thus, each of the localities, wards, cities and regions at large were officially demarcated into Muhammadan, General/Hindu, Sikh and Indian-Christian electoral constituencies. The paper explores the intricacies of this process and the complex question of ‘representation’ during the period of the national movement. It argues that this official demarcation of social groups and localities into political constituencies produced a complex configuration of identity and space, which had multiple manifestations with extended franchise. It established electoral representation as a mode to make legitimate claims and counterclaims over space.



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- 155 An elusive quest for a region: Darbhanga Raj, caste and language in late colonial India/ Chakravartty, Aryendra , pp. 05–31

This essay is an exploration of the contingent nature of identity formation in late colonial India. In the wake of the 1912 separation of Bihar and Orissa from Bengal, two distinct conceptions of the region of Mithila and Maithila identity gained prominence. First, the Darbhanga Maharaja viewed Mithila as a bastion of brahmanical orthodoxy, and this underpinned the claims for Mithila to be converted to a native state with its own ruling chief. Second, by the 1930s we see the consolidation of a movement which proposed the Maithili language as the marker of a Maithila people, one that did not make brahmanical orthodoxy or Hinduism a prerequisite to belonging. Both these discourses accepted the mythic conception of Mithila, and its traditional puranic geography, yet the Darbhanga Maharaja embraced all-India markers of belonging by emphasising Hinduism and presenting himself as the leader of brahmanical orthodoxy in India. The local, in this discourse, found validation by embracing national markers, even as the nation itself remained colonised. On the other hand, the Maithili language movement, which gained momentum in the twilight of colonial rule and in post-independence India, emphasised and embraced the local. This essay therefore charts the gradual shift in the conception of Maithila identity where language displaces religion and brahmanical orthodoxy, as championed by the Darbhanga Maharaja, to become the marker of local identity.

- 156 The politics of commerce in eighteenth-century Bengal: A reappraisal/ Karak, Anirban , pp. 33–66

This article broaches a simple question: Was there a politics of commerce within Bengali society in the eighteenth century, or was such politics limited to disputes between the British East India Company (EIC) and the Bengal nawabs? I begin by discussing the literature on markets in eighteenth-century Bengal and argue that the relationship between commerce and politics has been too narrowly defined in this body of work. A one-sided focus on determining the impact of the early colonial state, coupled with an uncritical acceptance of Peter Marshall's Namierite story about the origins of the British empire, has led historians to downplay ideological conflicts within the EIC and British society. To show why these divisions matter, I build on the recent work of James Vaughn and Spencer Leonard, who have shown that between 1750 and 1770, political and ideological conflicts in both Britain and Bengal had far-reaching effects on the character of the British empire. Through an extended discussion of a dispute over market access in 1778 in the city of Calcutta, I show that petty merchants and shopkeepers often opposed arbitrary impositions by regional elites. To fully understand the motivations behind such challenges, I argue that we need to seriously consider divisions within Bengali society as well: namely, the reproduction of caste hierarchies through differential access to markets (and land).

- 157 Religion-making in South Asia: An interstitial perspective/ Singh, Nirvikar , pp. 67–96



The study of 'Hinduism' in contemporary academia has generated considerable controversy. Many scholars have argued that the idea of a single ancient religion is difficult to substantiate based on the historical record. A common alternative position is that Hinduism is a colonial construct, without well-defined historical antecedents. This paper contributes to a scholarly middle ground, which provides an empirically based yet still contingent analysis of the evolution of 'Hinduism', by drawing on evidence from the Sikh tradition. In doing so, it also draws on approaches which interpret Islam as a discursive tradition, subject to contestable representations, shaped by conditions of knowledge and power, as well as by collective aspirations. Sikh attempts at self-definition included distinguishing their tradition from the two larger, pre-existing traditions of Muslims and Hindus in an explicit and self-conscious manner. In doing so, Sikh leaders recognised 'Hindu' as a religious category to some degree, well before the colonial period.

158 Caste, food and colonialism: 'Outcaste' domestics in the European houses of Madras Presidency/ S. Gunasekaran, pp. 97–131

This article argues that in the Madras Presidency, the caste Hindus treated both the European masters and their 'outcaste' domestic servants as impure due to their shared practice of beef-eating. This, consequently, fostered a relationship of mutual dependence between them. Although not all servants participated in the preparation of food in European houses, they had to deal with beef in one way or another, such as purchasing and serving it, or simply working with the people who ate beef. Therefore, a willingness to handle beef was one of the essential criteria for employment in colonial bungalows that benefitted the outcastes exclusively. These new employment opportunities under colonialism created an educated 'higher-class' among them. This class later played a pivotal role in organising the outcastes and advocating for their rights. Though dependent on each other, the relationship between Europeans and their outcaste servants was not always cordial; there was tension inherent in it. The article further posits that attempts to maintain European racial and cultural dominance did not always succeed in the domestic sphere.



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- 159 Venereal diseases, public health and sanitary measures in the mid-nineteenth-century Madras Presidency/ Gopalakrishnan, Divya Rama , pp. 149–177

This article discusses the colonial policies around public health, sanitary measures and control of venereal diseases in the Madras Presidency in the 1860s and 1870s, and describes how these policies shaped urban development of Madras. It investigates how British colonial measures to curtail venereal diseases concurred with concerns about ‘public health’ in the 1860s and 1870s in the Madras Presidency and the city of Madras. It questions the extent to which British ‘public health’ policies encompassed the Indian population. Although there is a recent increase in scholarly interest in studying the medical and sanitary history of the Madras Presidency, very few historians have focused on the ways in which colonial morality influenced town-planning and sanitary policies in the area. Earlier, scholars believed that segregation was key to maintaining public health in colonial cities; however, recent scholarship has questioned the notions of ‘dual city’ by highlighting the blurred lines. This article also investigates how far the colonial administration successfully segregated the European population from the Indian population and the Indian labouring and service-providing poor from the non-labouring poor.

- 160 Thinking with two heads: The poetics of *asat* in early-modern India/ Bronner, Yigal; Shulman, David , pp. 179–201

In early modern India, and particularly South India—from roughly the sixteenth century until the eighteenth—a new literary vogue emerged in all major literary traditions (Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Sanskrit, Persian). With remarkable salience, we find verses built around absurdity of various kinds and modes. Sometimes it is a matter of pushing the existing literary conventions and figures to an impossible extreme. In other cases, we find a fascination with asymmetry, disjunction, skewed causality, and unrealis or counter-factual linguistic forms. Although such experiments with absurdity have precedents in classical *kāvya*, the evident consistency and intertextual relations among outlandish poems in this period are very striking, as is the fact that the theoreticians of poetics found it necessary to posit a grammar for them (including for poems based on *asat*, that is, non-existence or sheer impossibility). This essay explores the forms and logical underpinnings that this fashion for the bizarre assumed; we also offer a tentative explanation for the new trend. The *prabandha*-based poems of absurdity need to be distinguished from the coded texts known in Kannada as *beḍagina vacana* and in early Hindi as *ulaṭbāṃsi*, in which an upside-down or inside-out world is created, the goal being to arrest intellection altogether. We also show the distinction between the poetry of the absurd in the early modern texts and the European Dada movement, which aims at unravelling language and enshrines a principle of pure randomness in the choice of words.

- 161 Frontiersmen in imperial Delhi: Regulating Afghans and their moneylending, 1912–49/ Sharma, Priyanka , pp. 203–229

This article traces the complex regulatory efforts directed at Afghans in colonial Delhi to control or distance them from the imperial capital. To the colonial authorities, the Afghan

moneylenders who operated within the expanding new imperial capital, providing their services to government employees as well as the growing population, appeared as a new problem in the city. The colonial authorities viewed the Afghan moneylender as a typical 'goonda' contributing to disorder. The imperial and provincial administration discussed the possibilities of deportations, extended extraordinary legislation (Goonda Act, 1937) and used high-handed practices to deal with this 'menace'. Being foreign subjects, the Afghans resisted these regulatory measures by involving the Afghan consulate to defend their socio-economic rights in British India. The need to avoid friction with the Afghan government amidst tensions at the frontier was an enduring consideration when dealing with Afghan moneylenders, especially after the creation of the new nation-state of India.

- 162 The genesis of Suket Satyagraha and the birth of Himachal Pradesh/ Thakur, Laxman S. , pp. 231–252

This article is primarily based on a study of more than a thousand documents consulted in the Integrated Library of the Tribune Trust, Chandigarh. These documents, largely comprising news items, special reports by staff correspondents or representatives, feature articles, editorials, and letters to the editor, have escaped the attention and scrutiny of researchers and historians of modern Himachal Pradesh. What is fascinating to note is that the word 'Himachal Pradesh' was coined at the Solan conclave held during 26–28 January 1948, 2 years before India became a democratic republic; however, Himachal Day is celebrated since 15 April 1948. This article discusses the genesis of and the circumstances that led to the participation of the masses of the Western Himalayan princely states in the Suket Satyagraha, and describes how subsequent events in the 'Himalayan Prant' culminated in the creation of what a Tribune correspondent called a new star on India's firmament—the present-day state of Himachal Pradesh.



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- 163 Agricultural Crisis, Farms Laws, and Farmers' Protest: Reflection on its Rollback and Implication/ Behera, Minaketan , pp. 207–219

Agriculture has been brought to the forefront of policymaking, parliamentary debate, and political discussions in recent history. India's Parliament recently voted to scrap agricultural reform laws which came up as a huge victory for the farmers' movement, who have been protesting for over a year for the rollback of the laws. This farmers' movement created history at the national and international levels in the present times. The government had passed three farm laws to transform agriculture and increase farmer income without detailed consultations with all stakeholders. This led to protests by the farmer community by blocking roads and highways, calling an All-India Bandh, which attracted public attention and brought weight to the farmer issues, leading to achievement for the 'Annadatas' of the country. The article discusses the predicaments of the agriculture sector, the problems of the farmers, critical analysis of the three Farm laws, their implementation, implications and finally, its rollback. The reasons for this move have been examined from the political and economic angle with a reflection on its rollback for the future.

- 164 Renewable Energy and Economic Growth: Evidence from India/ Gupta, Rajesh , pp. 220–242

This article examines the nexus between economic growth and two renewable energy sources, namely wind and solar, to separate out the contrast between these two sources, for India deploying system generalised method of moments and vector error correction method suitable to capture the dynamic nature of panel data. Unlike most of the earlier studies, it takes into account cross-sectional dependence and addresses the issue of endogeneity. India has been chosen because despite India being one of the largest producers of renewable energy globally; the nexus is under-studied. This article finds the installation of solar energy capacity positively influences the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) growth. Moreover, there is a bi-directional positive relation between the installation of wind energy capacity and GSDP growth. Hence the adoption of renewable energy is helping the states to grow faster. However, the study found not much difference in the nature of the nexus between solar energy growth and wind energy growth for India.

- 165 The Politics of State-level COVID-19 Responses in India: Evidence from the First Wave in 2020/ Jain, Ritika; Chatterjee, Tirtha , pp. 243–258

We examine if policy interventions to curb the spread of COVID-19 were driven by political factors. We focus on the period between 1 June and 31 August 2020 when lockdowns and testing were the only responses available with governments and policymakers across the world. These instruments are costly. Stringent lockdowns pose challenges to livelihoods while only testing without any lockdown accentuates health risks. This choice between life and livelihood becomes all the more pertinent in a developing country like India. We find that state governments in India that had upcoming elections, faced close margin victory in the last election, were non-incumbents and were aligned with the party at the centre adhered to aggressive testing as a strategy and did not impose strict lockdowns to avert losses in economic activity. Such policy responses

indicate an attempt to avert possible losses in future elections. These findings confirm the strong role of political factors in policy decisions.

- 166 Economic Policy Uncertainty and Equity Fund Flows to India: A Bayesian Approach/ French, Joseph J.; Martin, Michael , pp. 259–269

We compare the impacts of economic policy uncertainty (EPU) and global economic policy uncertainty (GEPU)-related shocks on equity fund flows (EFFs) to India using a Bayesian vector auto regression approach. We find that (a) Indian EPU and GEPU are strongly and negatively related to EFF; (b) EFF are more sensitive to GEPU relative to Indian EPU; (c) evidence of trend-chasing behaviour by fund managers in India; and (d) GEPU is an important factor for forecasting returns on the Bombay Stock Exchange. Taken together, our findings indicate that EPU is important to understanding equity allocation decisions and returns in India.

- 167 Analysis of Variation in Foreign Inflows by Different Categories of Foreign Portfolio Investors/ Gupta, Akriti; Kumar, Parul , pp. 270–286

The liberalisation of Indian financial markets has smoothened the capital flows of international institutional investors, resulting in rising foreign investor participation in the domestic equity and debt markets. Since the reforms of the 1990s, India has become one of the favourite investment hubs of foreign institutional investors (FIIs) across the globe. The research aims to analyse the variation in contribution to foreign inflows by the three different categories of foreign portfolio investments (FPIs) and the determinants of inflows of the categories of FPIs. The study is based on the use of secondary data collected from the National Securities Depository Limited and the Securities Exchange Board of India. One-way ANOVA has been employed to examine the variation in inflows by different categories of FIIs. Autor regressive distributed lag model has been used to understand the factors determining the inflows of FPIs. The results of the study revealed that there exists variation in the inflows of investments among the different categories of FIIs. The variation in inflows by different categories into equity instruments was significant, while the inflows into debt instruments were not significant. Furthermore, the highest inflows were seen from the second category of FIIs.

- 168 Relationship Between Export and Economic Growth: Evidence from West African Countries/ Kulu, Evans , pp. 287–302

The export-led growth hypothesis (ELGH) postulates that export is a major driver of economic growth. This study tests this hypothesis and further analyses the determinants of exports in the case of West African countries. An annual panel data spanning from 2008 to 2018 was used. Findings from the system GMM and OLS estimations validate the ELGH in West Africa. The results also reveal that foreign direct investment, employment, remittances, land area and infrastructure are significant boosters of export while population, real effective exchange rate and taxes on international trade are detrimental to export performance in the region. The study recommends the relaxation of taxes especially on international trade to encourage businesses that produce to feed the export sectors, provide an enabling environment for businesses and also attract foreign investors.

- 169 COVID-19, Economic Package and Indian Stock Market: An Event Analysis/ Dahal, Mahesh; Das, Joy; Sangma, Amit , pp. 303–322

The present study is an attempt to analyse the behaviour of securities around the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the declaration of an economic package by the government of India. In this study, daily prices of securities constituting the BSE 100 index are considered as these securities are highly traded and their trading impact would immediately reflect on the index. To present a sector-specific analysis, the securities are further classified based on sectors and are analysed using the event study methodology. Average abnormal returns (AARs) and cumulative average abnormal returns (CAARs) for overall market and for each sector have been calculated and their significance have been tested using parametric T-statistics, standardised cross-sectional test and non-parametric sign test. Based on the analysis, the study concluded that it was not the pandemic but the actions towards controlling the pandemic that caused a negative impact on the Indian stock market. The economic package declared by the government of India to boost the economy also turned out to be futile and failed in achieving its objectives. Among the sectors, only the technology sector has been positively impacted by the pandemic. The outcome of the study would be beneficial to the trading community in identifying the sectors/securities that would act as hedging in the pandemic situations.

- 170 Impact of Product and Process Adoption Strategies on Business Expectations: Evidence from India During the Pandemic/ Bhandari, Bornali; Gupta, Samarth; Urs, K. S. , pp. 323–339

Using a unique survey of Indian firms conducted in June 2020, we analyse whether innovating into a new product line or adapting e-commerce platforms improved business outlook. A structural equation framework is used to address the endogenous relationship between six-month advance expectations of key demand (new orders) and supply (labour costs and raw material costs) variables to the two innovation strategies. Innovation strategies are in turn determined by unobservable latent variables, that is, shocks experienced due to the COVID-19-associated national lockdown. Both innovation strategies had a positive and significant impact on demand-side sentiments but had a mixed impact on the supply side.

- 171 Gravity Model Approach: An Empirical Application with Implications for BRICS Countries/ Wani, Suadat Hussain , pp. 340–352

This article aims to identify the main determinants of annual export flow among BRICS countries through the estimation of panel data from 1992 to 2018. The estimated results suggest that gross domestic product (GDP) and trade openness among other factors can explain export flow among BRICS countries. The most important finding of the study is that the formation of BRICS has exercised a negative and significant impact on bilateral trade among member countries. This study also found that the intra-industry trade dominates the intra-BRICS trade. Finally, the study found that the geographical distance between countries might be a factor for impeding trade among member countries. Thus, this study highlights the importance of increasing economic cooperation among these countries in terms of developing infrastructure, signing of free trade agreement (FTA) and increasing people-to-people contacts.

- 172 Price Impact of Derivatives Listing and Delisting: Evidence from India/ Kumar, Rahul; Chakrabarti, Prasenjit , pp. 353–371

This article investigates the spot market's short-term price reaction on derivatives listing and delisting in India. We comprehensively examine the derivatives listing and delisting

with extended time-series data from 2001-2020. We employ event study methodology and find that stocks show positive price reactions on the inclusion, whereas, on the exclusion, stocks show adverse price reactions. In addition, we validate our findings by considering the announcement date and actual date as our event date. We also examine the cross-sectional drivers of cumulative abnormal returns. We find that the underlying liquidity and volatility are critical drivers of cumulative abnormal returns. We produce evidence that derivatives listing (delisting) around the event window significantly increases (decreases) the prices of its underlying. The study attempt to contribute to option listing literature by analyzing the firm-specific cross-sectional drivers of cumulative abnormal returns.



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