

edited by Vulli Dhanaraju
Kh. Narendra Singh

contesting gender

History, Politics and Identity





Vulli Dhanaraju is currently teaching History at the Assam University (Central University) Diphu Campus, Assam, India. He obtained his M.A. (MPhil) and PhD degrees in the Department of History from University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, India. He also obtained M.A. (Sociology), PG Diploma in Human Rights (PGDHR), PG Diploma in Archival Science & Manuscriptology (PGDASM) and PG Diploma in Museology (PGDM). He was a Teen Murti Fellow for his Doctoral Research (2008-2010) at the Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, New Delhi. His area of research and specializations includes Caste and Tribe, Subaltern Histories and Environmental History. He has authored, *A Text Book of Environmental History of India* and edited four books, *Debating Tribal Identity: Past and Present*, *The Idea of Caste, Regional Environmental History: Issues and Concepts in Indian Sub-continent*, and *Contesting Gender: History, Politics and Identity*. He has also contributed number of articles/research papers in various reputed journals and conferences.



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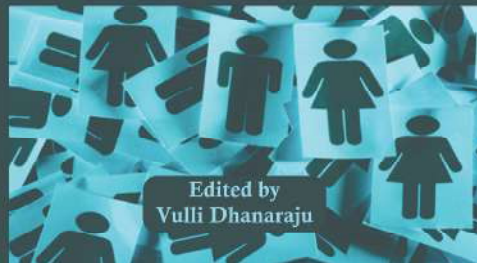
Voice of the Other
Understanding Marginal Identities

Edited by
Vulli Dhanaraju



Voice of the Other

Understanding Marginal Identities



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The book addresses the concept of marginalization in understanding various identities in Indian society. Marginalization is often described as a social process where people refer to the periphery or 'margins' of the society. It is defined as processes, in which individuals or communities are socially excluded and denied access to participate in social and political processes which are basic to integrate with the society. In this context the term, 'marginality' is used in this book in order to understand the depressed and socially excluded sections, estranged by others such as 'Brahminism' in mainstream society, exploitative nature of non tribals in northeast and patriarchy in mainstream Indian society. The book is divided into four thematic sections covering 17 papers by scholars, social science researchers and other experts on the theme. The four thematic themes are *Caste and Marginality*, *Ethnic Identities and Marginality*, *Gender and Marginality*, and *Literature, Language and Marginality*. Each section has covered main theme of the book. Thus, the readers will find this book dealing with the voice of the 'other' in the study of marginal identities.

THE IDEA OF CASTE

About the Book

The Idea of Caste is the most debatable issue in Indian academics. There is a gigantic body of academic writings on this issue. These are basically the part of debate on the transformation of Indian society under the impact of colonialism and its administrative mechanisms. Social Scientists have often revealed that the idea of caste has undergone significant changes during different historical periods especially during the colonial and post-colonial periods. Various sociologists have brought our attention towards the mobility persisting within the caste system. It has also been said that in different historical phases the socio-economic context are responsible for the changes occurring in the caste system, and it is through articulation with this alone that the changes take place in the internal social structure and ideology of the caste system. The book is divided into four thematic sections, covering sixteen papers by scholars, academicians and other experts on caste studies. These four thematic sections are: Caste, History and Identity; Caste Question and Identity Formations; Caste, Gender and Identity; Literature, Marginality and Identity. Thus, this book addresses the historical and sociological understanding of caste to create awareness about the real hidden agenda of various arguments on caste ideology in Indian society.



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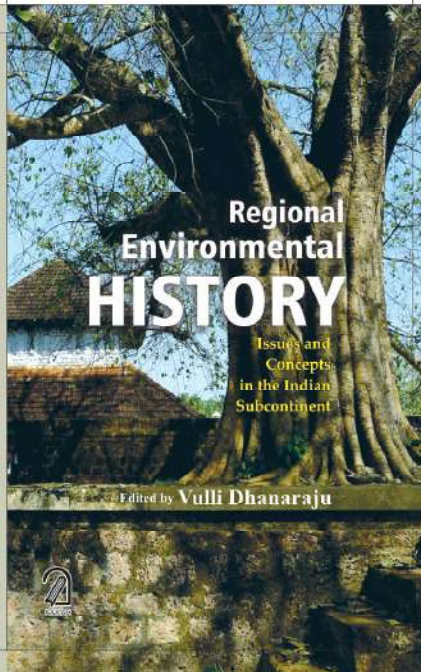


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Dhanaraju

Regional Environmental History



Regional Environmental HISTORY

Issues and Concepts in the Indian Subcontinent

Edited by **Vulli Dhanaraju**

The book is divided into four thematic sections covering 14 chapters and introduction by historian and scholars in order to understand the regional environmental history in the Indian subcontinent. Recently some historians have started to focus on regional environmental history as a way to systematize their study of the interaction between humans and nature. These regions have always existed in the Indian subcontinent for a long time. This approach implies the historians to create a new outlook in writing of environmental history from regional perspective. The indices refer highlighted the local peculiarities and specificities and interaction with the broad agenda of environmental changes with consequence of the transformation of landscapes into modern generating zones during colonial period. Some of these areas may appear mostly disconnected the complex interaction between man and nature and its oscillations with regional peculiarities and specificities and interactions. Indeed, regional environmental has an importance of its own particularly in a vast country like India with its numerous historical regions. A proper study of the regional history with its historical background is necessary to understand the unique features of India. Thus, the readers will find this book dealing with regional concepts and issues in the study of environmental history in the Indian subcontinent.



A Textbook of
environmental
History of India

About the Book

This book consists of sixteen chapters based on themes and issues of ecology and environment. The book will trace man-environment interaction in past from hunting-gathering societies to the present, and addressing issues such as complex changes in use of natural resources; cultural understanding of ecology; debates over forest policies and property rights and also examines how ecology and environment have shaped cultural behavior of the communities, and the effects of human activity and human ideas on non-human nature. Indeed, Environmental History of India opens up new perspectives with the influence of contemporary issues particularly modifications of landscape, reoccurrence of natural calamities, and conflicts over the control and use of natural resources. Therefore, it is a very crucial and challenging interdisciplinary field that deserves much scholarly attention. Thus, this book is designed for the students of history background, scholars and teachers in order to relate interdisciplinary approach in understanding Indian ecology, culture and environment from the pre-history to the present period.



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A Textbook of environmental History of India Vulli Dhanaraju



A Textbook of
environmental
History of India

Vulli Dhanaraju





Debating Tribal Identity Past & Present

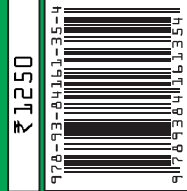
About the Book

Understanding of contemporary tribal identities requires a basic appreciation of the historical processes which have been determined the course of successive changes in socio-cultural, economic, ideological and political life of the tribes. Keeping in mind the vastness of the Indian sub-cultural multitudinous of those people, one can only generalize that the historical experiences would be as variable for different people as their interaction with their ecology and the neighbouring cultures from time to time. For the understanding of identity formation of the tribe, one has to initiate the dialogue between the past and the present. The present book will address the issue of different types of identity formations among the tribal communities in India. The identity formations are different from tribe to tribe due to multi ethnicity of the Indian sub continent. In this way the book assesses the nature of identity formations by exploring history of various tribal communities across India which will provide an idea to make a new discourse and dimensions for the understanding of the tribal identities from historical perspective. This book not only addresses historical perspective of tribal identity but also use multiple perspectives/discourses in developing a new paradigm to understand tribal identity in different regions of India. An important aspect of this book is that it demonstrates the construction of identity among the tribals by stimulating epistemologies from sub-nationalism, language, education, technology, environment, medicine etc.

Vulli Dhanaraju is currently teaching History at the Assam University (Central University) Diphu Campus, Assam. He obtained his M.A, M.Phil & PhD degrees from University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. His area of research and specializations are History of Caste and Tribe, Subaltern Histories and Environmental History. He has contributed number of articles/research papers in various reputed journals and conferences. Besides his normal academic activities, he takes active part and work for the upliftment of the marginal sections in various platforms.

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Debating Tribal Identity Past & Present

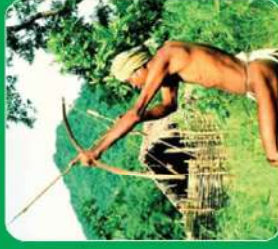
edited by
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Debating Tribal Identity

Past & Present

edited by
Vulli Dhanaraju





R.K. Bijeta is an Institutional Post Doctoral Fellow, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT-Guwahati, Assam. She obtained her M.A., M.Phil and PhD degrees from the Department of History, Assam University, Silchar, Assam. She has authored, *Raid and Resistance: The Politics of the Negas in Colonial Assam* (2016). She has also contributed number of articles/research papers in various journals and edited books and presented papers in various seminars and conferences. Her area of research includes Oral History, Ethnic Politics and Tribal History.



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DEBATING NORTHEAST INDIA

Mapping Ethnic Identity Formation

Edited by

R.K. Bijeta ■ Vulli Dhanaraju



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DEBATING NORTHEAST INDIA

Mapping Ethnic Identity Formation

Of late, ethnic Identity has become a debatable issue in the academic discourse of Northeast India. The issue of ethnic identity is a very complex process in this region. That means the sharing of a common culture on the one hand, and harping on separateness on the other. It is argued that there are conflicting situations in the northeast because these ethnic groups are trying to explore and construct their own history, culture, politics and identity from their own perspective. In this context the main focus of this book is to represent the plural voices of the ethnic groups while negating with the existing dominant discourses in the present academic epistemology. These discourses neglected the ideological and mass political character of the ethnic groups who are constructing their identity and history through politics of difference, politics of recognition and experience of marginalization. These three political ideas could be considered as their political ideology that always sustained for mapping identity formation among the ethnic groups of Northeast India. This book is divided into five thematic sections covering 20 chapters by scholars and researchers and other experts from northeast region. In each section, four papers are included, each touching upon the main theme of the book.

Vulli Dhanaraju is currently teaching History at the Assam University (Central University) Diphu, Guwahati, Assam, India. He obtained his M.A., M.Phil and Ph.D. degrees from University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. He was a Telen Murti Fellow (1988-1991) at the Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, New Delhi. His area of research and specialization includes Caste and Tribe, Subaltern Studies and Environmental History. He has authored, *A Textbook of Environmental History of India* and edited, *Love Looks: Debating Tribal Identity: Past and Present: The Idea of Caste, Regional Environmental History Issues and Concepts in the Indian Sub-continent and Contesting Gender: History, Politics and Identity*. He has also contributed a number of articles/research papers in various reputed journals and conferences.

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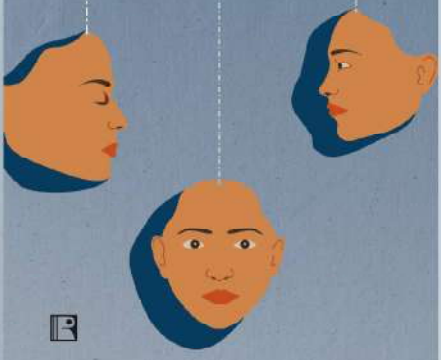
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Dhanaraju

Caste, Tribe and Gender



Caste, Tribe and Gender
Politics of Self and the Other

Edited by
Vulli Dhanaraju

Of late, politics of the 'self' and the 'other' has been the subject of much academic debate in the study of subaltern identities all over the world. This debate addresses several questions. What is an identity? How are subaltern identities different from others? How the 'self' is constituted with the 'other'? Seeking to view these questions, the caste, tribe, and gender have all arisen in some way from a *reworking of the 'otherness' and everyday experiences in the society*. In this context this book proposes to explore the nature of social subordination and its diverse forms of subordination in the study of structural hegemony which exists in different forms in Indian society. The interface between contemporary state and social identities on the one hand, and relationships among the self identity on the other provided the context within which social hegemony is practiced. Social marginalisation, contestation and discrimination has existed in Indian society since time immemorial. But the rise of self respect movements and social network revolution after 1980s, brought the process of major changes in the social identity movements which remodelled many of the pre-existing social discriminations. The gender question on the other hand has also attracted a lot of attention, particularly because of the rise of the feminist movement in post-independence period. Like other social categories, women also have been involved in collective actions equipped with their agenda, ideologies, philosophies and organisations in order to have their proper and dignified place in all aspects of life. The book is divided into four thematic sections covering 10 chapters. The four themes are (1) Politics of Self and Gender; (2) Caste and Tribe; (3) Gender; and (4) Other: Marginal Identities and Politics.