



Global Capital and Peripheral Labour: The History and Political Economy of Plantation Workers in India (Routledge Contemporary South Asia)

By Ravi Raman

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Based on extensive archival research, the book interprets the dynamics of plantation capitalism by focusing on the work, life and struggle of the dalits on plantations in colonial and post-colonial South India as they evolved from the mid-19th century. It argues that these elements of the plantation life-world were fashioned by the specific characteristics of the workers' location within the capitalist world-economy, the then prevailing local social structure and the scheme of disciplining to which the workers were subjected to. Treating the relations among various social forces – the planting communities, the oppressed communities (dalits in India), the regional and national state, and the Imperial regime, this book fills a gap in academic literature on capitalism, economic development, and globalization.

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Review

"With a strong footing in extensive archival sources and theory, Raman accomplishes his task successfully."-

-P. Sanal Mohan, *InterUniversity Centre for Social Science Research and Extension, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, India.*

About the Author

K. Ravi Raman is a labour historian and political economist currently based at the Department of Social Anthropology, University of Manchester, UK. He formerly held the Hallsworth Research Fellowship in the same department (2005-08) and the South Asia Visiting fellowship at the Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford (1999), and is the editor of *Development, Democracy and the State*, Routledge, forthcoming 2010.

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