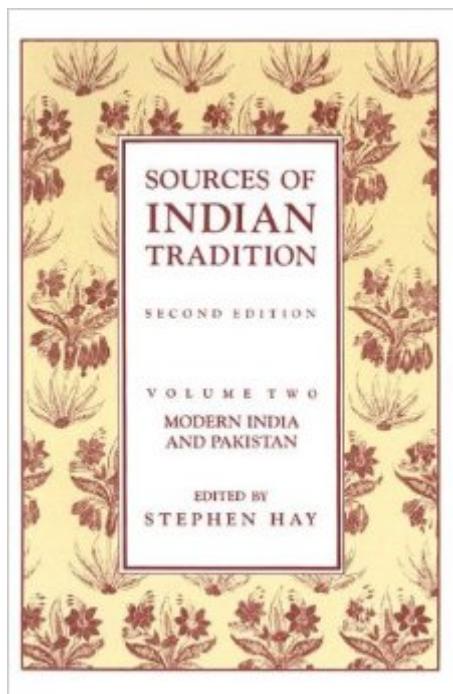


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Sources Of Indian Tradition, Vol. 2: Modern India And Pakistan (Introduction To Oriental Civilizations)



Synopsis

Since 1958 one of the most important and widely used texts on civilization in South Asia (now the nation-states of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal), this classic is now extensively revised, with much new material added. Introductory essays explain the particular settings in which leading Indian thinkers have expressed their ideas about religious, social, political, and economic questions. Brief summaries precede each passage from their writings or sayings. Chapters address the opening of India to the West; Hindu and Muslim social and religious reform movements; the emergence of both moderate and extremist nationalisms; the thought of Mahatma Gandhi; public policies for independent India; Pakistan's formation as an Islamic state, and other topics. (Wendy Doniger, University of Chicago)

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Most of the time I have large problems with huge collections of primary sources such as this too often we get a picture of society from the top down and not the bottom up. Whoever complied this collection did a very good job. There are sources from everywhere the old Mughal Empire, occupying British forces trying to take over India, Gandhi, Jinnah, Nehru, even Bose who is most often overlooked. There are even examples from the untouchables activists. Before I started the course for modern south asian history I didn't even know that there were such activists. Overall-Stephen Hay did his homework. If you have an interest in Modern India this is the book to get.

This book is an excellent collection of primary sources on Modern India and Pakistan. It was required as part of a "Politics of South Asia" course and closely complemented the units studied. The editor strongly weaves together relevant sources, and provides helpful background information. Highly recommended for adoption.

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