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Cultural Pasts: Essays in Early Indian History

By Romila Thapar

Oxford University Press, 2013. Softcover. Book Condition: New. 15 x 23 cm. This collection of papers and lectures on early Indian history by one of India's foremost historians focuses on historiography and the changing dimensions of social and cultural history. The essays have been grouped thematically in nine sections: historiography; social and cultural transactions; archaeology and history; pre-Mauryan and Mauryan India; forms of exchange; the society of heroes in the epics and the later tradition of venerating heroes; genealogies and origin myths; the social context of the renouncer; and the present in the past, which looks at how current ideologies make use of the early past. The collective publication of these important pieces-written over the last forty years and published in various journals-makes them newly accessible to Professor Thapar's many readers. This volume will be indispensable to students and scholars of early Indian history. Contents List of Illustrations I. HISTORIOGRAPHY : 1. Ideology and the Interpretation of Early Indian History 2. Durkheim and Weber on Theories of Society and Race Relating to Pre-colonial India 3. The Contribution of D.D. Kosambi to Indology 4. Early India : An Overview 5. Regional History: The Punjab 6. Regional History with Reference to...



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