

Caste Panchayats and Caste Politics in India

“Scholars have waited long and keenly for a book-length treatment of the subject of caste panchayats. Their expectations could not have been more substantially fulfilled. This is a work that combines real historical depth of learning with acute theoretical analysis. It is highly instructive and illuminating not only on the nature and function of caste panchayats, but on the wider details of caste’s relation to politics and, quite generally, on the claims of Indian political modernity.”

—Akeel Bilgrami, *Sidney Morgenbesser Professor of Philosophy, Professor, Committee on Global Thought, Columbia University, New York, NY, USA*

“The volume makes an important contribution in analytical understanding of castes and their historical formation in Panchayats. More importantly, the research work maps out the role these panchayats have been playing in consolidating both property as well political power relations. The author offers a careful account of complex phenomena such as caste panchayats.”

—Gopal Guru, *Former Professor, Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Editor, EPW, India*

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