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## The hollow crown ethnohistory of an indian kingdom pdf

Thomas R. Metcalf, Nicholas B. Dirks. The Hollow Crown: Ethnohistory of an Indian Kingdom. (Cambridge South Asian Studies, 39.) New York: Cambridge University Press. S. xxix, 458. 49.50, The American Historical Review, Volume 95, Issue 1, February 1, February 1, February 1990, page 237, A groundbreaking piece of ethnohistory, The Hollow Crown uses a variety of interdisciplinary means to reconstruct the sociocultural history of a warrior policy in southern India between the fourteenth and twentieth centuries. At the heart of the book is the belief that comparative sociology has systematically denied the importance of the Indian state and obscured the political basis of Indian society by presenting the caste as a fundamental religious system. In reconstructing the history of politics, which eventually became the colonial princely state of Pudukkottai, Dr. Dirks therefore raises a whole series of questions concerning the methods of history and anthropology, the character of Tamil royalty and social organization, the relationship between politics and ritual, the effects of colonialism and modernization, and the dynamics of the entire last millennium of South Indian history. Jean-Claude Galey 1989. Introduction. History and Anthropology, Vol. 4, Issue. 1, p. 1. Peter Mayer 1991. Item, she has more hair than wit: Reflections on the post-dumontian Ische study on culture in India. Asian Studies Review, Vol. 15, issue. 2, p. 88. Bayly, Susan 1999. Caste, society and politics in India from the eighteenth century to the modern age. Rao, Anupama und Pierce, Steven 2001. DISCIPLINE AND THE OTHER BODY Correction, Corporeality, and Colonial Rule. Interventions, Volume 3, Issue. Sinopoli, Carla M. 2003. 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Given to the Goddess. p. 71. 2014. Given to the Goddess. p. 71. 2014. Given to the Goddess. p. 71. 2014. Given to the goddess. p. 213. Show off your review of The Hollow Crown: Ethnohistory of an Indian Kingdom Meera's really liked it September 15, 2014 Ulla Sperber rated it really liked it Nov 09, 2014 Maria rated it really liked it Mar 10, 2012 Wei Fen rated it really liked it 04, 2013 Blue Lotus rated it really liked it 04, 2013 Blue Lotus rated it really liked it 10, 2007 Shayan rated it really liked it 10, 2007 Shayan rated it really liked it 10, 2013 Blue Lotus rated it really liked it 10, 2017 Clint rated it liked it 10, 2017 Clint rated it really liked it 10, 2017 Clint rated it really liked it 04, 2013 Blue Lotus rated it. 2013 Catherine rated it really liked it Jun 17, 2012 Sokolg marked it as read Aug 13, 2014 Ashley marked it as read Aug 31, 2014 LPenting marked it as read Oct 25, 2013 Dmaj marked it as read Nov 21, 2013 Kavya marked it as read Aug 31, 2014 LPenting marked it as read October 17, 2014 Bridget marked it as read Nov 13, 2014 Prashant marked it as read Nov 18, 2015 Pravin marked it as read Nov 08, 2015 Pravin marked it as read Mar 10, 2016 Premnazeer reads it currently Apr 10. Princely India Re-imagined: A Historical Anthropology of Mysore from 1799 to the Present. Routledge, 2012. 212 p. 145.00 (substance), ISBN 978-0-415-55449-7. Review by Anastasia Piliavsky (University of Cambridge) Published on H-Asia (October 2014) Commissioned by Sumit Guha (The University of Texas at Austin) India's Non-Sovereign Kings It shows some audacity for an anthropologist based in the UK to publish historical work, especially if it is not involved in marginal or depressed subalterns. In her first monograph, Princely India Re-imagined, Aya Ikegame does just that and leads us through two hundred years of history of the kings of Mysore, one of the most important former kingdoms of India, where Ikegame (who speaks fluent Kannada) has devoted several years of archival and ethnography research. This detailed report on the royal household of Mysore is an important contribution to Indian historiography. It also sheds light on a significant blind spot in Indian ethnography, where India's kings are still barely a figure, even though they ruled a third of the subcontinent less than a century ago. The task ikegame faces is not easy: to appeal to historians of British colonialism as well as political anthropologists. To historians they have a carefully researched account of how Indian kings asserted political authority during and after colonialism; Anthropologists are trying to show them how and why kings in India remain politically significant today. It refutes a predominant claim in Indian historiography, most effectively made in Nicholas Dirks's 1989 monograph The Hollow Crown: Ethnohistory of an Indian Kingdom, that British colonialism emptied Indian royalty from political substance and that the economic and vital distribution of goods into a vain charade. Dirks insisted that the Raj cut off the kings from their political following and sources of religious authority, leaving them only hollow crowns. Ikegame, on the other hand, insists that the Rajas, who have been stripped of sovereignty, have found new ways to forge and consolidate the loyalties of their subjects, legitimize their power, and govern in important ways. Her argument is not presented linearly, but uses each chapter to offer a different view of the princely mysore. Each chapter will have a different appeal for different readers and the book as a whole will best be read as a collection of essays on a common theme. We begin our journey to Mysore (in chapter 2) in the Royal Palace, where the East India Company installed four-year-old Krishnaraja Wodeyar III after he killed Tipu Sultan in 1799. In 1830, Wodeyar III was thrown from the throne by a peasant uprising, but was soon reinstated by the British. From then on he became a pensioner of the East India Company and the management of Mysore went under the direct control of the company. In order to definitively revoke the power of the Raja, the British authorities tried to separate his private funds, the share of the Raja, from the public property of the state. This was a major political, fiscal and cosmological change. The palace, which embodied the kingdom, has now become a private retreat for an ornamental king. But Wodeyar III resisted this privatization. While his resources and sphere of influence shrank dramatically, he continued to waste land subsidies (in'ms) on his followers: brahmins, vassals, temples and monasteries, and military followers: brahmins, vassals, temples and monasteries, and military followers. He granted grants to individuals, institutions, and public services, such as the preservation of reservoirs, consolidating corporate loyalty and decisively shedting the public-private divide. The British authorities derided this liberality as a corrupt alienation of the country and eventually abolished the Inms. But instead of limiting his generosity, the king refocused his giving on a narrow circle of followers in the palace. Far from becoming a guiet retreat, the palace grew into the largest employer and promoter of the city of Mysore. By 1868, the palace employed nearly ten thousand people – one in six people in Mysore! – and distributed six hundred pounds of rice to the poor every day. The share of raja, Ikegame notes, was literally eaten up by the people in the palace and in the city (p. 26). While the poor ate the rice of the Raja, the and aristocrats after royal honors. Under the company's rule, the king continued to distribute royal insignia, servants and paraphernalia. Ikegame shows (in Chapter 3) that, contra Dirks, there was nothing fetishistic, decorative or remnant of this process. that the The honor was a politically substantial exercise by which the king asserted dominance and distinguished his subordinates as subjects of the king. The honorees a higher status – like the royal gift of pre-colonial India – but also literally incorporated them into the royal flock by de-energizing the ritual, political, and economic functions of the palace. As in previous segmental policies, this centripetal process produced other centers of power – especially hindu monasteries – that became important providers of Mysore and for those who hoped to join them, this royal recognition was crucial. The Old Town was teeming with bitter battles over royal honours, and in the 20th century the palace received so many requests for honours had to be regulated. Ikegame notes that this regularization was a strangely hybrid process. While sharing in the spirit of colonial enumerous efficiency, she maintained a distinctly indigenous goal: not only to list, but also to give recognition to the groups it honors. While the Urs aristocracy at the palace gate gave up after honor, the princes in turn pursued signs of distinction from colonial overlords. The British, for their part, were unastagable with awards: rifle greetings, imperial titles, orders, and so on. The main badge of imperial recognition was English, and the Rajas worked diligently in English and manners, and the virtues of honesty, modesty and athletic verve. In Chapter 4, we learn a lot about the English formation of the Rajas – the one colonial mechanism that successfully domesticated India's kings and distanced them from their subjects. As the teenager Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV traveled through villages, the crowds fell in total admiration when they caught the king's holy vision (Darshan). The king, however, who was accustomed to polo grounds rather than the racket of popular Hindu devotion, was shaken to the core. At the turn of the 20th century, Indian kings of rivals of imperial rulers transformed into their vassals. When Maharaja Wodeyar III learned late in life that the British official who served as a resident, he was still considered a prince, but would be reduced to the level of a poligar [subcontracter] (p. 150) by the removal of his resident. In this changing notion Royal empowerment came the legitimacy less from below or from the imperial lords above. Chapter 6 offers a fascinating study of the marriage strategies of the Mysore rajas, who are now turning their eyes to alliances beyond their Unlike other Indian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from northern lindian royals, the kings of Mysore never married European women, but sought brides from the linding from th Wodeyars as women's donors standing below by the logic of hypergamy (marriage). At the end of a long search, Krishnaraja Wodeyar IV had to marry an 11-year-old princess from a tiny kingdom in Gujarat without arms salutes. The new trans-local alliances have made the old vertical pattern of marriage with local aristocrats, who were over the royals' novel preference for foreign women, correspondingly angry. This dramatic change raises several questions: Why did the Mysore Royals suddenly turn away from local marriages? Why did the morthern Rajas reject them? And why did the Mysore family accept the humiliating position of the wives? After all, Mysore was at the top of the imperial hierarchy, his twenty-one rifle greetings that placed it above each kingdom in Raiputana. Ikegame tells us that the Wodeyars' pan-Indian aspirations were consistent with their increasing linguistic, cultural and spatial mobility, which is true of most other Indian royals. She also points out that by homogenizing the princely class, the British unknowingly created India's first national class. To explain Mysore's difficulties in obtaining northern alliances, she begins a complicated discussion of classical kinship theory and concludes that Mysore's marital aspirations largely failed because the southern (dravidian) system of cross-border and uncle-niece marriage collided with the asymmetries of hypergamy practiced in the north. This does not explain, however, why the Wodeyars liked to take the subordinate position instead of marrying further away in the south, where they were indisputable superiors. One wonders whether the Wodeyars might have had less than imperial ambitions. Like many other South Indian kings, the Rajas were royal upstarts who, not so long ago, were among the less polished. The Empire could have given them the highest honors, but for established South Asian kings they were parvenus. While joining the cosmopolitan elite, the Rajas of Mysore also seem to have taken an indigenous path of ascension by climbing the hierarchy of the royals, who entered them much closer to the ground than their imperial titles suggest. In chapters 7 and 8, Ikegame responds to the question of authority, and in particular on how the indigenous concept of rjadharma (moral duty of kings), which it translates with sovereignty, was reshaped under the Raj. Chapter 8 is a shedding story of Mysore, in which Ikegame argues that the physical transformation of the city is the new Conception of royal rule, which combined the indigenous idea of rjadharma with the colonial concept of improvement. The Dharmaria (righteous king) was now expected to create beautiful public spaces and build sanitary suburbs with latrines. The ancient idea of royal encirclement and transcendence found a new expression in the idiom of tolerance. And Gandhi himself praised Mysore under Maharaja Wodeyar IV, who supported Muslims, along with Hindus and Jain, religious institutions, as Rama Rajya – the kingdom of Rama. Mysore became an architectural crossroads, both a modern city and an ideal Hindu capital (p. 137). Ritual claims of royalty – the palace, its royal assemblies (Darbérs) and the ceremony followed a new Anglo-Indian ritual code (p. 153). Women across the city synchronized their domestic adoration with the rifle salute they heard fired at the palace. The idea of rjadharma proved to be polyvalent and adaptable to new circumstances, as scholars of premodern India have shown. The study definitively refutes the notion that tradition is fixed in some way. All of this – the royal sponsorship of mosques, temples and schools, as well as the public royal rituals – ended in 1971, when Indian kings. The king has literally disappeared from sight and today the Darbs are private parties with very few guests. The royals, we are told in the last chapter, have also disappeared from politics, which is now dominated by the formerly backward castes of ockaligas and lingayats. This in itself is astonishing: how could king and aristocrats become political absentees overnight? We find Ikegame's own description that the change was less complete. In Chapter 5, we learn that one of Karnataka's most ardent populist and most admired politicians, Devarai Urs, was a high-ranking aristocrat. Ikegame rejects his election as Chief Minister as a matter of luck (p. 94), but it seems unlikely that his election was pure luck. We learn (again on the sidelines) that the son of the last Maharaja lost parliamentary elections in 2004, but not before he served four terms. For two decades, he must have been the candidate of the election, not just for the aristocratic minority. It would have been interesting to know whether Ikegame believed that his social standing played a role in the choice of Played. And if not, why not? Another fascinating development that she briefly mentions and many readers will no doubt want to know more about it is the increasingly powerful role of Hindu monasteries, once a time In electoral politics. Readers will also be happy to learn more about today's politics, but here the report falters when Ikegame leaves the discussion about the current context on the last pages. She suggests that while the kings lost their influence, royalty as a representative order and the king as the emblem of domination persists. Like Pamela Price in her Kingship and Political Practice in Colonial India (1996) and I in my published collection Patronage as Politics in South Asia (2014), Ikegame sees royalty surviving in a series of related ideals and values. But unlike Price or Norbert Peabody (Hindu Kingship and Polity in Pre-colonial India [2003]), it tells us little about what ideals and values persist or how they shape competition policy today. Those looking for a study of royality as an idiom of political authorization will now find more prosopography of former kings than the analysis of political legitimacy. Instead of rediscovering the richness of the royal discourses, symbols, gestures, and practices that she describes so well in the earlier chapters, she instead turns to obscure musingen by Gayatri Chakrabarti Spivak. These omissions reflect the extreme difficulty of combining a historical depiction of the royal family with an analysis of royalty as a set of ideas that shape the politics of the modern world. Nevertheless, readers will gain many fascinating insights from Ikegame's superbly researched study, which will no doubt make them think about what royalty can be without kings are in the absence of royal sovereignty, in India and beyond. If this review is also discussed, you can access it over the network at: . Quote: Anastasia Piliavsky, Review by Ikegame, Ava, Princely India Re-imagined: A Historical Anthropology of Mysore from 1799 to the Present, H-Asia, H-Net reviews, October 2014, URL:

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