

Recent Books from Pakistan – June 2020

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Cinema Studies

Love, War and Other Longings : Essays on Cinema in Pakistan / (Ed) Vazira Zamindar & Asad Ali
Karachi: Oxford University Press, 2020
276p.
Includes Index ; Bibliography
9780190701857
\$ 30.00 / PB
474gm.

Has there been a ‘revival’ of Pakistani cinema? Or can the very question be put to scrutiny? Can we think beyond a national cinema, and instead simply think with films to explore the fraught politics and aspirations of our times? *Love, War & Other Longings* brings together historians, anthropologists, artists, and film-makers to offer new lines of enquiry that probe the tensions between cinema’s past and present, absences and the archive, seduction and respectability, class and consumption, as well as genre and censorship. At times experimental in form, the essays seek to draw readers into conversations that engage political theory and postcolonial history, and become part of ongoing writing, thinking, and the making of films in Pakistan and the global south more broadly.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=701275>

History

The Silk Road and Beyond : Narratives of a Muslim Historian / Iftikhar H. Malik
Karachi: Oxford University Press, 2020
xvi, 368p.
Includes Index
9780199405961
\$ 50.00 / HB
596gm.

The Silk Road and Beyond attempts to capture lived realities across Central Asia, Iran, Turkey, Spain, Italy, Morocco, Finland, Britain, USA, Palestine, Switzerland, Finland, and the subcontinent. It also aims at initiating readers into encountering Muslim heritage across the four continents where cultures share commonalities beyond the narrowly defined premise of conflicts. This book is an effort to capture history, literature, mobility, crafts, architectural traditions, and cultural vistas by focusing on diverse Muslim individuals, communities, cities, and their edifices. It attempts to reconstruct deeper and munificent aspects of Muslim histories and lived experience that often stay ignored by the writers and travellers. Normative accounts of cities such as Bukhara, Jerusalem, Isfahan, Fes, Samarkand, Granada, Palermo, Cordova, or Konya may lifelessly posit them as sheer tourist destinations, ignoring their cultural and historical depth. Written in an autobiographical genre, this book benefits from a 40-year-long exposure and encounters with the vibrant lives across the four continents as experienced by a curious Muslim academic at different stages of his life. The reader can explore and relish these predominantly Muslim locales along with a frequent exposure to socio-intellectual institutions in Europe and the United States.

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Pakistan : Alternative Imag(in)ings of the Nation State / (Ed) Jurgen Schaflechner, Christina Oesterheld & Ayesha Asif
Karachi: Oxford University Press, 2020
xxviii, 376p.
Includes Index
9780190701314
\$ 40.00 / PB
366gm.

This edited volume combines academic and journalistic writings on Pakistans literature, non-Muslim life-worlds, and popular culture. The book brings together national and international authors from fields of literary studies, anthropology, and cultural studies to critique solidified imaginings of the nation state.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=701277>

On Their Own Terms : Early Twenty-First Century Women's Movements in Pakistan / Fouzia Saeed
Karachi: Oxford University Press, 2020
xiv, 306p.
Includes Index ; Bibliography
9780190702595
\$ 35.00 / PB
304gm.

On Their Own Terms is an engaging introduction to the inner dynamics of women's social movements in Pakistan. Pakistani women are often viewed as merely passive victims of heinous crimes. In this book, Dr Saeed shows how they can collectively assert their will to bring change in their own lives, and in the lives of others.

The book provides details of four successful women's movements since 2000: the provincial movements of the Punjab peasants and the Sindh fisherfolk, and the nationwide movements of the lady health workers and AASHA, the movement against sexual harassment.

On Their Own Terms enables readers to learn about the key players, their issues, their challenges, and the strategies they used. These cases have been written with two audiences in mind. First, the book is meant for the young activists of today. The author carefully documents these movements to provide lessons that can be incorporated into ongoing initiatives and has included stories of courageous women who make us proud. Second, the book is for the policymakers who need to understand the power of Pakistani women to lead social change on their own terms.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=701278>

Pakistan's Foreign Policy 1947-2019 : A Concise History / Abdul Sattar
5th Ed.

Karachi : Oxford University Press, 2020

Xii, 400p.

9780190702571

\$ 40.00 / PB

440gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=701279>

Performing Arts

Siren Song : Understanding Pakistan Through Its Women Singers / Fawzia
Afzal-Khan

Karachi: Oxford University Press, 2020

xxxviii, 212p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9780190700546

\$ 30.00 / PB

276gm.

Fawzia Afzal-Khan's book is an important and timely feminist intervention in the study of classical music and a cogent challenge to the prevailing antiseccular orthodoxy in the academy. In this complex and sensitive study...of the careers of artistes like Malka Pukhraj, Roshanara Begum, Reshma, and of the newer music and musical space offered by *Coke Studio*, Afzal-Khan

shows us the multiple ways in which women performers negotiated and continue to negotiate their way through the numerous challenges thrown their way in the wake of the partitioning of the subcontinent and the multiple demands placed on them.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=701280>
