



Indian and Chinese Immigrant Communities Comparative Perspectives

Edited by Jayati Bhattacharya and Coonoor Kripalani

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An interdisciplinary comparative study of two of the most significant diaspora communities in Asia.

“Groundbreaking! The essays in this extraordinary collection juxtapose the Chinese and Indian Diasporas – two of the largest in world history – in a range of unprecedented ways. Far beyond merely comparing, they also reveal how the migration processes interact and intertwine, overlap and intersect each other. As a source of insight, inspiration and information, this volume forces us to fundamentally rethink many important aspects of migration while showing exciting new possibilities in the field of diaspora studies.” —Elizabeth Sinn, author of *“Pacific Crossing: California Gold, Chinese Migration, and the Making of Hong Kong”*

“Arising from two of the largest migrations in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Chinese and Indian immigrant communities are well known, little studied, and rarely compared—until now. This is a path-breaking book, which shows all the complexity and ambiguities of immigrant life in vivid comparative detail. I heartily recommend it.”—Gary G. Hamilton, Associate Director, Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington

This interdisciplinary collection of essays offers a window onto the overseas Indian and Chinese communities in Asia. Contributors discuss the interactive role of the cultural and religious ‘other’, the diasporic absorption of local beliefs and customs, and the practical business networks and operational mechanisms unique to these communities. Growing out of an international workshop organized by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore and the Centre of Asian Studies at the University of Hong Kong, this volume explores material, cultural and imaginative features of the immigrant communities and brings together these two important communities within a comparative framework.

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