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Hyderabad and British Paramountcy, 1858-1883. By Bharati Ray. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1988. xviii, 232 pp. \$19.95.

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/2zw7q2g7>

Journal

The Journal of Asian Studies, 48(4)

ISSN

0021-9118

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Publication Date

1989-11-01

DOI

10.2307/2058206

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Peer reviewed

facilities brought down the infant and general mortality rates drastically. Overall, however, the health-care delivery system emerges as the principal factor underlying the improvement in Kerala's health status. The emerging morbidity picture of Kerala is characterized by the coexistence of diseases of poverty with diseases of affluence.

The state's expenditure on health in both government and private sectors is very high, but with an increasing trend in morbidity, it will have to be higher in the years to come. The authors complain that "though the genesis of the dominant disease entities lies in poverty, their continued prevalence is due to a partial perception of the problem and ad hoc remedies adopted. Whereas health should form an integral component of overall socioeconomic development, the health policies and programs here are fragmented in approach and disease-oriented and curative in content" (p. 103). The authors suggest an intersectoral action program that would tap unutilized or underutilized resources in the nonmedical sectors. The emphasis is on prevention rather than cure. Kerala has already achieved targets set by the national government for the year 2000, but undernutrition and serious morbidity persist. A reduction in the prevalence of undernutrition and morbidity should therefore be the goals of the future. For tackling undernutrition, the suggested remedies are growing pulses, vegetables, fruits, eggs, milk, and fish—all of which could be produced with marginal increase in cost. Other proposals are low-cost housing, revival of traditional sources of water like wells and ponds instead of piped water, cheaper, more convenient waste disposal, and health education for which there is already a strong infrastructure. The health sector should also intervene to control all pollution that has any bearing on health.

The authors' major recommendation for implementing these programs is community participation and involvement of the people in decision making and cost sharing. They argue that once the people begin to have a voice in the selection of programs they should be willing to come forward and voluntarily contribute labor, materials, and money.

On the whole the authors have succeeded in the difficult task of assembling a large amount of information on Kerala's health status and drawing inferences that are generally ignored by other writers on health themes. Their emphasis on non-health factors, on prevention, and on a micro-level community-based approach to implementing their suggestions may look a little unorthodox in a state that is moving forward rapidly with curative, government-led programs. The recent affluence and changed life-styles brought about in Kerala by the Persian Gulf boom have not only made such services indispensable but have also found agencies that are only too anxious to provide them. It will be difficult for the state to reverse its present policy. However, the proposed decentralization of authority envisaged at panchayat and municipal levels is bound to put more responsibility on the community, and this would give the needed momentum to the strategy recommended by the authors. On the whole this book deserves to be commended for its usefulness to the expert and professional as well as to the general reader.

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Hyderabad and British Paramountcy, 1858–1883. By BHARATI RAY. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1988. xviii, 232 pp. \$19.95.

Bharati Ray's book focuses on British paramountcy, the development of imperial policy toward India's princely states, and its implementation in Hyderabad state in

the nineteenth century. It is not her purpose to look closely at Hyderabad society and politics, choosing the state as her arena for the study of the system of indirect rule, but she does delineate the alliances formed with the British within the state. Her sources are entirely in English. For example, her use of the Nizam's government records is restricted to English documents in the private secretary's office. She has done exhaustive research in Great Britain; her use of unpublished private papers there is particularly impressive.

The work is clearly organized. The first third takes us from the 1853 inauguration of Salar Jang I's diwanship and the Great Revolt of 1857 to 1869, a period characterized by what she terms "subordinate cooperation." Subsequently Nizam Afzal-ud-Daula's death and the succession of the infant Mahbub Ali Khan allowed Salar Jang to play a stronger role and challenge British paramountcy; the second third of the book develops this theme, ending with the death of Salar Jang in 1883. Somewhat disconcertingly, two chapters follow on the Berar cession and the introduction of railways, going back to specific issues during Salar Jang's diwanship to emphasize the price the Nizam's state paid for progress under paramountcy. A brief conclusion reviews her main points, namely that the consolidation of British paramountcy was the major factor in this period of Hyderabad history, that Salar Jang's career involved both cooperation and conflict with the paramount power, and that the paramount power did not act in the interests of Hyderabad or its people. Here, as in earlier sections, we see some concern for "the people" who distrusted and disapproved of the influence the British acquired in Hyderabad and whose welfare might have been better served by modernization, which was "a natural growth, not a foreign graft" (p. 174).

Ray's well-written and carefully documented account gives vivid portraits of the residents and relevant viceroys and governors general. She quotes effectively from Salar Jang's letters to show the impact of British policy on him, most tellingly in 1877 when Lord Lytton refused to respond favorably to the diwan's final memorial requesting the restoration of Berar. She has reconstructed the sequence of decision making, correlating letters and documents in painstaking fashion and generally fulfilling her intentions admirably.

The problems with the book are relatively minor. Ray includes appendixes listing secretaries of state, viceroys, residents, and rulers of the "Asuphea" dynasty, a spelling I had never seen before and which is certainly not welcome. Then there is the glossary, which reproduces nineteenth-century British spellings of Persian and Urdu terms. The selection of photographs (rather poor in quality, in contrast to the fine appearance of the rest of the book) also reinforces Ray's top-down perspective: almost half are of British residents.

Ray thanks V. K. Bawa in the preface for showing her his unpublished thesis, but Bawa's revised dissertation was published two years before Ray's book. Because Bawa also focuses on Salar Jang I and Hyderabad internal politics and uses primarily Hyderabad sources including some non-English ones, one might have expected Ray to raise interesting points of comparison or complementarity. But she does not use or take issue with Bawa's work—apparently her book was delayed in press since 1985. Perhaps now that both are published, we will get a healthy debate that will contribute to the historiography of Hyderabad state.

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