

David Ludden

An account of my work

(citations as on appended chronological list of publications)

My research concerns local, regional, and national articulations with world economic history in South Asia since 1750. Focusing first and foremost on local documents, social experience, physical environments, living conditions, economic activity, and power relations, I work outward from these to explore spaces that connect, encompass, and shape them. By following various strands of history over various spans of space and time, I explore dynamics of change operating at various spatial and temporal scales. I have developed useful ideas about the interplay of mobility and territoriality that challenge the conceptual foundation of history's conventional boundaries. My work concentrates on economic systems, agriculture, empire, nationality, urbanism, and globalization. I strive most of all to provide useable histories to engage academic and public debates in South Asia.¹ In addition, I address audiences worldwide concerned with area studies,² South Asia, and US empire.

My work began in 1968 when I was a twenty-year old college student public health intern following tracks of empire into a poor village then near Chennai (a.k.a. Madras) – and now engulfed by it -- the capital of Tamil Nadu in south India. There I learned that poverty was the major health problem, but more importantly at the time, I learned Tamil. I turned my mined to language studies and translation, first of revolutionary nationalist verse and then ancient poetry, where I engaged linguistic and literary registers through which personal experience enters historic documentation. I would use Tamil texts in my work for the next three decades to read inscriptions, memoirs, court records, and local histories.

1973. "The Poems and Revolution of Bharathiyar." In *Imperialism and Revolution in South Asia*. Edited by Kathleen Gough and Hari Sharma. Monthly Review Press, New York, pp.267-90.

1976. *The Kuruntokai: An Anthology of Classical Tamil Love Poetry in Translation* (with M.Shanmugam Pillai), Koodal Publishers, Madurai, 1976.

For my doctoral dissertation, I studied agrarian localities in the Tirunelveli region in southern Tamil Nadu, where I explored the political economy of agriculture in its local forms from the tenth to the twentieth century. Using local records produced under a series of state regimes -- the most detailed being English-language District Records of British India, *circa* 1805-1860 -- I described local entanglements with all these regimes, which determined the precise impact of each regime on everyday agrarian life.

My most influential early contribution came with my demonstration that different kinds of localities emerged in small, ecologically and demographically distinct agrarian regions, each integrated variously into wider regimes of power and networks of interaction. In each small

¹ Recent examples are 2005d in *Economic and Political Weekly* and 2005e in *HIMALSouthAsia*: see respectively <http://www.epw.org.in/showArticles.php?root=2005&leaf=09&filename=9106&filetype=html> and 2005, and <http://www.himalmag.com/>.

² My website is one venue for this pursuit. For example, 2002b and 2003f appeared first on my website, where editors found them for inclusion in one journal and one edited volume. Many of my essays appear in various forms in various media, as indicated on the CV.

region, locals determined the on-the-ground impact of regimes whose elites had been previously thought by scholars to be totally domineering, determining local trends entirely. This discovery had serious implications for the history of peasant societies, pre-modern states, imperialism, capitalism, economic development, and globalization, which I have pursued ever since.

1978a. "Ecological Zones and the Cultural Economy of Irrigation in Southern Tamil Nadu," *South Asia*, I (NS), 1, 1-13.

1978b. "Who Really Ruled Madras Presidency?" *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 15, 4, 517-21.

1984. "Productive Power in Agriculture: A Survey of Work on the Local History of British India." In *Agrarian Power and Agricultural Productivity in South Asia*. Edited by Meghnad Desai, Susanne H. Rudolph, and A. Rudra, University of California Press, Berkeley, pp.51-99.

1985b. "The Terms of Ryotwari: Semantics and Disputes over Property Rights in Madras Presidency, 1800-1885." In *South Indian Studies: An Anthology of Critical Essays and Recent Scholarship*. Edited by R.E. Frykenberg and Pauline Kolenda. New Era Publishers, Madras. pp.151-170.

1985c. "Toward Peasant History: Focus on South India," *Peasant Studies*, 12, 2, 129-37.

The book that came from my dissertation has now been in print for twenty-five years and remains (sadly) the only one to explore agrarian histories in sufficient local detail over a span of time sufficient to locate modern agrarian transformations in the fulsome complexity of old, well-documented, historically dynamic agrarian political economies in southern Asia. A second edition appeared in 2005. Its new Preface indicates how this old book might be read afresh today. While the book's original concern was to liberate histories of British impact from stereotypes of an all pervasive, domineering colonialism, now the book sheds new light on Subaltern Studies and on the local roots of capitalism and globalization in Asia (on which, see below).

1985/2005. *Peasant History in South India*, Princeton: Princeton University Press. Paperback edition, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1990, reprinted 1993, 1995, 1997. Second paperback edition published as *Early Capitalism and Local History in South India* with new Preface and additional Bibliography. Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2005.

By 1986, I had begun to formulate an empirical critique of the historical profession's confinement within national boundaries, by documenting precisely how places on the southern Tamil coast participated in histories of economic development that escaped the nation by being at once intensely particular and also engaged in extensive overseas networks of commercialism, which made some rural settings little hubs of early capitalism rather than static domains of "Indian tradition." This critique explicitly targeted the conventional idea that capitalism was alien to India, an imposition of colonial power, and it also posed a modest challenge to theories of world systems, modernization, and development that reify The West as only incubator, distributor, and regulator of the modern world economy.

1986. "Historians and Nation States," *Perspectives*, American Historical Association Newsletter, 24, 4, April, 12-14.

- 1988a. "Agrarian Commercialism in Eighteenth Century South India: Evidence from the 1823 Tirunelveli Census," *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 25, 4, 493-519. Reprinted in *Merchants, Markets and the State in Early Modern India*. Edited by Sanjay Subrahmanyam, Oxford University Press, *Themes in Indian History*, Delhi, 1990, 215-241.
- 1989a. "Craft Production in an Agrarian Economy, India, 1750-1900." In *Making Things in South Asia*. Edited by Michael Meister. South Asia Regional Studies Department, University of Pennsylvania, pp.103-13.
- 1989b. "Asiatic States and Agrarian Economies: Agrarian Commercialism in South India, 1700-1850," *Calcutta Historical Journal*, 13, 1-2, 112-137.
1990. "World Economy and Village India, 1600-1900: Exploring the Agrarian History of Capitalism." In *South Asia and World Capitalism*. Edited by Sugata Bose. Oxford University Press, Delhi, pp.159-77.

By 1990, I had been teaching modern South Asian history and world history at Penn for a decade. National regimes of knowledge and power then became my compelling concern. As Hindu chauvinists burst on the scene to throw India's future -- and past -- into question, and as US empire hit Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq, I immersed myself in American institutions of South Asian studies. I joined South Asia committees at the Social Science Research Council and at the Association for Asian Studies. I chaired the Fulbright Senior Scholars South Asia Selection Committee. I lobbied Congress for the National Coalition of National Resource Center Directors. I chaired the graduate program in South Asian Studies and the South Asia Regional Studies Department at Penn. I directed Penn's South Asia National Resource Center. In 2001, I was elected to become President of the Association for Asian Studies.

My experience inside US area studies institutions enriched my understanding of the tangled histories of knowledge that shape academic professions as well as empires, nations, and globalization. I am intrigued by thinking that moves across a global *habitus* where mobile minds devised territorial ideologies that became hegemonic in modern understandings of space and time, history, economies, geography, and social life. Expansively mobile, shifting, yet ever more synchronized, codified, pervasive, and invisible entanglements of knowledge and power formed a universe of rigidly territorialized modern knowledge carved up by national cartography.

- 1992a. "India's Development Regime." In *Colonialism and Culture*. Edited by Nicholas Dirks, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, pp.247-87.
1993. "Orientalist Empiricism and Transformations of Colonial Knowledge." In *Orientalism and The Post-Colonial Predicament*. Edited by C.A. Breckenridge and Peter Van der Veer. University of Pennsylvania Press, 250-78.
- 2001c. "Area Studies in the Age of Globalization," *FRONTIERS: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad*, Winter 2000, 1-22.
- 2003f. "Why Area Studies?" In *Localizing Knowledge in a Globalizing World: Recasting the Area Studies Debate*, edited by Ali Mirsepassi, Amrita Basu, and Frederick Weaver. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, pp. 131-7.

Engaging national knowledge became for me habitual. What makes it interesting is that national paradigms are ever more visibly unrealistic. National knowledge inhabits a real world of mobility and territoriality it cannot comprehend or control.

Consider that virtually all economic statistics are national statistics, so that almost all we know about globalization derives from national data. This is very unrealistic. But are data readily available for describing capital accumulation in transnational networks and commodity chains? Or the wealth of the urban middle classes that drive so much of world politics? Or the articulation of global, national, and local inequality? No. No. And no. Constructing the world by chopping it up with national boundaries is unrealistic in a real world of uncontrollable mobility among localities and regions of variously shifting shapes and sizes. Seeking more realistic, imaginative alternatives is challenging, useful, and fun.

Unbounded globalism is not my solution. Neither is a mere accumulation of research on transnational flows, networks, migrations, cultures, and such. Territoriality -- packed into but also bursting out of and overflowing national boundaries -- is critically significant; and national territorialism is itself a problem, for as the US and South Asian states indicate, articulations of empire and nation transform national territory historically. The idea that national states dispatched empire to history's dustbin is now certainly archaic: empire and nation articulate and refashion one another across the times and spaces of modernity.

With all this in view, I now call my approach "post-national history," to indicate that historical research located realistically *inside* modern world history must both engage and escape boundaries of national territorialism. I now have a book manuscript percolating in my office tentatively called, *Post-National Histories in Southern Asia*.

To pursue this line of work, I have semi-detached myself from area studies and engaged debates about the "areanness" of world areas and the territoriality of knowledge. In 1991, addressing South Asianists in Australia, I received supportive responses to my first public effort. In 2002-3, as AAS President, I traveled among a wide diversity of scholars and US academic sites and received broad support for my argument that the spatial substance of the "Asia" in Asian Studies deserves serious rethinking

1994a. "History Outside Civilization and the Mobility of Southern Asia," *South Asia* 17, 1, June 1994, 1-23.

2003c. "Maps in the Mind and the Mobility of Asia," Presidential Address for the Association of Asian Studies, *Journal of Asian Studies*, 62, 3, Nov, 1057-1078.

My efforts since 1990 to open up national territories to post-national forms of historical inquiry have generated two monographs, four edited volumes, and numerous essays, academic, educational, and journalistic. Describing these briefly indicates my current trajectory.

First, I compiled a volume of reprints that puts regional diversity at the center of South Asian agrarian history in colonial times; and the Preface to the second edition argues that spatial differentiation should be understood as uneven development under capitalism, which continues today. The new Preface reflects my desire to compose useable histories for people concerned with spatial inequality in capitalist development generally. I composed that Preface, in fact, when preparing two Masters syllabi on poverty and environment for the Development Studies Program at BRAC University, Dhaka, where I taught in summer 2005.

Editors at Oxford University Press, Delhi, encourage me to publish more to link history and development studies. With this in view, I wrote a long essay on the creation of South India as an official territory, mapped and partitioned into states that dominate economic policy and analysis, while we can readily see that spatial patterns of economic history typically do not coincide with state boundaries. To influence college education in India along the same lines, I composed historical chapters on “commercialism” and “the environment” for teaching texts for the Indira Gandhi Open University. And in 2002, I finished a series of studies drawing general lessons from my Tirunelveli research, which I will compile for general audience in a volume, called perhaps, *History Lessons from Tirunelveli*.

1995/2005. *Agricultural Production and Indian History*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. Second Edition with new Preface and additional Bibliography. published as *Agricultural Production and South Asian History*. Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2005.

2004b. "The Formation of Modern Agrarian Economies in South India," for *The History of Indian Science, Philosophy and Culture, Volume VII, Economic History of India, 18th-20th Centuries*, edited by Binay Bhushan Chaudhuri. Oxford University Press, Delhi, pp.1-40. (Short online edition: “Globalization and Territoriality in South Asia,” Penn Economic History Workshop (Apr 8, 2000) and South Asia Seminar, University of Chicago (Apr 14, 2000).)

2004c. “Environment and History in India,” and “Commercialization in India,” two chapters in Indira Gandhi Open University Masters Syllabus in Economic History Textbook, edited by Neeladri Bhattacharya

1995a. “Urbanism and Early Modernity in the Tirunelveli Region,” *Bengal Past and Present*, 114, Parts 1-2, Nos.218-219, 9-40.

1996b. "Archaic Formations of Agricultural Knowledge in South India." In *Meanings of Agriculture in South Asia: Essays in South Asian History and Economics*. Edited by Peter Robb. *SOAS Studies on South Asia*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 35-70. (35pp)

1996c. “Caste Society and Units of Production in Early Modern South India,” in *Institutions and Economic Change in South Asia: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives*. Editors: Burton Stein and Sanjay Subrahmanyam. Oxford University Press, New Delhi, pp.105-133.

2002c. "Specters of Agrarian Territory in South India," *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 39, 2&3, April-September, 233-58

A second edited book came from on a year-long Penn seminar series that I organized with grant funding when I was South Asia Center director. It combines essays by historians and social scientists concerned with contemporary struggles, spawned by Hindu chauvinists, over India’s political and cultural composition. This second edition also includes a new Preface that treats the present as a moment in history, and again, there is a more activist engagement: the new Preface encourages scholars and students to study Hindu politics in the obscure localities where Hindutva takes roots, out of the spotlight, feeding quietly on transnational finance.

1996/2005. *Contesting the Nation: Religion, Community, and the Politics of Democracy in India* Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

(paperback edition: *Making India Hindu: Community, Conflict, and the Politics of Democracy*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1996. Revised second edition with new Preface and additional Bibliography. Oxford University Press, Delhi. 2005.

The third anthology derived from my interest in the intellectual history of Subaltern Studies, which I situate inside recent Indian history, including India's changing global location (on which see 2003c above). My own concern -- expressed in an essay composed for Jim Scott's Agrarian Studies Program -- was Subaltern Studies' detachment of subalterns from agrarian environments, but the edited volume compiles a range of critical writing, hinging on a curious intellectual shift that occurred in the mid-1980s, when Subaltern Studies dropped its original political posture opposing nationalist history and took up instead a post-colonial cultural pose representing subaltern India. The most interesting part of this book project was to find that this intellectual shift coincided with the formation of academic alliances at the University of Chicago and the rapid expansion of Subaltern Studies brand name recognition.

2001a. "Subalterns and Others in the Agrarian History of South Asia," In *Agrarian Studies: Synthetic Work at the Cutting Edge*. Edited by James C. Scott and Nina Bhatt. Yale University Press, 2001. pp.206-235.

2002d. *Reading Subaltern Studies: Critical History, Contested Meaning, and the Globalization of South Asia*, edited by David Ludden. Delhi: Permanent Black and London: Anthem Press, pp.1-42.

My last edited volume was commissioned by the AAS. It compiles articles from the *Journal of Asian Studies* with an introduction and bibliography to stimulate interdisciplinary teaching and research on capitalism in Asia. I undertook the project to provide readings for my courses, to open capitalism to students outside economics, and to raise questions for debate and research on the cultural, spatial, and temporal diversity of capitalism(s). The volume is too expensive for most courses, so I will create a website to make this material more useful in teaching. I also want to expand the project to include an Asia much bigger than that embraced by the AAS, including the Middle East and Africa's Indian Ocean rim.

2004a. *Capitalism in Asia*. Edited by David Ludden, Ann Arbor: Association for Asian Studies

My two recent monographs are very different -- one, a specialized book on agrarian history, the other, a soup-to-nuts survey for undergraduates and general readers -- but they have in common their emphasis on regional and local diversity, rattling the assumption that Indian territorialism engulfs the history of South Asia. They also introduce basic ideas and information about South Asia's changing composition under recent globalization.

1999. *An Agrarian History of South Asia*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (*The New Cambridge History of India*, IV. 4. General Editor: Gordon Johnson).

2002a. *India and South Asia: A Short History*. Oxford: OneWorld Publishers.

My research now focuses nationally on Bangladesh, where I have worked for long periods since 2001, where I teach development studies in the summers, and where I have established research collaborations. National history is intensely contentious in Bangladesh, where, like India, struggles over history solidify political party dominance in education and

public discourse. My strategy is not to lob incendiary critique but to stir into public debate realistic histories that open space for a wider range of meanings and mobilizations.

2003e. "Who First Declared the Independence of Bangladesh?" *Holiday* (Dhaka) 11 July; also published as "Forgotten Heroes" in *Frontline*, 20, 15, Jul 19-Aug 1)

Locally I focus on places around Sylhet, spanning national borders that before 1947 lay in the Assam Province of British India. Sylhet's copious District Records, 1770-1860, reside in the Bangladesh National Archives, where I love to work.

The greater Sylhet region is a perfect place to explore spatial histories crossing national borders amidst globalization. Indeed, globalizing Sylhet began in the fourteenth century. Sylhet has moved among shifting geographical forms that now include a large community of Sylhetis in London who flying back and forth for marriage and business, US and Canadian firms drilling for natural gas under corrupt contracts with national officials, Islamic bombs from overseas, cross-border insurgencies, Indian military incursions, Indian dams blocking river water, smuggling as everyday commerce, colonial-era tea plantations, new tourist eco-parks, and more.

2003b "The First Boundary of Bangladesh on Sylhet's Northern Frontiers," *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh*, 48, 1, June, 1-54. (Short online edition, "Political Maps and Cultural Territories," in *HIMAL*, July)

2003d. "Investing in nature around Sylhet: An Excursion into Geographical History," *Economic and Political Weekly*, 29 November; reprinted in *Financial Express*, Dhaka, 18 Dec.

Working in Sylhet has also led me into Assam, Meghalaya, and other parts of northeast India, where my research is restricted by security concerns that reflect of major theme of my *Agrarian History* (1999), the subordination of mountain societies by lowland states, which infests other parts of India, Nepal, and Southeast Asia, notably Burma, across the border from India and Bangladesh, a border that hides everyday life moving constantly across it, as national borders do in mountain regions from Afghanistan and Kashmir to China and Vietnam. How those borders emerged, how they engage and distort, how people live among them, and how we might reconstitute regional histories more realistically in post-national frames are questions for my Sylhet research (2003a) that I carry up into mountain regions with no name, straddling South Asia, East Asia, and Southeast Asia.

2003a. *Where is Assam? Using Geographical History to Locate Current Social Realities*. CENISEAS Papers, No.1. Series Editor: Sanjib Baruah, Centre of Northeast India and South and Southeast Asian Studies, Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati, Assam.

2005e. "Where is Assam?" *HIMALSouthAsia*, November 2005, http://www.himalmag.com/2005/november/cover_story_3.html

Working in Bangladesh also highlights global inequality, whose history and implications for contemporary economic development and historical writing now lie at the center of my work. My 2002 essay in the *American Historical Review* argues that modern world inequality deeply inflects historical writing. I tackle this problem briefly in that essay, more extensively in my teaching, and now also in a teaching pamphlet about empire in Asia that I am writing for the AAS.

I now realize that the power dynamics of economic inequality have been central for me all along, most explicitly in History 388, "Hunger and Poverty in Market Economies," which I have taught in various forms since 1979. My two latest essays consider global inequality as a feature of governance in South Asia from colonial times to the present. My new research project focuses on intersections of local, national, and international inequality as a feature of everyday governance in rural Bangladesh.

2002b. "Modern Inequality and Early Modernity," *American Historical Review*, 107, 2, April: 470-480

2002e. "A Deadline for the World Development Regime," *Frontline*, April 2002; *HIMAL*, April 2002.

2002f. "Good Cops, Bad Cops, and World Bank." *HIMAL*, 15/16 June 2002, 44-5.

2005d. "Development Regimes in South Asia: History and the Development Conundrum," *Economic and Political Weekly*, 40, 37, 10 Sept., 4042-51

2006 (forthcoming). "A useable past for a post-national present: Governance and development in South Asia," *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh*.

Additional information, October 2006.

Since I wrote the above account of my work, I have been working on two interwoven projects that I will "write apart" into two books. I plan to finish the first in summer 2007. It is addressed to the broadest reading audience I can imagine and builds on my job talk at NYU. It is called *Imperial Inequality, Poverty, and Globalization*. It explains persistent patterns of poverty under globalization as a result of the reproduction of imperial forms of power and authority at global, continental, national, and regional levels, focusing on Asia broadly, but especially India and China. The second book goes deeper into the argument of the first book by explaining in detail how the political economy of empire and nation reproduced imperial forms of power and authority -- including imperial patterns of culture, politics, and social life -- from the seventeenth century to the present. It is called *Imperial India: The Historical Dynamics of Inequality*, and it concentrates particularly on eastern and southern South Asia.

Chronological list of publications

- 1973.** "The Poems and Revolution of Bharathiyar." In *Imperialism and Revolution in South Asia*. Edited by Kathleen Gough and Hari Sharma. Monthly Review Press, New York, pp.267-90.
- 1976.** *The Kuruntokai: An Anthology of Classical Tamil Love Poetry in Translation* (with M. Shanmugam Pillai), Koodal Publishers, Madurai, 1976.
- 1978** 1978a. "Ecological Zones and the Cultural Economy of Irrigation in Southern Tamil Nadu," *South Asia*, I (NS), 1, 1-13.
- 1978b. "Who Really Ruled Madras Presidency?" *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 15, 4, 517-21.

- 1979** 1979a. "Patronage and Irrigation in Tamil Nadu: A Long-Term View," *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 16, 3, 347-65.
- 1979b. "Dimensions of Agrarian Political Economy: Focus on Tamil Nadu," *Peasant Studies*, 8, 4, Fall, 19-29.
- 1982.** "Eras of Tamil Nadu Irrigation, 1500 to 1980." In *The History and Sociology of Technology*. Edited by Donald Hoak. Published by the Milwaukee Public Library, pp.202-220.
- 1984.** "Productive Power in Agriculture: A Survey of Work on the Local History of British India." In *Agrarian Power and Agricultural Productivity in South Asia*. Edited by Meghnad Desai, Susanne H. Rudolph, and A. Rudra, University of California Press, Berkeley, pp.51-99.
- 1985** 1985/2005. *Peasant History in South India*, Princeton: Princeton University Press. (Paperback edition, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1990, reprinted 1993, 1995, 1997.
- 1985a. "Colonialism and Public Technologies: Transportation and Irrigation in Tamil Nadu Under British Rule." In *Science and Technology in South Asia*. Edited by Peter Gaeffke and David Utz. Department of South Asia Regional Studies, University of Pennsylvania, pp.133-44.
- 1985b. "The Terms of Ryotwari: Semantics and Disputes over Property Rights in Madras Presidency, 1800-1885." In *South Indian Studies: An Anthology of Critical Essays and Recent Scholarship*. Edited by R.E. Frykenberg and Pauline Kolenda. New Era Publishers, Madras. pp.151-170.
- 1985c. "Toward Peasant History: Focus on South India," *Peasant Studies*, 12, 2, 129-37.
- 1986.** "Historians and Nation States," *Perspectives*, The American Historical Association Newsletter, 24, 4, April, 12-14.
- 1987.** "Agricultural Development and Social Change in Modern India: Some Considerations from Agrarian History." In *Power and Poverty: Development and Development Projects in the Third World*, edited by Donald W. Attwood, Thomas C. Bruneau, and John G. Galaty, Westview, Boulder, 1988, pp.105-119.
- 1988** 1988a. "Agrarian Commercialism in Eighteenth Century South India: Evidence from the 1823 Tirunelveli Census," *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 25, 4, 493-519. Reprinted in *Merchants, Markets and the State in Early Modern India*. Edited by Sanjay Subrahmanyam, Oxford University Press, *Themes in Indian History*, Delhi, 1990, 215-241.
- 1988b. "Irrigation," *Encyclopedia of Asian History*, Ainslee Embree, editor in chief. Published for the Asia Society. New York: Scribner, pp.158-60.
- 1989** 1989a. "Craft Production in an Agrarian Economy, India, 1750-1900." In *Making Things in South Asia*. Edited by Michael Meister. South Asia Regional Studies Department, University of Pennsylvania, pp.103-13.
- 1989b. "Asiatic States and Agrarian Economies: Agrarian Commercialism in South India, 1700-1850," *Calcutta Historical Journal*, 13, 1-2, 112-137.
- 1990.** "World Economy and Village India, 1600-1900: Exploring the Agrarian History of Capitalism." In *South Asia and World Capitalism*. Edited by Sugata Bose. Oxford University Press, Delhi, pp.159-77.
- 1992** 1992a. "India's Development Regime." In *Colonialism and Culture*. Edited by Nicholas Dirks, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, pp.247-87.
- 1992b (Reprint) "Anglo-Indian Empire." Chapter Four of *Peasant History in South India* (1985/2005), reprinted in *The Making of Agrarian Policy in British India, 1770-1990*. Edited by Burton Stein. Oxford University Press, *Themes in Indian History*. New Delhi. pp.150-186.

- 1993.** "Orientalist Empiricism and Transformations of Colonial Knowledge." In *Orientalism and The Post-Colonial Predicament*. Edited by C.A. Breckenridge and Peter Van der Veer. University of Pennsylvania Press, 250-78. (A shortened version is to be reprinted in *Orientalism and History: A Reader*, edited by Edmund Burke III and David Prochaska.)
- 1994** 1994a. "History Outside Civilization and the Mobility of Southern Asia," *South Asia* 17, 1, June 1994, 1-23.
- 1994b. "Agricultural Production and Indian History." Preface to *In Agricultural Production and Indian History*. edited by David Ludden, pp.1-35.
- 1995** 1995/2005. *Agricultural Production and Indian History*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. Second Edition with new Preface and additional Bibliography. published as *Agricultural Production and South Asian History*. Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2005.
- 1995a. "Urbanism and Early Modernity in the Tirunelveli Region," *Bengal Past and Present*, 114, Parts 1-2, Nos.218-219, 9-40.
- 1995b. "Patriarchy and History in South Asia: Three Interpretive Experiments," *Calcutta Historical Journal*, 17, 2, 1995, 1-18.
- 1996** 1996/2005. *Contesting the Nation: Religion, Community, and the Politics of Democracy in India* Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. (paperback edition: *Making India Hindu: Community, Conflict, and the Politics of Democracy*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1996. Revised second edition with new Preface and additional Bibliography. Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2005.
- 1996a. "Ayodhya: A Window on the World," In *Contesting the Nation: Religion, Community, and the Politics of Democracy in India*, Edited by David Ludden, pp.1-27.
- 1996b. "Archaic Formations of Agricultural Knowledge in South India." In *Meanings of Agriculture in South Asia: Essays in South Asian History and Economics*. Edited by Peter Robb. *SOAS Studies on South Asia*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 35-70. (35pp)
- 1996c. "Caste Society and Units of Production in Early Modern South India," in *Institutions and Economic Change in South Asia: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives*. Editors: Burton Stein and Sanjay Subrahmanyam. Oxford University Press, New Delhi, pp.105-133.
- 1996d. "Tirunelveli in the Economic History of Early-Modern India," in *History and Society: Essays in Honour of Professor S.Kadhirvel*, edited by K.A.Manikumar. Madras. 1966. pp.69-87
- 1996e. "Water Management for Changing Times: New Perspectives in South Asia," Policy Information Report from the Political Economy of Water in South Asia Conference, Madras Institute for Development Studies and Joint Committee on South Asia of the SSRC-ACLS. (1995) [translated into Tamil; adapted for text use in Nepali.]
- 1997.** "Rethinking the City: Early-Modern Urbanism in Southern Tamil Nadu," *Review of Development and Change*. (Madras Institute of Development Studies)
- 1998.** "India Before Colonialism: The International Impact of Indian Research Since 1947," in *India's Worlds and U.S.Scholars: 1947-1997*, edited by Joe Elder, Ainslee Embree, and Ed Dimock, published for the American Institute of Indian Studies by Manohar Publishers, Delhi, pp.265-82.
- 1999.** *An Agrarian History of South Asia*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (*The New Cambridge History of India*, IV. 4. General Editor: Gordon Johnson).
- 2000** 2000a. "The South Asia Regional Literatures Project," in *International Scholarly Collaboration: Lessons from the Past*. A Report of the Social Science Research Council Inter-regional Working Group on International Scholarly Collaboration.

- 2000b. "Agrarian History and Grassroots Development," In *Agrarian Environments: Resources, Representations, and Rule in India*. Edited by Arun Agarwal and K.Sivaramakrishnan. Duke University Press.
- 2001** 2001a. "Subalterns and Others in the Agrarian History of South Asia," In *Agrarian Studies: Synthetic Work at the Cutting Edge*. Edited by James C. Scott and Nina Bhatt. Yale University Press, 2001. pp.206-235.
- 2001b. "Development in South Asia." In *International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences*, Editors-in-Chief, Neil J Smelser and Paul B Baltes, Pergamon Press, Amsterdam
- 2001c. "Area Studies in the Age of Globalization," *FRONTIERS: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Study Abroad*, Winter 2000, 1-22
- 2002** 2002a. *India and South Asia: A Short History*. Oxford: OneWorld Publishers.
- 2002b.. "Modern Inequality and Early Modernity," (Comment on Articles by R. Bin Wong and Kenneth Pommeranz for *AHR* forum, "Asia and Europe in the World Economy"), *American Historical Review*, 107, 2, April: 470-480
- 2002c. "Specters of Agrarian Territory in South India," *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 39, 2&3, April-September, 233-58
- 2002d. "A Brief History of Subalternity." Introduction to *Reading Subaltern Studies: Critical History, Contested Meaning, and the Globalization of South Asia*, edited by David Ludden. Delhi: Permanent Black and London: Anthem Press., pp.1-42.
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