

left deep scars on their personality and behaviour. Due to socio-economic deprivation, they fear to take initiative in any work, are totally submissive and agree to any suggestions given by powers-that-be without applying any reason of their own. To think of any values - moral or spiritual - for them would be unrealistic. Their society suffers from deep-seated inertia. Unfortunately, the development programmes have left the community largely untouched. Therefore, there is a need for separate policies for it. The approach has to be to pull them out from the depths of inertia and despair.

On the whole, this book is a welcome addition to the existing literature on the dalits or Mahadalits in general and Musahar community of Bihar in particular. It is a case study of applied anthropology and Musahars' development. It will be useful for social activists who want to work for their liberation. The task of their upliftment is humanitarian and an overhaul of the national polity is required. It is, therefore, necessary to see the integral development of Musahars in that perspective. This book will serve as a handbook for those seeking to serve the poorest of the poor.

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Meena Bhargava, *Understanding Mughal India Sixteenth to Eighteenth Centuries*,  
Orient Blackswan, Hyderabad, 2020, pp. 365, Price ₹ 395/-.

This book is purported to be a text book. Therefore, much of what it contains is already known for it is more or less based on known secondary sources. It is an overall history of Mughal India covering political, social, economic, religious and art history. But it is more than that in the sense that it contains some other information on these aspects. For example, the author gives biographical sketches of the contemporary writers which are not so known. The pictures given in it are interesting and the glossary at the end is especially useful. But it has some minor but avoidable errors.

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