

[Free pdf] India After Gandhi: The History of the World's Largest Democracy

India After Gandhi: The History of the World's Largest Democracy

Ramachandra Guha

**Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



"Guha has given democratic India the rich, well-paced history it deserves." — *Washington Post Book World*


INDIA AFTER GANDHI

THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD'S
LARGEST DEMOCRACY

RAMACHANDRA GUHA



 Download

 Read Online

#49708 in Books Ramachandra Guha 2008-08-12 2008-08-12 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 1.89 x 6.00l, 2.35 #File Name: 0060958588944 pages India after Gandhi The History of the World's Largest Democracy | File size: 62.Mb

Ramachandra Guha : India After Gandhi: The History of the World's Largest Democracy before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised India After Gandhi: The History of the World's Largest Democracy:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Unbiased and complete information source of post independence Indian politics By Kush Goyal Guha has articulated all the major events and people in Indian politics since independence. For most part his writing and description of events is unbiased. I am writing this review after about 1

year of reading this book and I can say a lot of information is still there in my head thanks to the simplistic and yet gripping tone of Guha's writing. I'd this book should be considered as a surface sweep of Indian politics and sort of gives you the table of contents. After reading you can choose for your self which set of events you would like to go deeper. Political history needs time and patience to grasp in. One reading of this might not suffice a lot people. You will have to read more books similar to this one to revisit a lot of major events in Indian politics. Different perspectives to events helps create a more clearer and detailed picture of events, after all we are dealing with history here and memory is nothing but a personal expression of ones own senses. I'd say this book is for anyone who wants to know about Indian political history. But please do not consider your self an expert on politics after this 900 page book. Politics when described in books is void of violence, tears, emotions and most importantly truth. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent read for an detailed understanding on India's uniqueness, the possibilities and the challenges it faces in the future! By Manish I got an excellent preview in the history of the country and am now in a position to appreciate the uniqueness and the challenges that it faces. The book is fairly detailed and chronicles all the major events that have unfolded in past 68 years of its independence. I think the authors been fairly objective in most places as is evident from the style of writing. Would definitely recommend the book for every Indian to read and for every non-Indian who is interested in knowing the history and the present situation of India. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. From Partition to Bollywood - making sense of complex times By Steve Einfeld This very engaging and accessible history invokes the vivid confluence of Indian social, cultural and political life since independence. No single year up to the book's publication in 2007 is free of fatal conflictual agonies on the one hand or triumphs of hope on the other. And all through these turbulent years democracy thrives and survives. As Guha argues time and again, no country could be as doomed to fall apart under the weight of its language, religious, geographic, caste, class, ideological, gender and many more divisions and yet democratic institutions survive. Only the scourge of corruption threatens the institutional edifice itself, a process well measured and documented by Guha as he bemoans the disappearing altruism of the Union's founders and flags its succession by the politics of crude self enrichment. A rewarding overview passionately written.

Amagisterial account of the pains, the struggles, the humiliations, and the glories of the world's largest and least likely democracy, Ramachandra Guha's *India After Gandhi* is a breathtaking chronicle of the brutal conflicts that have rocked a giant nation and the extraordinary factors that have held it together. An intricately researched and elegantly written epic history peopled with larger-than-life characters, it is the work of a major scholar at the peak of his abilities.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . India is the country that was never expected to ever be a country. In the late 19th century, Sir John Strachey, a senior British official, grandly opined that the territory's diverse states simply could not possess any sort of unity, physical, political, social or religious. Strachey, clearly, was wrong: India today is a unified entity and a rising global power. Even so, it continues to defy explanation. India's existence, says Guha, an internationally known scholar (*Environmentalism: A Global History*), has also been an anomaly for academic political science, according to whose axioms cultural heterogeneity and poverty do not make a nation, still less a democratic one. Yet India continues to exist. Guha's aim in this startlingly ambitious political, cultural and social survey is to explain why and how. He cheerfully concludes that India's continuing existence results from its unique diversity and its refusal to be pigeonholed into such conventional political models as Anglo-American liberalism, French republicanism, atheistic communism or Islamist theocracy. India is proudly *sui generis*, and with August 15, 2007, being the 60th anniversary of Indian independence, Guha's magisterial history of India since that day comes not a moment too soon. 32 pages of bw illus., 8 maps. (Aug.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Bookmarks Magazine Historian Ramachandran Guha, the author of *Environmentalism: A Global History* (1999) and *The Unquiet Woods* (1989), among others, and a current resident of Bangalore, writes of what he knows. Weighing in at nearly 900 pages, *India After Gandhi* successfully clarifies the convoluted history and contradictions of the world's second most populous nation. That Guha leaves questions unanswered in a book of this scope, as one critic asserts, might be considered nit-picking. To be sure, the author does choose his questions—giving particular attention to Nehru, India's first prime minister—and he doesn't shy away from offering his (mostly optimistic) opinions on important issues throughout. Still, critics agree that Guha's effort succeeds in putting a face on a country whose political and economic history, despite its size and growing influence in the "flat-world" model, remains virtually unknown by many outside India. Copyright 2004 Phillips Nelson Media, Inc. From Booklist A political narrative of India's six decades of independence, Guha's history emphasizes how the country has remained a mostly territorially intact and constitutional state, despite the expectations of many after the Union Jack was lowered in 1947. An able and readable scholar, Guha proceeds chronologically from the violence-wracked partition of that year to the present, when elections became "indigenized," as did another support to democracy, India's professional, apolitical military. Guha's history, though, is not an uncritical paean to his country. It covers political complexities revolving around caste, language, class, and religion. Instances of conflict arising from their frictions, as in India's contest with Pakistan over Kashmir, illustrate the centrifugal problems with which India's modern founders

had to cope. Although the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty is necessarily prominent in Guha's treatment, Guha does not neglect less-famous historical actors, such as home minister Vallabhbhai Patel in the late 1940s, who also set India on course for a democracy that functions, despite imperfections and corruption. Afluent, judicious modern history for general interest. Taylor, Gilbert