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Parita Mukta

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Parita Mukta : Upholding the Common Life: The Community of Mirabai (Gender Studies Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Upholding the Common Life: The Community of Mirabai (Gender Studies Series):

Mirabai, the legendary poet-saint-princess of Rajasthan, is profiled herein via the bhajans sung in her honor by fieldworkers. She is seen as a solitary figure, fighting the might and authority of the Rajput princes by refusing to accept the king as her husband and by not conforming to queenly behavioral patterns. This book is an original contribution employing devotional songs as both historical documents and records of popular culture; it will greatly interest scholars of women's studies and/or Asian culture.

`Parita Mukta has courageously taken on the long overdue task and her book offers a reassessment of the songs and persona of Mira ... the author has collected a true treasurehouse of material in the form of recordings of songs sung in Mira's name. For her field-work, Mukta has travelled extensively in the villages of Rajasthan and Saurashtra, recording bhajan sessions of low-caste groups in particular. This wealth of material is helpfully outlined in the prologue.'Bulletin

of the School of Oriental and African Studies About the Author Parita Mukta is at the School of Social and International Studies, University of Sunderland.