About the Contributors

Yamini Agarwal is a research fellow at Max Weber Forum for South Asian Studies (MWF Delhi). She completed her PhD from Jawaharlal Nehru University in 2020. She is a sociologist of education, and her research interests are education of religious minorities, gender and urban inequalities, and digital markets in education. In her current project with MWF Delhi, she follows the educational trajectories of 25 adolescent girls during and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic in an unauthorised neighbourhood in Delhi. She is also editing a working paper series as part of the project. She has published papers in national and international journals and edited volumes, including the *British Journal of Religious Education*, *Sikh Formations* and *Contemporary Education Dialogue*. She was awarded the Weizenbaum Open Research Fellowship in 2023, under which she is developing a project on the growing digital markets in education in India vis-à-vis issues of access and inequality.

Debarati Bagchi is a senior research fellow at the Max Weber Forum for South Asian Studies (MWF Delhi). She completed her PhD from the University of Delhi with a scholarship from the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata. She has been a postdoctoral fellow with two Max Weber Stiftung research groups on education: the Translational Research Group on Poverty and Education in Colonial and Postcolonial India and the Education and the Urban Research Group. Her research areas include the agrarian and cultural histories of frontiers and borderlands in colonial India, the connections between language and regional identity, ideas of mass education, pedagogy and public history, and connections between education and urban transformation. She is also an author

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and co-editor of a series of history books for middle-school children as part of the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung–Institute of Development Studies Kolkata project 'Revisiting the Craft of History Writing for Children'.

Poushali Basak is a research assistant at Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group, Kolkata. She has worked as a researcher with Max Mueller Stiftung, Germany; Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai; and with feminist and queer organisations. Her doctoral work is about affective histories of autonomous women's collectives in India and her MPhil work is on the history of sex workers' organising, negotiating developmental governance. Her research and publications are on the political and the urban, right to the city, feminist and social movements, gender and education, queer lives and liveabilities.

Akash Bhattacharya is a political activist affiliated with the All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU). He was awarded a PhD from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, in 2020. His doctoral thesis examined the operationalization of school education in nineteenth-century Bengal, between the adoption and implementation of the Wood's Despatch (1854) and the publication of the report of the first Indian Education Commission (1882). The thesis studies school typologies, examination and inspection systems, textbooks and teacher training. It brings forth the structural inequalities in-built into the system of colonial education as well as local resistance to the new system. Besides history of education, he has also written on popular histories and on the lineages of Indian democracy. He had previously taught at the School of Education, Azim Premji University, Bengaluru.

Anasua Chatterjee is an assistant professor of Sociology at Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda Vidyabhavan, Kolkata. She has completed her PhD in Sociology from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and is interested in exploring the issues of spatiality, marginalities and transformations in the South Asian city. Her doctoral dissertation was published as *Margins of Citizenship: Muslim Experiences in Urban India* (2017). Her research has also been published widely in a number of peer-reviewed journals and edited books.

Farah Farooqi is a professor of Education at the Institute of Advanced Studies in Education, Faculty of Education, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Previously, she was associated for eight years with the Department of Elementary Education, Lady Sri Ram College, New Delhi. She has worked on school ethnographies and has engaged with issues of education, identity, marginalization, ghettoization and cultural politics. She writes in both Hindi and English. Her journey as the

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manager of a government-aided school was published as *Ek School Manager ki Diary* (2020). She has also published in journals and magazines such as the *Economic and Political Weekly*, *IIC Quarterly*, *Learning Curve*, *The Caravan*, *The Wire*, *Shiksha Vimarsh* and some international forums such as the *Friday Times* (Lahore) and Max Weber Stiftung (London) on several issues in education. She has contributed as chief advisor and author to the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) textbooks for environmental studies for classes 4 and 5, published between 2006 and 2008. She has also written for teachers and teacher trainees. Her recent book is *Education in a Ghetto: Paradoxes of a Muslim-Majority School* (2023).

Nirmali Goswami is teaching Sociology at Tezpur University. She offers courses on political sociology, gender and society, sociology of education and theoretical perspectives in sociology. She completed her college education and MA in Sociology from Banaras Hindu University. After securing a University Grants Commission (UGC) junior research fellowship, she pursued her PhD from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur. She published a monograph titled *Legitimising Standard Languages: Perspectives from a School in Banaras* (2017). She has also published on issues of classification process in schools, community identity, women's education and gendered nature of school choice in India in the form of journal articles and book chapters. She has also completed a UGC-funded research project on the language of education at schools in the context of multilingual traditions of Assam. Her current research interests lie in areas of youth studies and education in contemporary India.

Nandini Manjrekar retired as a professor and dean from the School of Education, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. Her research interests are located at the intersection of education and gender studies. She has taught postgraduate courses in sociology and history of schooling and education in the Indian context, women's studies and childhood studies, areas within which she has also published research papers. Her publications include a reader, *Gender and Education in India* (2021). She has served on the editorial board of the journal *Comparative Education Dialogue* and is currently on the editorial advisory board of the *Indian Journal of Gender Studies.*

Geetha B. Nambissan retired as a professor of Sociology of Education at the Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her research interests include the privatisation of schooling and its social implications, urban marginality, privilege and education, and social justice and education in contemporary times. She was a partner in the transnational research

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group (TRG) on Education Policy in India since the Nineteenth Century, initiated by the German Historical Institute London (GHIL). She is the 'India' section editor of *Second International Handbook of Urban Education*, vol. 1 (2017) and one of the associate editors of *The Oxford Encyclopaedia of School Reform* (2022).

Margrit Pernau is a senior researcher at the Center for the History of Emotions, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin, and extraordinary professor at Freie Universität, Berlin. She has been a research fellow at the Social Science Research Center, Berlin; the Modern Orient Centre, Berlin; the Institute of Advanced Studies, Freiburg; the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), Paris; and the University of Pennsylvania. She has published a number of edited volumes, such as *The Delhi College: Traditional Elites, the Colonial State and Education before 1857* (2006); *Civilizing Emotions* (2015, with Helge Jordheim, Orit Bashkin, Christian Bailey, Oleg Benesch, Jan Ifversen, Mana Kia, Rochona Majumdar, Angelika C. Messner, Myoung-kyu Park, Emmanuelle Saada, Mohinder Singh, and Einar Wigen); *Concepts in Nineteenth Century Asia and Europe* (2015) and *Monsoon Feelings: A History of Emotions in the Rain* (2018, with Imke Rajamani and Katherine Schofield). She has brought out several special issues, such as 'Feeling Communities' (*Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 2017) and 'Emotions in South Asia' (*South Asian History and Culture*, 2021). Her most recent monographs are *Emotions and Modernity in Colonial India: From Balance to Fervor* (2019), *Emotions and Temporality* (2021) and *Jamia's Aapa Jaan: The Many Lifeworlds of Gerda Philipsborn* (2024). In addition, she has written numerous articles on the history of emotions, modern Indian history, historical semantics, comparative studies and translation studies.

Supriya RoyChowdhury is a visiting professor of the Urban and Mobility Studies programme at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangaluru. Her research is mainly in the areas of labour and globalisation, social movements and urban poverty. Her book *City of Shadows: Slums and Informal Work in Bangalore* (2021) was published by the Press. Her work has also been published in the *Journal of Development Studies*, *Third World Quarterly*, *Pacific Affairs*, *Socialist Register*, *Economic and Political Weekly* and in several edited volumes.

Sadhna Saxena, after completing MSc from the University of Delhi, moved to rural Madhya Pradesh to join Kishore Bharati in 1975, which ran educational programmes for landless labourers and their children as well as a school science education programme. She later joined the National Institute of Adult Education, New Delhi, as a fellow, where she engaged in policy analysis and published on state-sponsored literacy and empowerment programmes. She taught in the

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Department of Education, University of Delhi, in 2002–2019 and at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Mohali, in 2019–2023. Her areas of interest include science education and popular science movements; the politics of education, including conflict and education; and gender and education, especially gender and science.

Indra Sengupta is a senior research fellow and the head of the India Research Programme at the German Historical Institute London. Her research interests include the history of German Orientalism and Indology in the nineteenth century, colonial knowledge practices in India in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, monuments and heritage making in colonial India with a close interest in the bureaucracy of culture, the production and circulation of 'popular' histories in contemporary India, and colonialism and education in India. She is currently revising a manuscript titled 'Preserving India's Past: Law, Bureaucracy and Historical Conservation in Colonial India 1904–1925' and completing another edited volume titled 'Other Histories, Other Pasts'.

Shivali Tukdeo is a professor at Indira Mahindra School of Education, Mahindra University, Hyderabad. Her main areas of research include education policy, sociology of education, global policy reforms and the impact of urban transformation on education. Her book *India Goes to School: Education Policy and Cultural Politics* (2019) pays attention to the production, reformulation and circulation of educational policy ideas in India. Her preoccupations, especially in the past few years, include new knowledge regimes in education and their connections to the large-scale transformations in India.

Vishaka V. Warrier is an independent researcher in Bengaluru. With diversified experience in the fields of journalism, research and policy engagement, she has worked in the areas of education, skill development, migration, agriculture and climate change. During her association with the research project 'India's Changing Cityscapes: Work, Migration and, Livelihoods', she explored the ecosystem of new-age livelihoods and its related employment crisis across professions like retail, beauty, construction, app-based drivers, and so on, in Bengaluru and Raichur.

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