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India Since 1947

Looking Back at a Modern Nation

Edited by

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India Since 1947 is a collection of essays from India's leading scholars and insightful young writers. It aims to establish interfaces in diverse domains and presents an overview of modern India from the social history angle.

Overall, the book sketches the changes since 1947 on the political, economic and cultural fronts.

For instance:

- Prem Shankar Jha: Where Indian Democracy has Gone Wrong.
- Bimal Jalan: Criminalisation of politics and the rapid turnover of governments.
- Shashi Tharoor: Flight of the middle class from the civil services.
- Rakhshanda Jalil: The continuing great class and gender divide.
- Udaya Narayana Singh: Centre and Periphery.
- Ramachandra Guha: Decline of bilingual intellectuals.
- B.G. Verghese: Importance of public service broadcasting.
- Amartya Sen and Jean Drèze: India's high growth, low HDI syndrome.
- Bibek Debroy: The danger of India missing its demographic dividend.
- K. Natwar Singh: Superiority of Nehruvian foreign policy.
- Ninad D. Sheth: India's lack of grand strategy and flawed diplomacy.
- Mayuri Mukherjee: The role and uses of soft power.
- Jagmohan: On how Article 370 fosters separatism in J&K.
- Sumana Roy: Chicken's Neck
- Rafia Zakaria: A Woman Named Honour
- Other essays: On Naxal menace, J&K and the Northeast.
- Essays on Art and Culture: The Indian Novel, Comics, Cinema, Music and Art, Sports, Gender Budgeting and the Changing City of Delhi.

To conclude, in the words of B.G. Verghese, (in his foreword): *"There certainly are many promises to keep and much might seem to be going wrong. There is however no reason to despair. ... Transitions are always difficult. But we shall overcome."*

Editor:

The editor, **Atul Kumar Thakur** is a New Delhi based journalist, columnist and financial expert, with specialisation in the interface of politics and economics. He is also a literary critic with an informal record of reviewing more than a hundred books for leading publications in India and abroad.

He has contributed to two other anthologies – on Kashmir and the Literary History of Mithila. He is currently working on a non-fiction volume.