

Shifting Landscapes offers a powerful intervention in the growing global urbanisation resulting in new spatial formations. Through an indispensable conversation between education and urban studies, the volume opens up key axes for understanding processes that cut across the Global South. Its robust conceptual richness and multidisciplinary intermixing capture the changes that have occurred in India's educational and urban systems and the critical transformations that are reinforcing dynamics of inclusion–exclusion. Throughout the volume, the chapters weave together a story of the present, where the changing landscapes of education intersect with the complex forms that urban life takes. Using a range of methodological strategies, the volume delineates a genealogy of the urban and schooling in India that, amidst the whirlwinds of change, offers alternatives for imagining other educational futures.

Silvia Grinberg, Universidad Nacional de San Martín

This book breaks new ground in showing how education structures urban transformations and exclusions in India. It is essential reading for anyone interested in cities, in education and in questions of socio-spatial justice. It skilfully combines historical records, policy evidence and rich ethnography to illuminate how education and urbanisation act as two foundational elements of modernisation. It compellingly demonstrates how changes in educational landscapes have both followed and led the broader neoliberal transformations underway in Indian cities since the mid-1990s. By highlighting the profound social exclusions associated with urban transformations and exploring how struggles to improve educational access might address these injustices, it powerfully underscores the potential of educational reforms to advance socio-spatial justice in cities.

Lalitha Kamath, Tata Institute of Social Sciences

Shifting Landscapes brings together a rich collection of chapters on the co-constitution of cities and education in diverse regions and cities in India. Beginning with a grounding in the historical context of urban and educational development in India, the authors employ multidisciplinary conceptual and methodological approaches to unpack how economic and social processes are shaping urban and semi-urban spaces and educational sites in specific locales. Focusing on forces of capital accumulation, labour migration, marginalisation, exclusion and resistance, the book is a theoretically and methodologically generative contribution to research that connects social, economic and cultural processes that are redefining cities and urban education globally in context-specific ways – essential reading for scholars and students of urban studies, education policy and politics.

Pauline Lipman, University of Illinois Chicago

Shifting Landscapes

Shifting Landscapes is a rich, multidimensional exploration of urban education in the multiverse of India, adding value to the growing scholarship on broader connections between urbanisation and education. As cities have continued to develop, their spatial, social and cultural landscapes have also evolved to adapt to the global capitalist needs. Education has been an integral part of these transformations, and the upheavals within the education sector have given rise to privilege and exclusion in schooling and the growing marginality of the poor. The volume takes on an interdisciplinary approach to examine how the idea of the urban and that of urban education are co-constituted and, more specifically, how spatial and educational inequalities in cities intersect. The chapters bring together diverse contexts to address the heterogeneity of urban social reality in India and similarly document the changes in educational access, provision, aspirations and politics in several parts of the country.

Geetha B. Nambissan retired as a professor from the Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her research has focused on marginal groups in Indian society such as Dalits and Adivasis and the urban poor. She has also been interested in the social implications of increasing privatisation of education. 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).

Nandini Manjrekar retired as a professor from the School of Education, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. Her research interest is located at the intersection of education and gender studies, and addresses issues of contemporary childhoods, conflict and schooling, and analysis of school curricula. Her publications include a reader on *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*.

Shivali Tukdeo is professor at Indira Mahindra School of Education, Mahindra University, Hyderabad. She is a scholar of education policy. The primary focus of her work has been the ways in which policy ideas are constructed, circulated and translated in diverse contexts. Her book *India Goes to School: Education Policy and Cultural Politics* (2019) looks at the entanglements of policy in recent decades as

transnational and extra-national actors along with the state have become partners in producing and furthering policy agendas. Her ongoing research includes new knowledge regimes in education and their connections to the large-scale transformations in India.

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, colonial knowledge practices, including colonialism and education in India, monuments, law and heritage making in colonial India, and popular histories. She has jointly edited with Daud Ali the volume *Knowledge Production, Pedagogy, and Institutions in Colonial India* (2011). She is currently revising a book manuscript on law and monument making in colonial India and preparing an edited volume on popular histories.

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Shifting Landscapes

Education and Urban Transformations in India

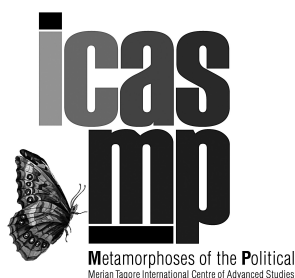
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