



Mahatma Gandhi: A Historical Biography

By Bidyut Chakrabarty

Lotus/Roli Books, New Delhi, India. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. Quite distinct from the abundant literature available on Mahatma Gandhi, this historical biography attempts to articulate the historiography of India's freedom struggle, of which Gandhi was undoubtedly the central figure. Relooking at key issues and themes that have been raised in the research conducted over the past few decades, this is an interpretative essay that seeks to contextualize Gandhi and his ideology of ahimsa and satyagraha. Instead of focusing merely on Gandhi's personal life, Prof Bidyut Chakrabarty conceptualizes the evolution of his ideas in the context of anti-colonial nationalism. A nationalism of the Mahatma that for the first time in the history of the independence struggle reached every village and taluk of the state. A nationalism for a country and a society based on his principles of nai talim (new education) and sarvodaya (upliftment of all). But was it the right path and ideology for a new and emerging nation? Despite being Gandhi-centred, the biography is thus imbued with questions, which it attempts to answer. Though a unique study of one of the most prominent personalities of the twentieth century, it addresses areas of human concerns, which...

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