

The Politics of Gender,
Community, and Modernity
Essays on Education in India

Nita Kumar

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	ix
Introduction	1
A NEW HISTORIOGRAPHY FOR SOUTH ASIA	
1. Provincialism in Modern India: The Multiple Narratives of Education and Their Pain	25
2. History and the Nation: The Learning of History in Calcutta and Banaras	49
3. The Family–School Relationship and an Alternative History of the Nineteenth-century Family	71
4. History at the Madrasas	85
MODERNITIES, COMMUNITIES, AND GENDERS	
5. Languages, Families, and the Plural Learning of the Nineteenth-century Intelligentsia	99
6. Mothers and Non-Mothers: Gendering the Discourse of Education in South Asia	125
7. Widows, Education, and Social Change	153
8. Making the Nation: Ansari Women in Banaras	171

9. The Nature of Reform in Modern India: A Discussion of <i>Mai</i> ; a Novel by Geetanjali Shree	179
10. Learning Modernity?: The Technology of Education in India	217
11. The Space of the Child: The Nation, the Neighbourhood, and the Home	238
POSTCOLONIALISM	
12. The Scholar and Her Servants: Further Thoughts on Postcolonialism and Education	267
13. A Postcolonial School in a Modern World	299
<i>Bibliography</i>	318
<i>Index</i>	338