Contents

Preface 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 GENDES

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 Mai; 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

Bibliography 318

Index 338