change in India has given rise to, he allows for the development of related understandings. For example, in reference to a somewhat irrational expansion in education, without a change in an outmoded educational philosophy (a philosophy suited more to a British era than to today) he shows how the problems of millions of unemployed and unemployable high school and college graduates have occurred.

Kuppuswamy’s book provides an overview of a society in transition, its resources, its aspirations, its problems, and its failures. However, coming from a renowned psychologist the book, whatever the strengths of his final section, is a disappointment. First, it does not represent good scholarship. The absence of a central conceptual or theoretical framework, and lack of adequate explanation, a failure to interrelate fully the chapters, and finally, the author's relative unfamiliarity with recent developments in the substantive area of social change do not serve as good indicators of scholarly work. A large part of the second section of the book, for example, is an adaptation of the chapters on social change in the introductory sociology text by R. M. MacIver and C H. Page, Society (1949). Even while adapting, however, Kuppuswamy has not exercised adequate care. On p. 11 of his book, there is the following statement: “The later developments are based upon earlier developments and so we can picture this (Figure 1 a) as a curve which is going upwards”. There is no Figure 1 a in the book. However, in MacIver and Page’s text there exists a chart on 521 which Kuppuswamy’s fails to reproduce while reproducing the essence of MacIver and Page’s discussions.

Second, the statistical data Kuppuswamy presents are mostly drawn from the 1961 Census and these are outdated especially in that the 1971 Census materials are available. Third, a serious student of sociology will have a frustrating time reading this book because of its pedestrian approach, its lack of depth, its gross generalizations and its simplistic statements. The following statement from the opening paragraph in the chapter on “Technological Factor” will substantiate my point.:

“For example we know that emancipation of women in India in the twentieth century was due to the political movement under the leadership of Gandhi rather than to any technological inventions... As a matter of fact, middle-class urban women in India eagerly purchase the labor-saving devices and the new fuels, but they have not yet given up their desire to employ cooks. The cooks that they employ are unable to use the new stoves and the labor saving devices efficiently. So there is constant friction between the ladies of the house, and the cooks, leading to frequent turnover of the latter. (p. 49)

In short, this book is part journalism, part elementary pedagogy, part dated data and part borrowed materials. It can hardly be considered an important contribution to the sociological understandings of Indian life.

University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Canada

G. N. Ramu


This paperback is a minimally amended reprint of the second half of the
3rd (1967) Edition of Spate and Learmonth's widely acclaimed *India and Pakistan: A General and Regional Geography*. Its companion volume, the reprinted first half, is entitled *India and Pakistan: Land, People, and Economy*. Either volume, happily, can be usefully read and enjoyed without the other.

The text is organized to conform, by and large, to a detailed regionalization of South Asia presented in a map at the onset of the work. This map, with its thirteen page key, is identical to that employed in prior editions of the work dating from 1953. It is based mainly on topography; but other considerations, such as climate, are also pragmatically employed to subdivide the Himalayas and the Indo-Gangetic Plain into meaningful units of description and analysis. Within three broad macro-regions comprising South Asia, Spate recognizes thirty-seven first-order regions and roughly eighty and 240 of the second and third order respectively. Within the last group scores of features of particular topographic interest are additionally noted. For practical purposes departures are occasionally (and judiciously) made from a strict adherence to the initial schema in the ordering of regional descriptions. India's "Eastern Borderlands," for example, including Assam and several lesser administrative entities are considered together even though they fall in all three of South Asia's macro-regions: the northern "Mountain Rim;" the "Indo-Gangetic Plains," including their Brahmaputra extension; and the "Peninsular Block," of which the Shillong Plateau is an outlier.

Within the thirteen regional chapters, descriptions normally commence with an indication of what Spate perceives as the most distinctive traits of the area to be discussed. Typically this is followed by an exposition of the physical geography, often written in an unnecessarily technical vein. Thence, the discussion turns to the local economy: agriculture first, then industrial and other activities, if there are any worth mentioning. Finally, there is a brief characterization of the settlement pattern, with details for the principal cities and towns. Major urban areas are singled out for lengthier discussion. The descriptions are, on the whole, remarkably perceptive, balanced, lucidly written, informed by keen historical insight, and flavored by wit and literary elegance. Editing is generally good, but occasional "howlers" (a term Spate might himself employ) get through: K ran estimates Bhutan's population, for example, as "850, 000," not "8,500,000," and Sheikh Mujib's surname is not "Khan," but "Rahmann." And there are more than a few errors, mainly typographical, in the rendition of proper names.

While the basic organization and a very large proportion of the prose are identical to that of the 1953 edition, great pains have been taken to update the work to 1967. A sample check of roughly one eighth of all the footnotes in the book – and these are quite numerous – reveals that those with dates later than 1953 comprise just about half the total. Nevertheless, events as late as the partition of Indian Punjab in 1966 remain unnoticed in the text; and many otherwise excellent maps and graphs which might reasonably have been updated remain as they were in the original work. The birth of Bangladesh and the factors leading to it are noted in but half a page (that being all the space left blank on the final page of the relevant chapter in the 1967 edition). A few other insignificant additions to the 1967 edition are similarly inserted.

If there is any major shortcoming in this work as regional geography, it is its relative inattention to social factors, especially religion, language, and