

KAN CHANA MAHADEVAN

Between Femininity and Feminism

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Colonial and Postcolonial Perspectives on Care

KAN CHANA
MAHADEVAN

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This book explores feminism's reconstruction of autonomy through the care debate amongst feminist philosophers, global differences between women and the tension between femininity and feminism. It will interest students, teachers and scholars of colonial studies, cultural studies, gender studies, philosophy, postcolonialism and social sciences.

This important work begins by first recognizing the existence of a body of work across cultures that classifies as feminist philosophical thought to offer its nuanced and complex analyses. It does so in the context of the history of care, tracing differences, overlaps, resonances and hierarchies in the work of so-called 'Western' and 'non-Western' feminist writers and thinkers. The book offers a way of engaging with tensions in the field of philosophy through the critical role of women's thought.

— **Urvashi Butalia**
 Director, Zubaan Books, India

Between Femininity and Feminism not only provides an intervention into moral and feminist philosophy, but also challenges the privilege of Western feminisms, critiques imperialism and Indian nationalist forms of patriarchy to demonstrate the value of inter-disciplinarity, global philosophical reflections and intersections of difference (such as caste, religion, class, imperialism and patriarchy). It foregrounds the work of philosophy as a practical and transformative activity.

— **Rita Kaur Dhamoon**
 Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
 University of Victoria, Canada



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Although the feminist debate on the ethics of care has demonstrated that philosophical concepts are gender-laden, the relation of care to justice and autonomy is not self-explanatory. Moreover, given its Western context, the normative relevance of the care debate to non-Western feminisms remains problematic. This book addresses this debate and investigates the extent to which notions of justice and autonomy can be reformulated without Eurocentrism from the perspective of care.

In this endeavour, this book maps the shifts in feminist approaches to care from the colonial to the post-colonial periods, taking both inter-disciplinarity and intersectionality into account. The book also argues that the feminist debate on care has contributed towards making philosophy's boundaries with culture and social science more porous.

Kanchana Mahadevan is Professor at the Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai. Her teaching and research interests in philosophy include ethics, hermeneutics, critical theory, gender studies and political theory. She has published various papers in journals and anthologies on these themes.

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Between Femininity and Feminism

Colonial and Postcolonial Perspectives on Care

Kanchana Mahadevan

with a Foreword by
Veena Poonacha



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नागरिकी

(प्लातोन की पोलितिया का हिन्दी अनुवाद)

अनुवादक

राजेन्द्र स्वरूप भटनागर



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(प्लातोन की पोलितिया का हिन्दी अनुवाद)

नागरिकी

राजेन्द्र स्वरूप भटनागर

अनुवादक

नागरिकी प्लातोन (प्लेटो) की पुस्तक *पोलितीया* का हिन्दी अनुवाद है। अंग्रेजी में इस पुस्तक के कई अनुवाद रिपब्लिक शीर्षक से प्रकाशित हुए हैं।

वस्तुतः रिपब्लिक शीर्षक *पोलितीया* का उपयुक्त अनुवाद नहीं है क्योंकि प्लातोन ने लोकतंत्र या जनतंत्र को स्वीकार नहीं किया, बल्कि उसमें कई दोष बताए हैं।

सामान्यतया *पोलितीया* का प्रमुख विषय राज्य अथवा नगर व्यवस्था माना जाता रहा है। बहुधा समझा जाता है कि इस संवाद में प्लातोन राज्य या नगर की एक आदर्श रूप-रेखा को अंकित करता है। परन्तु ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि नगर अथवा राज्य का विवेचन यह दिखाने का एक मार्ग है कि न्याय क्या है, वह अन्याय से किस प्रकार भिन्न है, तथा व्यक्ति तथा नगर के रूप में वह क्या भूमिका रखता है।

इस अनुवाद में दो बातों का विशेष ध्यान रखा गया है। प्रथम तो यह कि इसका अध्ययन हमें हैलेनिकी अथवा ग्रीक परिवेश के अधिक निकट लाए। दूसरे इसमें संवाद का स्वरूप इस प्रकार निरूपित किया गया है जिससे पता चले कि वार्ता चिर-परिचित व्यक्तियों के बीच हो रही है। अनुवाद के द्वारा अनुवादक ने प्लातोन की सद्गुण-सम्बन्धी अवधारणा को भली-भाँति दर्शाने का प्रयत्न किया है। *पोलितीया* में सद्गुण का विवेचन व्यक्ति तथा समाज या नगर दोनों के संदर्भ में हुआ है। प्लातोन के अन्य संवादों की तुलना में यहाँ सद्गुण-विवेचन अधिक विशद रूप में हुआ है।

इस अनुवाद के प्रकाट्य का एक कारण यह भी है कि *पोलितीया* का हिन्दी अनुवाद इस समय सुलभ नहीं है, तथा इसका महत्त्व दर्शन के अतिरिक्त अन्य विषयों की दृष्टि से भी सर्वविदित है।

राजेन्द्र स्वरूप भटनागर (जन्म 1 जनवरी 1933) ने इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय से 1959 में डी०फिल्० की उपाधि ग्रहण की। आपने सी०एम०पी० कॉलेज इलाहाबाद, बनस्थली विद्यापीठ तथा राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय में दर्शनशास्त्र का अध्यापन कार्य किया। इनके द्वारा अनेक दार्शनिक गोष्ठियों में पत्रवाचन एवं अनेक पत्र विभिन्न पत्रिकाओं में प्रकाशित हैं। इनकी *दर्शन परिचय* के अतिरिक्त बर्किले तथा पाश्चात्य चिन्तन पर पुस्तकें प्रकाशित हैं।

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नागरिकी

(प्लातोन की पोलितीया का हिन्दी अनुवाद)

(Hindi Translation of Plato's Republic)

अनुवादक
राजेन्द्र स्वरूप भटनागर



भारतीय दर्शन अनुसंधान परिषद्
नई दिल्ली



भारतीय परंपराओं के प्रकाशक
नई दिल्ली

Advaita Metaphysics

— A CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVE —

Tapti Maitra

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Upaniṣads have been viewed differently by commentators down the centuries. Philosophers have brought in their native presuppositions in interpreting the Upaniṣadic texts. Advaitavāda (monism) of Śaṅkara stands out conspicuous among the varied interpretations of the Upaniṣads. Ontology, having been basic and fundamental, logic, epistemology and ethics are parasitic on it. Thinkers like G.R. Malkani, K.S. Murty and G. Misra offer alternative perspectives in understanding concepts and doctrines of the Upaniṣads.

This book undertakes the study of Advaitavāda of Śaṅkara in its depth and extension. It spells out the relative cogency of Malkani's understanding of Advaita Metaphysics and Methodology, Murty's Critique of Advaita (non-dualism) and Misra's Philosophical Construction of Advaita from a linguistic perspective. This volume centres around the formulations of the Advaita theory of monism on the basis of epistemological and logical analysis of knowledge in *Adhyāsa Bhāṣya*.

This title is a significant addition to the existing literature on Advaita philosophy and shall be of profound interest for scholars at large.



Dr Tapti Maitra has an eventful academic career, with post-graduation from the University of Calcutta. She joined Orissa Education Service and subsequently, Post Graduate Department of Philosophy, Utkal University. Besides several research publications to her credit, she has authored *A Constructive Study of Advaita Conception of Mind*. She is greatly devoted to the study of Advaita Vedānta of Śaṅkara. She is known for her in-depth study of the seminal concepts and foundational issues in Advaita Vedānta from the logico-linguistic perspective.

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