

Contents

Introduction

**Understanding the world :
Interrogating empire and power** 12
Jai Sen

Acknowledgements 34

1 Patriarchy

Sense and Sexuality : Breaking Out

The Power of Patriarchy 36
Uma Chakravarti, author, feminist, and activist, New Delhi

Breaking the Silence 50
Pramada Menon, feminist, author, New Delhi

The Politics of Masculinity 58
Shaleen Rakesh, activist, New Delhi

The Open Forum : Breaking Out 66
*A frank and open discussion between Uma Chakravarti,
Pramada Menon, Shaleen Rakesh, Delhi University students
and faculty, and others*

2 Nationalism Community, Nation, State, War

**Understanding Nationalism and
Internationalism Today** 80

Achin Vanaik, professor of international relations and
global politics at the Department of Political Science,
University of Delhi, commentator, and anti-nuclear activist,
New Delhi

**Imagine there's no countries,
nothing to kill or die for** 94

Rohini Hensman, journalist, activist, Mumbai

Cultures of Nationalism 104

Ashis Nandy, author, commentator, Centre for the
Study of Developing Societies, Delhi

Open Forum : Community, Nation, State 108
*An open discussion between Achin Vanaik, Rohini Hensman,
Ashis Nandy, Delhi University students and faculty, and others*

3 Caste

Meanings and Modes of Struggle

Fighting Back 128

Gail Omvedt, sociologist and activist working on Caste, Class and Gender, Maharashtra

Local and Global : Searching for Resonance 134

V Geetha, independent researcher writing on Gender, History and Culture, Chennai

Making Caste a Global Issue 140

N Paul Divakar, National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights, Hyderabad

Transformational Potential ?

Reading Caste and Law 148

Kalpana Kannabiran, feminist, sociologist, University of Law, Hyderabad

Open Forum : Meanings and Modes of Struggle 156

A discussion between Gail Omvedt, V Geetha, Paul Divakar, Kalpana Kannabiran, Delhi School of Economics and Delhi University students and faculty, and others

4 Religion

Fundamentalism, Faith, and Reason

The World as One Family 172

Swami Agnivesh, Bandhua Mukti Morcha, New Delhi

Giving birth to the world 180

Ashok Vajpeyi, poet, critic, and editor, New Delhi

The Power of Reason 188

Purushottam Agarwal, social and cultural critic, political analyst, Professor JNU, New Delhi

Open Forum : Faith and Reason 198

An intense exchange between Swami Agnivesh, Ashok Vajpeyi, Purushottam Agrawal, Delhi University students and faculty, and others

5 Globalisation Imperialism and Empire

The New Imperialism 214

Jayati Ghosh, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, JNU, New Delhi

Imperialist Globalisation versus Global Solidarity 234

Jean Drèze, G B Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad

Changing the Landscape : The Importance of South Asia in Globalisation 240

Mahesh Rangarajan, Fellow, Nehru Museum and Library, New Delhi

Open Forum : Imperialism and Empire 250

An open exchange between Jayati Ghosh, Jean Drèze, Mahesh Rangarajan, Praful Bidwai, Delhi University students and faculty, and others

Glossary 262

Visual Credits 329

Index 330