INTRODUCING

Innovative Digital Archive from Routledge
to Transform South Asian Studies

The South Asia Archive

The largest online resource in South Asian Studies
www.thesouthasiaarchive.com

Routledge, an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group has introduced a new product to the market, *The South Asia Archive*. The **South Asia Archive** is a cutting-edge digital resource developed in association with the *South Asia Research Foundation* in response to growing demand from researchers for new online research, learning and teaching resources relating to South Asia.

Unrivalled in breadth and depth, the archive offers over 5 million pages of interdisciplinary content across a wide variety of publication types. All documents included in the **South Asia Archive** have been carefully selected and catalogued by an expert editorial team, making it a truly unique proposition. Comprising significant journal runs, rare books, film ephemera, census reports and other documentation, the Archive will provide instant access to culturally and historically significant literary material from across the Indian Subcontinent covering the mid-18th to the mid-20th century.

The story of the **South Asia Archive** began in 2004, when the editors found themselves in an Oxford coffee shop lamenting the lack of primary materials available to them as Asian Studies scholars. This set in motion a personal mission to collect and curate a diverse collection of publications and to make them available electronically while at the same time preserving the original documents, in danger of being damaged beyond repair, for future generations. Over the course of a few years, many important documents were uncovered, including rare books and journals retrieved from flooded storage rooms and from private collections across India. It is from these documents that the digital content of the **South Asia Archive** is comprised.

Routledge was the natural partner for this project, bringing with them their strong reputation in the field of South Asian Studies, expertise in digital publishing and project management skills. Underlining the importance of the **South Asia Archive** as an academic resource, editor Professor Boria Majumdar states that "Libraries do not often have access to material as extensive and as varied as that in the **South Asia Archive**". Co-editor Dr Sharmistha Gooptu adds, "The Archive is going to be useful to people working in any field of South Asian history".

Dr David Green, Global Journals Publishing Director, says of the **South Asia Archive**, "We are delighted to be working with *SARF* to bring their rich collection of cultural and historical documents to a global audience. Adding expert annotations and a sophisticated search and navigation layer to the digitized archival material is a key element of this unique publishing project – and we are committed to making this legacy content available globally, and as part of the preservation of South Asia's patrimony of rare archival content of inestimable value to scholars. As an extension of the legacy vision, the physical archive is being bequeathed to the Ministry of Human Resource Development in Delhi."

Visit www.southasiaarchive.com for further information, including a video interview with the Archive editors and sample documents.

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