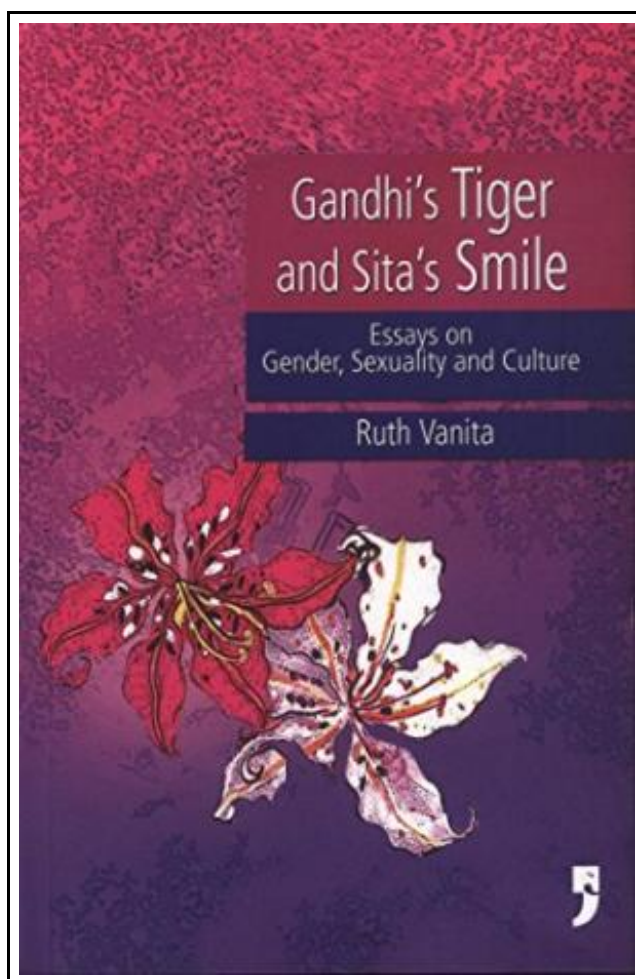


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GANDHI'S TIGER AND SITA'S SMILE: ESSAYS ON GENDER, SEXUALITY AND CULTURE



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Yoda Press, New Delhi, India. Paperback. Book Condition: New. First Edition. Gandhi's Tiger and Sita's Smile presents a collection of compelling essays which interrogate a variety of Indian texts and contexts along intersecting axes of gender, nation, and desire. The primary theme that weaves these varied essays together, written at different points of time with varying focal points of interest, is intertextuality. Vanita examines the way in which medieval texts speak to each other and draw on earlier canonical works, rewriting and transforming narrative in a spirit of respectful conversation. She also looks at modern texts, such as nineteenth-century poetry and twentieth-century fiction and cinema, as they converse with each other and with older texts. In doing so, she tries to explore how such pre-modern and modern texts are received in later periods or by other cultures in the same period. These captivating and intensely thought-provoking writings demonstrate the author's superb ability to turn the norm, whether Right-wing or Left-Wing, on its head, and find a fresh way to appreciate diversity and change, and the valuable dialogue they give rise to. Contents
Foreword by Shohini Ghosh Preface Acknowledgements Politics and Power 1. Thinking Beyond Gender in India 2. The Self Has No Gender: A Female and A Male Scholar Debate Women's Status in the Mahabharata 3. Gandhi's Tiger: Multilingual Elites, the Battle for Minds, and English Romantic Literature in Colonial India 4. A Rose by Any Other Name: The Sexuality Terminology Debates 5. Was Sita Mrs Ram? The Evolution of Women's Surnames 6. Whatever Happened to the Hindu Left? Love and Friendship 7. God as Sakhi: Medieval Poet Janabai and her Friend Vithabai 8. Gender, Language, and Genre: Hindus, Muslims, Men, Women, and Lesbian Love in Nineteenth-century Urdu Rekhti Poetry 9. Tragic Love and the Ungendered Heart: Reading the Well...



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