

Tirthankar Roy

## APPOINTMENT

Professor

Economic History

London School of Economics and Political Science

Email: [t.roy@lse.ac.uk](mailto:t.roy@lse.ac.uk)

## EDUCATION

School and university in Santiniketan, India. PhD (1989) from Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, India.

## RESEARCH AREAS

Economic history and development of South Asia, global history, empires, environmental history, music.

## TEACHING

EH307: Economic History of South Asia 1600-2000, BSc

EH404: India and the World Economy, MSc

EH421: Economic History of Colonialism, MSc (with Leigh Gardner)

Also in the past Convenor of MSc Global History, Dissertation in Global History (MSc), Economic Change in Global History (MSc, 2007-13), Development and Integration of the World Economy (MSc, 2006-11), Theories, Paths, and Patterns of Late Development (MSc, 2009), Comparative Economic Development: Late Industrialization in Russia, India, and Japan (BSc, 2006-11).

## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS UNDER PREPARATION

*The Cambridge Economic History of Modern South Asia* (editor, with Latika Chaudhary and Anand Swamy)

### BOOKS PUBLISHED / FORTHCOMING

1. *Reserve Bank of India 1997-2007*, New Delhi: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.
2. *The Economic History of India 1857-1947*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed., Delhi: Oxford University Press, forthcoming in 2020.
3. *The Economic History of Colonialism*, with Leigh Gardner, Bristol: Bristol University Press, 2020.
4. *Law and the Economy in a Young Democracy: India since 1950*, with Anand Swamy. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, forthcoming.
5. *The Crafts and Capitalism: Handloom Weaving Industry in Colonial India*, New Delhi and Abingdon: Routledge, 2020.
6. *How British Rule Changed India's Economy: The Paradox of the Raj*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019.
7. *Global Economic History*, edited with Giorgio Riello, London: Bloomsbury Press, 2018.
8. *A Business History of India: Enterprise and the Emergence of Capitalism from 1600*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018.
9. *The Economy of South Asia: From 1950 to the Present*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.
10. *Law and the Economy in Colonial India*, with Anand Swamy, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016.
11. *A New Economic History of Colonial India*, edited with Latika Chaudhary, Bishnupriya Gupta, Anand Swamy, Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2016.
12. *East India Company o Bharater Arthonoitik Itihas* (East India Company and the Economic History of India, in Bengali), Calcutta: Ananda Publishers, 2014.
13. *An Economic History of Early Modern India*, Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2013.
14. *India in the World Economy from Antiquity to the Present*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012. Japanese translation published by Nagoya University Press, 2017.
15. *Natural Disasters and Indian History*, Oxford India Short Introductions series, 2012.
16. *East India Company: The World's Most Powerful Corporation*, New Delhi: Allen Lane, 2012; Amazon audio book 2013; Penguin Portfolio Paperback 2016.

17. *The Economic History of India 1857-1947*, revised third edition, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2011 (previous editions 2000, 2006).
18. *How India Clothed the World: The World of South Asian Textiles 1500-1850*, edited with Giorgio Riello, Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2010 (paperback 2013).
19. *Towards a History of Consumption in South Asia*, edited with Douglas Haynes, Abigail McGowan, Haruka Yanagisawa, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2010.
20. *Company of Kinsmen: Community and Enterprise in South Asian History 1700-1950*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2010 (second paperback ed. 2017).
21. *Rethinking Economic Change in India: Labour and Livelihood*, Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2005.
22. *Traditional Industry in the Economy of Colonial India*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999, Paperback 2007.
23. *Artisans and Industrialization: Indian Weaving in the Twentieth Century*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1993.
24. *Economic Reforms: The Next Step*, edited with Ashok Desai, Delhi: Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, 1998.
25. *Cloth and Commerce: Textiles in Indian History*, Delhi: Sage Publications, 1996.

#### ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS

1. Climate and the Economy in India from 1850 to the Present, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, accepted.
2. Technology in Colonial India, *Technology and Culture*, accepted.
3. Music and Society in Late-colonial India: A Study of Esraj in Gaya, *Journal of Asian Studies*, early-view on the journal website.
4. State Capacity and the Economic History of Colonial India, *Australian Economic History Review*, 59(1), 2019, 80-116.
5. Reassessing FERA: Examining British Firms' Strategic Responses to 'Indianisation', *Business History* (with Michael Aldous), early-view on the journal website.
6. The Rise of the West and Other Stories (Review article on 3 books), *Journal of World History*, 30(1-2), 2019, 280-90.
7. Transfer of Economic Power in Corporate Calcutta 1950-1970, *Business History Review*, 91(1), 2017, 3-29.
8. The Origins of Import Substituting Industrialization in India, *Economic History of Developing Regions*, 32(1), 2017, 71-95.
9. Natural Disasters in South Asia: Does History Matter?, *Toc Studies in Nepali History and Society*, 22(2), 2017, 287-299,

10. The British Empire and the Economic Development of India 1858-1947, *Revista de Historia Economica – Journal of Iberian and Latin American Economic History*, 34(2), 2016, 209-36.
11. Monsoon and the Market for Money in Late Colonial India, *Enterprise and Society*, 17(2), 2016, 324-357.
12. The Mutiny and the Merchants, *Historical Journal*, 59(2), 2016, 393-416.
13. Economic History of Early Modern India: A response, *Modern Asian Studies*, 49(5), 2015, 1657-66.
14. Geography or Politics? Regional Inequality in Colonial India, *European Review of Economic History*, 18(3), 2014, 306-23.
15. The Rise and Fall of Indian Economic History, *Economic History of Developing Regions*, 29(1), 2014, 15-41.
16. Trading Firms in Colonial India, *Business History Review*, 88 (Special Issue 1), 2014, 9-42.
17. Bringing Economics back in Labour History: A Study of the Historical Patterns of Labour Supply in India, *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 56(1), 2013, 37-56.
18. Rethinking the Origins of British India: State Formation and Military-fiscal Undertakings in an Eighteenth Century World Region, *Modern Asian Studies*, 47(4), 2013, 1125-56.
19. Consumption of Cotton Cloth in India, 1795-1940, *Australian Economic History Review*, 52(1), 2012, 61-84. (Received the Sir Timothy Coghlan Prize for the best article published in the Review during 2012).
20. Beyond Divergence: Rethinking the Economic History of India, *Economic History of Developing Regions*, 27(S1), 2012, S57-65.
21. Where is Bengal? Situating an Indian Region in the Early Modern World Economy, *Past and Present*, 213, 2011, 115-46.
22. Indigo and Law in Colonial India, *Economic History Review*, 64(S1), 2011, 60-75.
23. 'The Law of Storms': European and Indigenous Response to Natural Disasters in Colonial India, c. 1800-1850, *Australian Economic History Review*, 50(1), 2010, 6-22.
24. Colonialism and Industrialization in India 1870-1940, *International Journal of South Asian Studies*, 3, 2010, 11-32.
25. Economic Conditions in Early Modern Bengal: A Contribution to the Divergence Debate, *Journal of Economic History*, 70(1), 2010, 179-194.
26. Did Globalization Aid Industrial Development in Colonial India? A Study of Knowledge Transfer in the Iron Industry, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 46(4), 2009, 579-613.

27. Factor Markets and the Narrative of Economic Change in South Asia, *Continuity and Change*, 24(1), 2009, 137–167.
28. The Guild in Modern South Asia, *International Review of Social History*, 53 (Supplement), 2008, 95-120.
29. Knowledge and Divergence from the Perspective of Early Modern India, *Journal of Global History*, 3(4), 2008, 361-387.
30. State, Society, and Market in the Aftermath of Natural Disasters in Colonial India: A Preliminary Exploration, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 45(2), 2008, 261-294.
31. Sardars, Jobbers, Kanganies: The Labour Contractor in Indian Economic History, *Modern Asian Studies*, 42(5), 2008, 971-998.
32. Out of Tradition: Master Artisans and Economic Change in Colonial India, *Journal of Asian Studies*, 66(4), 2007, 963–991.
33. A Delayed Revolution: Environment and Agrarian Change in India, *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, 23(2), 2007, 239-250.
34. Globalization, Factor Prices, and Poverty in Colonial India, *Australian Economic History Review*, 47(1), 2007, 73-94.
35. Flourishing Branches, Wilting Core: Research in Modern Indian Economic History, *Australian Economic History Review*, 44(3), 2004, 221-240.
36. Changes in Wool Production and Usage in Colonial India, *Modern Asian Studies*, 37(2), 2003, 257–286.
37. Madras Handkerchiefs in the Interwar period, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 39(2-3), 2002, 285-300.
38. Economic History and Modern India: Redefining the Link, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 16(3), 2002, 109-30.
39. Acceptance of Innovations in Early Twentieth Century Indian Weaving, *Economic History Review*, 55(4), 2002, 507-532.
40. Indian Weaving in the 20th Century, *Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte*, 2, 1998, 129-150.
41. Conceiving Mobility: Migration of Handloom Weavers in Precolonial and Colonial India, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, (with Douglas Haynes), 36(3), 1999, 275-302.
42. Music as Artisan Tradition, *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, 32(1), 1998, 21-42.
43. Capitalism and Community: A Study of the Madurai Sourashtras, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 34(4), 1997, 437-464.
44. The Role of the State in Initiating Development: A Study of Interwar South and Southeast Asia, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 33(4), 1996, 373-401.

45. Home Market and the Artisans in Colonial India: A Study of Brass-ware, *Modern Asian Studies*, 30(2), 1996, 357-385.
46. Price Movements in Early Twentieth Century India, *Economic History Review*, 48(2), 1995, 118-33.
47. Foreign Trade and the Artisans in Colonial India: A Study of Leather, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 31(4), 1994, 461-490.
48. A Concept of Indian Music, *Journal of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research*, 1994.
49. The Pattern of Industrial Growth in Interwar India, *Journal of Indian School of Political Economy*, 1994.
50. Real and Financial Flows in the Indian Economy, 1970 to 1990 (with K. Sen), *International Journal of Development Banking*, 12(1), 1994.
51. Money Supply and Asset-choice in Interwar India, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 30(2), 1993, 163-80.
52. Size and Structure of Handloom Weaving in the Mid-1930s, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 25(1), 1988, 1-24.
53. Growth, Distribution and Demand for Textiles in India (with M.H. Suryanarayana and K.S. Parikh), *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, 10(1), 1993.

## CHAPTERS

1. War and Empire 1700-1870 (with Philip T. Hoffman), in Stephen Broadberry and Kyoji Fukao, eds., *Cambridge Economic History of the Modern World*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.
2. Why was British India a Limited State?, in Anne Booth and Ewout Frankema, eds, *Fiscal Capacity and the Colonial State in Asia and Africa, c. 1850-1960*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.
3. South Asia, in Matthias Blum and Christopher Colvin, eds., *An Economist's Guide to Economic History*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019, 293-9.
4. Trade and the Emergence of the World Economy, 1500-2000 (with Giorgio Riello), in Tirthankar Roy and Giorgio Riello, eds., *Global Economic History*, London: Bloomsbury, 2019.
5. The Indian Economy after Independence, *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Economics and Finance*, forthcoming.
6. The Economy of Pakistan, *Routledge Handbook of South Asia 2020*.
7. The Writing of Economic History in India after Independence, In Ajit Sinha, ed., *Pluralistic Economics and Its History*, New Delhi: Routledge, 2019.

8. (with Bishnupriya Gupta) From Artisanal Production to Machine Tools: Industrialization in India in the Long Run, in Kevin H. O'Rourke and Jeffrey G. Williamson, eds., *The Spread of Modern Industry to the Periphery since 1871*, New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 229-55.
9. Indian Famines: Natural or Manmade? In Sanjukta Dasgupta and Arun Bandopadhyay, eds., *In Quest of the Historian's Craft: Essays in Honour of Prof. B.B. Chaudhuri*, New Delhi: Manohar, 2018, 75-102.
10. Origins of British India, *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History*, <http://asianhistory.oxfordre.com/>.
11. Asie (Inde), in Liliane Hilaire-Perez et al, eds., *Histoire des techniques, histoire des mondes XVIe-XVIIIe siècle*, Presses Universitaires de France, 2016.
12. Land Quality, Carrying Capacity, and Sustainable Agricultural Change in Twentieth-Century India, in Gareth Austin, ed., *Economic Development and Environmental History in the Anthropocene: Perspectives on Asia and Africa*, London: Bloomsbury, 2017.
13. (with Bishnupriya Gupta and Debin Ma) States and Development: Early Modern India, China, and the Great Divergence, in Jari Eloranta, Eric Golson, Andrei Markevich, Nikolaus Wolf, eds, *Economic History of Warfare and State Formation*, Springer, 2016, 51-69.
14. The Marwari Diaspora, *Oxford Handbooks Online: History*. <http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/page/history>.
15. South Asia, in Joerg Baten, ed., *A History of the Global Economy: From 1500 to the present*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016, 249-73.
16. British Empire: 7. India, to 1858, and British Empire: 8. India, from 1857, in John M. Mackenzie, ed., *The Encyclopedia of Empire*, Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016.
17. Introduction to the second edition, Dharma Kumar, ed., *The Cambridge Economic History of India volume 2: 1750-1970*, Cambridge University Press, New Delhi, forthcoming.
18. (with Latika Chaudhary, Bishnupriya Gupta, Anand Swamy) Agriculture in Colonial India, in Latika Chaudhary, Bishnupriya Gupta, Tirthankar Roy, and Anand Swamy, eds., *A New Economic History of Colonial India*, Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2016, 100-116.
19. The Growth of a Labour Market in the Twentieth Century, in Latika Chaudhary, Bishnupriya Gupta, Tirthankar Roy, and Anand Swamy, eds., *A New Economic History of Colonial India*, Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2016, 179-94.
20. Embracing the World. Parsis after China Trade, in *Across Oceans and Flowing Silks: From Canton to Bombay 18th - 20th centuries*, edited by Pheroza J. Godrej and Firoza P. Mistree, Bombay, 2014.

21. Apprenticeship and Industrialization in India, 1600-1930. In Maarten Prak and Jan Luiten Van Zanden, eds., *Technology, Skills and the Pre-modern Economy in the East and the West*, Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2013, 69-92.
22. Capitalism in India in the very Long Run. In Larry Neal and Jeffrey Williamson, eds., *The Cambridge History of Capitalism*, 2014, vol. 1 of 2, 165-92.
23. Mobile artisans (with Douglas Haynes), in Joya Chatterjee and David Washbrook, eds., *Routledge Handbook of South Asian Diaspora*, 2013.
24. Labour-intensity and Indian Industrialization. In Gareth Austin and Kaoru Sugihara, eds., *Labour-intensive industrialization in Global History*, Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2012, 107-21.
25. India and the World Economy 1757-1947. In Chetan Ghate, ed., *Oxford Handbook of the Indian Economy*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012, 33-55.
26. Law and the Economy of Early Modern India. In Debin Ma and Jan Luiten van Zanden, eds., *Law and Long-term Economic Change*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2011, 115-37.
27. The Great Depression and the Economy of Interwar India (tr. into Portuguese). In Francisco Carlos Palomanes and Flávio Limonic, eds., *A Grande Depressão. Política e economia na década de 1930 - Europa, Américas, África e Ásia*, 2010.
28. Economic History of India: Ending the Impasse. In Bharati Ray, ed., *Different Types of History*, New Delhi: Government of India and Pearson Longman, 2009, 179-97.
29. The Long Globalization and Textile Producers in India. In Lex Heerma van Voss, Els Hiemstra-Kuperus, Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk, eds., *The Ashgate Companion to the History of Textile Workers 1650-2000*, Aldershot: Ashgate, 2010, 253-74.
30. (with Giorgio Riello) Introduction. In Giorgio Riello and Tirthankar Roy, eds., *How India Clothed the World: The World of South Asian Textiles 1500-1850*, Leiden: Brill, 2009, 1-30.
31. Consumption and Craftsmanship in Colonial India 1850-1950. In A. McGowan, D. Haynes, H. Yanagisawa, and T. Roy, eds., *Towards a History of Consumption in South Asia 1850-1950*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2009, 268-297.
32. End of Aid: External Assistance and Development Strategy in India, 1950–65. In Helge Pharo and Monika Pohle Fraser, eds., *The Aid Rush: Aid Regimes in Northern Europe During the Cold War*, Oslo: Oslo Academic Press, 2008, vol. 2, 95-113.
33. Legislation, Enforcement and Adjudication in Indian Labor Markets: Origins, Consequences and the Way Forward (with Carmen Pages and Ahmad Ahsaan). In Dipak Mazumdar and Sandip Sarkar, eds., *Globalization, Labor Markets and Inequality in India*, New York and Oxford: Routledge, 2008, 247-282.
34. Handmade in India: Traditional Craft Skills in a Changing World (with Maureen Liebl). In J.M. Finger, ed., *Poor People's Knowledge. Promoting Intellectual Property in*



*Developing Countries*, Washington DC: World Bank and Oxford University Press, 2004, 53-74.

35. Madras Handkerchiefs in the Interwar Period, in Sanjay Subrahmanyam, ed., *Land, Politics and Trade in South Asia*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2004, 282-302.
36. Economic Reforms and the Textile Industry. In S. Gokarn, A. Sen, R. Vaidya (eds.), *The Structure of Indian Industry*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2003, 82-111.
37. Deindustrialization. In Alice Thorner, ed., *Land, Labour and Rights: 10 Daniel Thorner Memorial Lectures*, Delhi: Tulika, 2001, 232-249.

#### ARTICLES IN NON-REFEREED JOURNALS

1. The Great Bengal Famine: Is there one story to tell? *History Today*, 2019.
2. Economic Legacies of Colonial Rule in India: A Response, *Economic and Political Weekly (EPW)*, 2015.
3. The Economic Legacies of Colonial Rule in India: Another Look, *EPW*, 2015.
4. Empire, Law, and Economic Growth, *EPW*, 2012.
5. The Role of Labour Institutions in Industrialization: Japan and the Crisis of the Cotton Mills in Interwar Mumbai, *EPW*, 2008.
6. A Grand Synthesis, Review Article of Binay Bhushan Chaudhuri, *Peasant History in Late-precolonial and Colonial India*, *EPW*, 2009.
7. Agrarian Crisis in Interwar India: Retrieving a Narrative, *EPW*, 41(52), 2007, 5389-5400.
8. Economic History of India: An Endangered Discipline, *EPW*, 2004
9. Economic History and Postmodern Theory, *EPW*, 2003.
10. Handmade in India: Status Report on Indian Artisans (with Maureen Liebl), *EPW*, 2003.
11. Subaltern Studies: Questioning the Basics, 2002, Review article of David Ludden, ed., *Reading Subaltern Studies. Critical History, Contested meaning, and the Globalization of South Asia* (Delhi: 2001), *EPW*, 2002.
12. An Asian World Economy? Review Article of André Gunder Frank, *ReOrient*, *EPW*, 2001.
13. Deindustrialisation, *EPW*, 2000.
14. Growth and Recession in Small-scale Industry: A Study of Tamil Nadu Powerlooms, *EPW*, 1999.
15. The Proposed Textile Policy: Do We Need One?, *EPW*, 1998.
16. Development or Distortion? The Powerlooms in India, 1950-97, *EPW*, 1998.

17. Economic Reforms and the Textile Industry in India, *EPW*, 1998.
18. Market-resurgence, Deregulation and Industrial Response: Indian Cotton Textiles in the 1990s, *EPW*, 1996.
19. Changes in Savings-rate and its Implications for Growth (with K. Sen), *EPW*, 1991.
20. Relations of Production in Handloom Weaving in the Mid-1930s, *EPW*, 1989.
21. South Indian Economy, 1914 to 1945 (with G.N. Rao, R. Mahadevan, D. Rajasekhar), *EPW*, 1988.

#### SELECTED BOOK REVIEWS: 2017-2020

1. William Dalrymple, *The Anarchy: The East India Company, Corporate Violence, and the Pillage of an Empire*, New York: Bloomsbury, 2019, in the *Times Literary Supplement*, 2020.
2. Lilly Irani, *Chasing Innovation: Making Entrepreneurial Citizens in Modern India*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2019, in *Business History Review*, 2019.
3. Paul Arthur Van Dyke. *Merchants of Canton and Macao: Success and Failure in Eighteenth-Century Chinese Trade*, Hong Kong, China: Hong Kong University Press, 2016, in *H-Asia Reviews*, 2018.
4. Pedro Machado, Sarah Fee, Gwyn Campbell, eds., *Textile Trades, Consumer Cultures, and the Material Worlds of the Indian Ocean. An Ocean of Cloth*, Palgrave, 2018, in *International Journal of Maritime History*, 2018.
5. Rajeswary Ampalavanar Brown, *The Chinese and Indian Corporate Economies: A Comparative History of Their Search for Economic Renaissance and Globalization*, Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2017, in *Business History Review*, 2018.
6. Shashi Tharoor, *Inglorious Empire: What the British did to India*, London: C. Hurst, 2017, in *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, 2017.
7. C.J. Fuller and Haripriya Narasimhan, *Tamil Brahmins. The Making of a Middle-Class Caste*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2014, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 2017.
8. Alessandro Stanziani, *Bondage. Labor and Rights in Eurasia from the Sixteenth to the Early Twentieth Centuries*. New York and Oxford, Berghahn Books, 2014, *Journal of Global History*, 12(1) 2017, 157-9.

## MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES

Executive Committee, International Economic History Association, 2009-2015

Governor, Pasold Research Fund, 2015-.

## JOURNAL AND BOOK SERIES EDITORSHIP

Editor of South Asia, in Oxford Research Handbook in Asian Commercial History  
(general editor Scott Levi).

Editorial Board, Springer Economic History series.

Editorial Board, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, Sage, 2002 –.

Editorial Board, E.J. Brill Global Economic History Series, 2007 –.

Editorial Advisory Board, *Economic History of Developing Regions*, Routledge, 2010–

Advisory Board, *International Review of Social History*.