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**Indian Sociologists: Conversation****Nagla B K (Ed.)****Jaipur, Rawat Publications, 2024, pp: 307 + VII+ XI,****Rs 1895, ISBN 978-81-316-1360-3****Reviewed By****Jyoti Sidana****Aman Prasad**

The book under review is the presentation of 'small biographies' of seventeen pioneer Indian Sociologists. In fact, interview, in our view, is not a method, it combines traits of 'biography' and 'autobiography'. When the interviewer raises questions about personality's attributes and direction of development of academic and cultural life to interviewee, the 'biography' in small / micro form emerges in the form of reply or replies. When the interviewer raises 'intentional questions', the replies which he / she receives from interviewee come close to 'autobiography'. It can also be argued that interview is instrumental in constructing ethnographic profile.

The book reveals those processes of subjective and objective understanding of seventeen Indian Sociologists which is shaped by the thoughtful questions of seventeen interviewers who are also known Indian Sociologists. Thus, book is depiction of structured and unstructured dialogue of thirty-four Indian Sociologists related to two to three generations of Sociologists. B. K. Nagla in the preface and introduction introduces the objectives of this book. All these

interviews were published in a Hindi language research journal published by SAGE publication on behalf of 'Indian Sociological Society'. Rawat Publications, Jaipur has published these interviews in Hindi book entitled '*Bhartiya Samaj Shastriyon Ke Saath Samvad*'. In real sense Rawat Publication by publishing these books has framed the growth of Indian Sociology with multiple perspectives. The book is structured by the interviews of *Ramkrishna Mukherjee, Yogendra Singh, Andre Beteille, T. N. Madan, A. M. Shah, Bindeshwar Pathak, D. N. Dhanagare, I. P. Desai, N. R. Seth, Suma Chitnis, Ratna Naidu, S. L. Sharma, Jayant Lele, P. K. B. Nayar, D. Sundaram, K. L. Sharma and T. K. Oommen*. By these interviews, B. K. Nagla has successfully touched almost each and every part of India. *The reviewers are also thrilled to know that Yogendra Singh, D. N. Dhanagare, Bindeshwar Pathak and S. L. Sharma have been closely associated with Institute of Social Sciences, Agra and with Professor Rajeshwar Prasad - the founding father of 'Social Science Gazetteer' and of Indian Social Science Association. Professor Ramkrishna Mukherjee in his interview indicates the impact of Mahalanobis on methodology of Sociology and the importance of logical consistency. Yogendra Singh points out the importance of ideas of V.K.R.V Rao with various scholars who gave rise to dynamism in Indian Sociology while Andre Beteille with the help of views of Max Weber and of School of Functionalism construct Sociology as a rational discipline. One can understand the complexity of Sociology of Religion by reading the interview of T. N. Madan. How does A. M. Shah develops interest in 'Sociology of Family' becomes clear from his interview. Bindeshwar Pathak in his interview argues about indicators of sociology of health and hygiene. D. N. Dhanagare's interview stimulates the reader to examine the 'life – world' of Indian peasants from Marxian perspective. I. P. Desai was interviewed by Vidyut Joshi when he was alive. In this content / excerpts Vidyut Joshi highlights the sociological vision of I. P. Desai. I. P. Desai believes that India, a relatively closed society became gradually an open society due to the influence of evolutionary and modernisation processes. N. R. Seth in his interview (taken by N. Rajaram) explains the growth of Industrial Sociology in India as well as the complexities of labour - conditions in Industrial*

Organisations. *Suma Chitnis* in her interview explains the importance of 'Sociology of Education' particularly the 'economics of education'. *Ratna Naidu* in her dialogue with Aparna Rayaprol conceptualises 'values' as a 'set of preference'. The views of Suma Chitnis and Ratna Naidu also help us in understanding of Indian feminism. *S. L. Sharma* in his discussion frames the ideas about the relationship between development and modernisation. S. L. Sharma also indicates the role of his family in making him a student of Sociology with analytical keenness. *Jayant Lele* talks about the relationship of elite pluralism with class rule and constructs the future of Sociology in this context of relationship. *P. K. B Nayar* in his interview constructs the multi-dimensional frame of Gerontology and reveals his interest in women's studies with the understanding of matriarchal family. The causes and consequences of various forms of migration have been evaluated by *D. Sundaram* in his interview with J. Krishnamurthy. *K. L. Sharma* in his conversation with Rashmi Jain introduces those life-struggles which shaped his personality and points out that students of Sociology must learn caste – class – power nexus to understand Indian society and its structural changes. *T. K. Oommen* discusses the growth of his academic personality from a 'research scholar' to 'decorated academician'. In his conversation with Vivek Kumar, he has examined and evaluated the growth of Indian Sociology - its merits and limitations. Overall, this book successfully constructs the relationship between Indian Sociology and Global Sociology. because almost all interviewers and interviewees have been visiting various nation-states to understand their world of Sociology.

The book also helps us in understanding the Sociological vision of *B. K. Nagla, Anjan Ghosh, Asheesh Kumar, Ankita Mookherjee, Ashok Pankaj, Kamla Ganesh, Shruti Tambe, Vidyut Joshi, N. Rajaram, Gita Chandha, Aparna Rayaprol, Madhu Nagla, Shobha B Nair, J. Krishnamurthy, Rashmi Jain and Vivek Kumar*, who have proved that dialogues of these kind are pre-requisites to understand the nature and development of Indian Sociology.

The team of Rawat Publications Jaipur and B. K. Nagla, the editor of this book deserves appreciation and congratulation because this kind

of 'interview-centric' book provides the understanding of philosophy, ideology, methodology and '*sociological imaginations*' associated with Indian Sociology. The paperback edition of this book should be there in the market so that it reaches to the students with affordable price.

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