

*Book Notes**

R. Mansell Prothero and Murray Chapman (eds.). *Circulation in Third World Countries*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. 1985. xviii + 473 pp.

The book is a collection of essays on circulatory movements of people in the Third World. Specific areas where research has been conducted by the editors are Tropical Africa and South-West Pacific region. Essays are based on field work and studies conducted in the developing countries. The book is truly interdisciplinary because of the contribution made by authors working in vastly different areas including demography, economics, political economy, social anthropology and sociology. In fact, half of the essays have come from geographers many of whom participated in interdisciplinary projects relating to manpower, health and educational planning.

The papers included in the volume have been grouped on the basis of four major perspectives: holistic, ecological, social and economic, with a good deal of overlapping in approach, methodology and substance. In addition, the editors have provided introduction and concluding essays.

Malcolm Gillis, Dwight H. Perkins, Michael Roemer, and Donald R. Snodgrass. *Economics of Development*. New York/London: W. W. Norton & Company. 1983. vii + 599 pp.

The textbook is a product of vast experience of the authors in the field of development as teacher, researcher and, especially, adviser on development policy. The book provides broad and relatively uniform coverage of the wide range of topics that constitute the field of economic development. The book is divided into five parts. Part I deals with the issues that prevent development from taking place (obstacles to development) and the kinds of structural changes that occur once growth takes place. It also provides an introduction to the theory and practice of development planning. Part II discusses how human resources are transformed in the process of economic development and how that transformation contributes to the development process itself. Part III is concerned with the capital mobilization and its allocation for development. It discusses the sources of savings, the process by which savings are transformed into investment, and the kind of financial system which is consistent with rapid capital accumulation. It also discusses the role of inflation, foreign aid and investment in the development process. International trade and interdependence strategies are the subject of Part IV. Part V discusses the problems of economic development from a sectoral point of view.

This text makes extensive use of the theoretical tools of classical and neo-classical economists. However, references from the empirical studies built up by other development economists and economic historians are used. The authors also try to give specific country examples for almost all the major points made in this book.

UNCTAD. *Trends, Policies and Prospects in Trade among Countries having Different Economic and Social Systems: Selected Studies*. New York: United Nations. 1984. vi + 145 pp.

This is a collection of studies prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat on trade and economic co-operation as a part of its research work initiated in the early Seventies. The studies in this volume discuss the present situation and prospects for the development of trade and economic co-operation between selected socialist countries of Eastern Europe and selected developing countries. Information is given on evaluation of trade flows, institutional framework, and ways and means of promoting trade and economic co-operation among countries having different economic and social systems. In the preparation of the studies, the UNCTAD secretariat has taken extensive help from the material prepared at its request by social scientists working in different countries.

T. B. Irving. *The World of Islam*. Brattleboro (Vermont): Amana Books Inc. 1984. vii + 200 pp.

The resurgence of Islamic thinking in the second half of the twentieth century has bewildered the West. The political response to this development, especially in the US, has been shaped by information and conceptions of Islam borrowed from the writings of European thinkers of the medieval era. The latter, in turn, suffered from the prejudices of post-Crusade Christian mentality.

This volume attempts to enlighten Western thinking on Islam, its history and culture. The geographical areas covered are Middle East, Central Asia, Indian sub-continent and desert lands of equatorial regions of Africa. Pertinent information is provided on Europe and North and South Americas. The author has endeavoured to combine humanities, history, politics and economics of the Muslim countries to provide a better understanding of the Islamic world.

OECD. *OECD Economic Outlook*. Paris. June 1985. xvii + 169 pp.

This survey provides information on key economic variables of the OECD member countries. It contains an analysis of the latest trends and forecasts.

The first section reviews the developments in fiscal and monetary policy including taxation and public expenditure, government debt, real interest rates and credit costs. The next two sections deal with recent trends in output growth, aggregate demand and unemployment. This is followed by an analysis of the behaviour of prices, wages and profits. The forecast for prices and wages in that they will remain at lower levels. Next section deals with foreign trade and current balances, and predicts that the current account deficits of USA, OPEC and non-oil developing countries will increase. The last section contains a discussion of exchange rate developments in the context of dollar appreciation, evolution of US capital account and the corresponding implications for capital flows in other countries.

In addition to the features mentioned above, considerable space has been allocated to developments in individual countries. The technical annex contains tables and information on sources, methods and statistical references.

Wilfred Ethier. *Modern International Economics*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company. 1983. xviii + 588 pp.

The book covers a very wide range of topics in the theory of international economics. Part One deals with the pure theory of international trade under classical and neo-classical assumptions. This section contains a discussion of welfare consequences of trade, gains from

trade and implications for domestic economy. Part Two is largely concerned with the extension of pure theory of trade to a situation in which the assumption of perfect mobility of commodities and factors was relaxed. Part Three brings monetary theory into picture by discussing payment imbalances and the role of exchange rate. An examination of international monetary markets and of the efforts to establish international monetary system is found in Part Four. The last section is concerned with the issues of economic integration and relaxation of trade barriers along with their possible effects on world economics.

Sulayman S. Nyang. *Islam, Christianity and African Identity*. Brattleboro (Vermont): Amana Books Inc. 1984. 106 pp.

The book studies the impact of two Abrahamic religions, namely Islam and Christianity, on the culture and psyche of the African nations. It also deals with the question of African identity. In this connection various attempts at defining the African man are analysed.

The first chapter gives the traditional African concept of man, his nature and his destiny. Next follows a discussion of the impact of Muslim conquest, especially the change which occurred in the African man's conception of self and reality. The encounter with Western Christianity as a result of the significant contributions of missionaries in material and intellectual development of Africa is the topic of discussion in the next few chapters. Next, the writings of Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana and President Leopold Senghor about the origins and solutions to the African identity crisis are analysed. Conclusions are presented in the last chapter.

John Kenneth Galbraith. *Essays from the Poor to the Rich*. Bombay: Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan. 1983. vii + 88 pp.

The essays presented in this volume are based on lectures delivered by Prof. Galbraith in the Rajaji lecture series in India. The author has tried to pinpoint advice relating to some key issues which should flow from the developing countries to the developed ones.

Galbraith points out that movement from the state of poverty to that of affluence involves a historical process. The development strategy adopted at each stage in the process should be harmonious to the cultural and political realities of that stage. The policy packages developed in the industrial states are not suitable for developing countries because the two groups are at different stages in their historical processes.

In the context of great power rivalry, the author maintains that new states are more self-assertive with a growing sense of nationalism and a resolution to keep out external influences. Its only where nationalistic tendencies are suppressed (by dictatorial regimes) that the super powers get a chance to intervene, which is resented by the native population. Related to this is the issue of arms build-up in some of the developing countries which is a consequence of big power endeavours to contain each other. But the author sees it as giving rise to antagonisms among developing countries and supporting their disproportionately large military machines which in turn undermine the cause of democracy.

Finally, the author has expressed his reservation about the policy of monetary expansion currently pursued by the U.S. government. He advocates fiscal restraint as a way out of recession.