

CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	vii
PART I: THE WHEEL OF LIFE	1
Introduction	3
Families in India	7
Joint, Nuclear or Single	11
The Banishment of Rama	15
<i>"We Are We..."</i>	17
The Student Stage of Life	19
Arranging a Marriage	23
Viewing a Prospective Bride	29
Arranging Marriages on the Internet	35
The Debate Over Dowry	39
A Wife's Dharma	43
Stories My Mother Told Me	47
The Householder's Dharma	51
What Is Caste?	55
A New Champion of India's Dalits	63
Scheduled Castes, Unscheduled Change	67
Kama in Classical India	73
Kama Poetry	77
Artha: Survival and Success	81
<i>Seven Ways to Greet a Neighboring Power</i>	82

The Hindu World View	85
<i>Samsara: The Cycle of Lives</i>	86
<i>Karma: As You Sow So Shall You Reap</i>	87
<i>Brahman: The Hindu Concept of Divinity</i>	90
<i>Moksha: Seeking Reunion with Brahman</i>	92
<i>Yoga: Paths to Union</i>	97
Nataraj	105
Death: “Lower the Body to the Ground”	107
PART II: THE HISTORIC TRADITION	111
Introduction	113
Indian History: Time Line	119
The Discovery of India	123
Letters from Prison	129
Ashoka	133
Visitors Agree	139
The Muslims in India	143
The British Presence in India	147
Macaulay’s “Minute on Education”	153
English Education in Action	157
History: Fact or Fiction?	161
<i>An American Text</i>	161
<i>An Indian Text</i>	164
<i>The White Man’s Burden</i>	166
And Then Gandhi Came	169
Satyagraha	173
The Salt March	177
<i>“I Found No Peace”</i>	177
<i>“We Cover the World”</i>	180
Comparing Hindus and Muslims	181

CONTENTS

v

PART III: MODERN INDIA	189
Introduction	191
Indian Democracy: The Constitution	193
<i>Fundamental Rights</i>	194
<i>Directive Principles of State Policy</i>	195
Testing Democracy	197
Indians Go to the Polls	201
<i>Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh</i>	204
<i>Suchetgarh, Indian-administered Kashmir</i>	204
<i>Dhenkanal, Orissa</i>	205
<i>Guda Bishnoi</i>	205
Building a Pluralistic Nation	207
<i>Historic Visions of India</i>	207
<i>Clothing a Diverse Nation</i>	209
<i>Divisions within Indian Society</i>	211
<i>Ethnic Conflict and Civic Life</i>	213
<i>Destruction of the Babri Mosque</i>	217
<i>Naseem's Story</i>	221
<i>The Struggle in Kashmir</i>	225
<i>What if All of India Was Hindutva?</i>	230
<i>What Being Hindu Means to Me</i>	231
India's New Path to Economic Growth	237
<i>A Rich Land Made Poor</i>	237
<i>Which Road Leads to Growth?</i>	238
<i>What Was Wrong with Our Economic Policy?</i>	244
<i>A Shift of Seismic Proportions</i>	247
Daily Life in the New Economy	251
<i>India's Middle Class Takes Wing</i>	251
<i>"No One Saves for a Rainy Day Now"</i>	253
<i>Here Come the Zippies</i>	258
<i>Kitty Parties</i>	262
Child Labor and Education	267
<i>Working at Whatever Jobs They Can Find</i>	267
<i>The Little Match Girls</i>	269
<i>Stop Trafficking in Children</i>	270
<i>Is Elementary Education for All a Myth?</i>	274
<i>India's Poor Spurn State Schools for a Private Education</i>	277
<i>Does English Education Define the New Brahmins and the New Dalits?</i>	278

Through Indian Eyes

India in the Global Age	281
<i>The Bhopal Tragedy</i>	281
<i>A Village Dies</i>	288
<i>A Night at the Call Center</i>	293
<i>Global Warming's Impact on the Indian Tradition</i>	296
India and the New World Order	299
<i>India Goes Nuclear</i>	299
<i>India Seeks World Power Status</i>	303
<i>India and the United States Forge a New Relationship</i>	304
<i>Prime Minister Singh and President Bush Announce Their Mutual Support</i>	307
<i>India's Place in the New World Order</i>	308
The Modernity of Tradition	311
<i>A New Home in America</i>	311
<i>Bollywood Is India's Cultural Ambassador</i>	315
<i>A Marathon Not a Dash</i>	320
<i>Sources</i>	327
<i>Index</i>	333

*To the LAL Family,
dear friends, mentors, and
role models for our family.*