



Imagined Mobility

Migration and Transnationalism among Indian Students in Australia
Michiel Baas

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Description

Critically examines the history and current issues on the migration of Indian students to Australia.

'In the context of declining fertility rates, a wide range of OECD countries are constructing "study-migration" pathways, with international students a prized but contested human capital resource. Michiel Baas's ethnographic analysis of Indian students in Australia provides fascinating insight into this phenomenon, researched on a participant-observation basis. Scaffolded on the four semesters of Indian students' enrolment, Baas examines their pre-migration aspirations and expectations, the social and economic peripheralism they experience, and the complex interplay of their study, work and migration objectives. The backdrop is transnationalism at the start of the 21st century, with international study the portal to many imagined lives. Baas's book will appeal to readers of Buruma's *Murder in Amsterdam: The Death of Theo van Gogh and the Limits of Tolerance*. *Imagined Mobility* is a timely, intimate and engaging global study, addressing international education, migration, and integration policy issues.' —*Leslyanne Hawthorne, Associate Dean International, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne*

'*Imagined Mobility* is essential reading for anyone wishing to understand the recent troubled history of the tens of thousands of Indian students attracted to study in Australia.' —*Bob Birrell, Reader in Sociology, Monash University and editor of People and Place*

With its close analysis of the phenomenon of the migration of Indian students to Australia, *Imagined Mobility: Migration and Transnationalism among Indian Students in Australia* critically approaches the entanglement of the education industry with migration opportunities, and looks into the goals and aspirations of the Indian middle class. It discusses the overlaps of studies on migration and transnationalism, and raises questions on skilled migration.

Readership: Suitable for students and scholars of South Asian studies, Australian studies, globalization, migration, transnationalism and the educational sector.

Contents

List of Illustrations; List of Abbreviations and Acronyms; Acknowledgements; Departure - Migration, Transnationalism and What Lies In-Between; First Semester - Of Leaving and Arriving: From and to a Culture of Migration; Second Semester - Some History Lessons as well as Learning the Hard Way; Summer School - A History of Students Going Overseas; Third Semester - Learning How to Work In-Between: Legal and Illegal Realms; Fourth Semester - Graduating as a Migrant; Arrival - Imagined Mobility; A New Departure - Curry Bashing and Alien Space Invaders; Data, Dilemmas and Doing Fieldwork the Ethical Way; Notes; References; Index

About the Author

Michiel Baas is a researcher with the Amsterdam School for Social Science Research, University of Amsterdam. His work focuses on India, the middle class, migration, transnationalism and mobility.

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