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CULTURE OF

HISTORY

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Indigo in Asia

PLANT, PRODUCT, POWER

Edited by Dr Kapila Vatsyayan

As an integral part of the historical and socio-cultural fabric of the Asian subcontinent, indigo has served as a backdrop to religion, politics, trade, art forms and society, particularly in India. *Culture of Indigo: Plant, Product, Power* takes the reader on a timeline tour, with details of the plant's cultivation and production processes. Highlights of indigo's commercial use and impact on fine arts, architecture, trade, heritage as well as an indepth analysis of its resurgence in the wake of environmental concerns enrich the reading experience substantially. With contributions from globally-renowned scholars and art connoisseurs, the inherent politics and pleasures associated with indigo come alive. Vivid illustrations, insightful analysis and extensively-researched text hold promise for readers who cannot resist the chequered lineage of Indigo as a plant, a product and a phenomenon. This book, on the history, politics, and commercialisation of indigo, will be useful for students, academicians, and historians.

- First authoritative book on Indigo from India
- Traces the history, trade, and politics of Indigo
- Describes the impact of Indigo in world history









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Internationally recognised for her path-breaking, multi-disciplinary work, specially in the fields of Culture and the Arts, **Dr Kapila Vatsyayan**

is the author of over 15 books. Among her publications, Classical Indian Dance in Literature and the Arts and The Square and the Circle of the Indian Arts have been milestones of critical scholarship. She is the editor of several volumes on Concepts of Space (akasha) and of Time (kaal). She has edited The Cultural Heritage of India (Volume VII, Parts 1 & II) and coedited Aesthetic Theories and Forms in Indian Tradition (Vol. VI, Part I).

Life Trustee, India International Centre (IIC) and Chairperson, IIC-Asia Project, Dr Vatsyayan was formerly Secretary, Department of Arts, Ministry of HRD; Founder Academic Director, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts; a nominated MP (Rajya Sabha); Member, UNESCO Executive Board; and President, IIC.

