

Md. Aftab Alam

Everyday
Life at a
**Minority
School**

An Ethnographic Study

Foreword by
Azra Razzack

This is a unique book on schooling. This is how ethnography of a school must be done. The acute attention of detail and context makes it compelling reading. This should be one of the reading lists of all educational institutions and universities in this country.

Meenakshi Thapan

Aftab's ethnographic exploration of Anglo Arabic School is an exceptionally engaging and enriching piece of work. The author extensively brings together the history and the contemporary that makes the book extraordinarily insightful for the reader.

Manish K. Jha

Aftab's analysis of a community struggling in the arena of education is thought provoking. The work painstakingly encases the study of an institution and the responses of its stakeholders in a candidly truthful manner.

M. Atyab Siddiqui

Aftab's research work is a detailed and in depth study of working of a historical educational institute and how much it is relevant and efficacious in our times.

M. Aslam Parvaiz

This book explores the socio-cultural milieu of a school and its schooling and non-schooling activities from the perspective of its actors and placing it in a larger sociological framework. It has delved into numerous significant issues of microcosmic nature and unravelled the complex relationships marked by malevolence and disharmony between all the players in the school. It has also identified some of the compelling reasons for the educational backwardness of the Muslim community. While Muslims never tire of attributing blame for their backwardness on external factors there are many counts on which Muslims fail themselves as well. Corroborated by Paul Willis in his path breaking work '*Learning to Labour*' has pointed out that how for '*the lads*' it is their own culture that blocks teaching and prevents the realisation of liberal education aims. This book enlightens the context for deriving success and dooming failure narratives in pursuit of achieving collective educational goals, much to need of young aspirants enthusiastically engaged in school ethnography, as well as educators to devise and develop effective teaching learning process and sensitized people bringing reforms in school system.

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