



**Mad Tales from the Raj**  
Colonial Psychiatry in South Asia, 1800-58  
*Waltraud Ernst*

**Pub Date:** March 2010

**Binding:** Hardback

**Price:** £60 / \$99

**ISBN:** 9781843318811

**Extent:** 174 pages

**Size:** 229 x 152mm / 9 x 6

**Illustrations:** 8+ images

**Category:** HISTORY / Asia / General

**BISAC code:** HIS003000

**BIC code:** HBJF

**Rights Held:** World

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### Description

***Mad Tales from the Raj* provides a comprehensive and authoritative assessment of British colonial psychiatry during the East India Company's rule in India.**

'Much is packed into this wide-ranging book... A welcome addition to the growing corpus of writing on the encounter between western medicine and indigenous societies.'

—*Social History of Medicine*

***Mad Tales from the Raj: Colonial Psychiatry in South Asia, 1800-58*** is an authoritative assessment of western psychiatry within the context of British colonialism. This updated version provides a comprehensive study of official attitudes and practices in relation to both Indian and European patients during the dominance of the British East India Company. It includes a fully revised introduction that locates the work in relation to recent scholarly discourse in the field of history of colonial medicine. Based on government proceedings, medical case reports, contemporary publications, diaries and literary material, ***Mad Tales from the Raj*** provides a highly readable and illuminating account of contemporary psychiatric treatment and colonial policies. It is fascinating reading not only to students of colonial history, medical sociology and related disciplines, but to all those with a general interest in life in the colonies.

**Readership:** Students of colonial history, medical sociology and related disciplines; all those with a general interest in British life in the colonies.

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### Contents

List of Illustrations; Preface; Chapter 1: Colonizing the Mind Introduction: Ex Oriente Lux - the Light of the Orient; Chapter 2: Madness and the Politics of Colonial Rule; Chapter 3: The Institutions; Chapter 4: The Medical Profession; Chapter 5: The Patients; Chapter 6: Medical Theory and Practice; Chapter 7: 'Mad Dogs and Englishmen...'; Primary Sources; Notes; Index

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### About the Author

Waltraud Ernst is Professor in the History of Medicine at Oxford Brookes University. She has written widely on various aspects of the history of colonial psychiatry. Her recent publications include *India's Princely States* (ed. with B. Pati), *The Normal and the Abnormal* (ed.) and *Plural Medicine, Tradition and Modernity* (ed.).

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