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978-0-521-36505-5 - The Assembly of Listeners: Jains in Society

Edited by Michael Carrithers and Caroline Humphrey

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THE ASSEMBLY OF
LISTENERS: JAINS
IN SOCIETY

Although the Jains have exerted an influence on Indian society and religion out of proportion to their relatively small numbers, they have received very little attention from scholars until the last few years. *The Assembly of Listeners* is the first book to analyse the sociology of the Jains, and to discuss the notion of the 'community' based on religious affiliation in India. The contributors include sociologists, anthropologists, and scholars of Indian classical religions and languages, each addressing, as a central organising principle, the conception of the Jains as a community. *The Assembly of Listeners* represents an important theoretical addition to existing studies, which have hitherto focussed mainly on caste and class politics as the fundamental units of Indian society, and provides unique ethnographic information on the Jains, derived from recent fieldwork.

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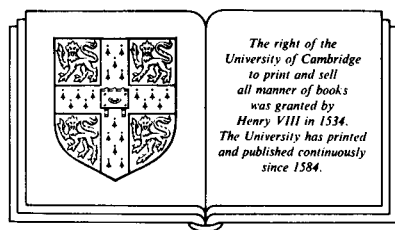
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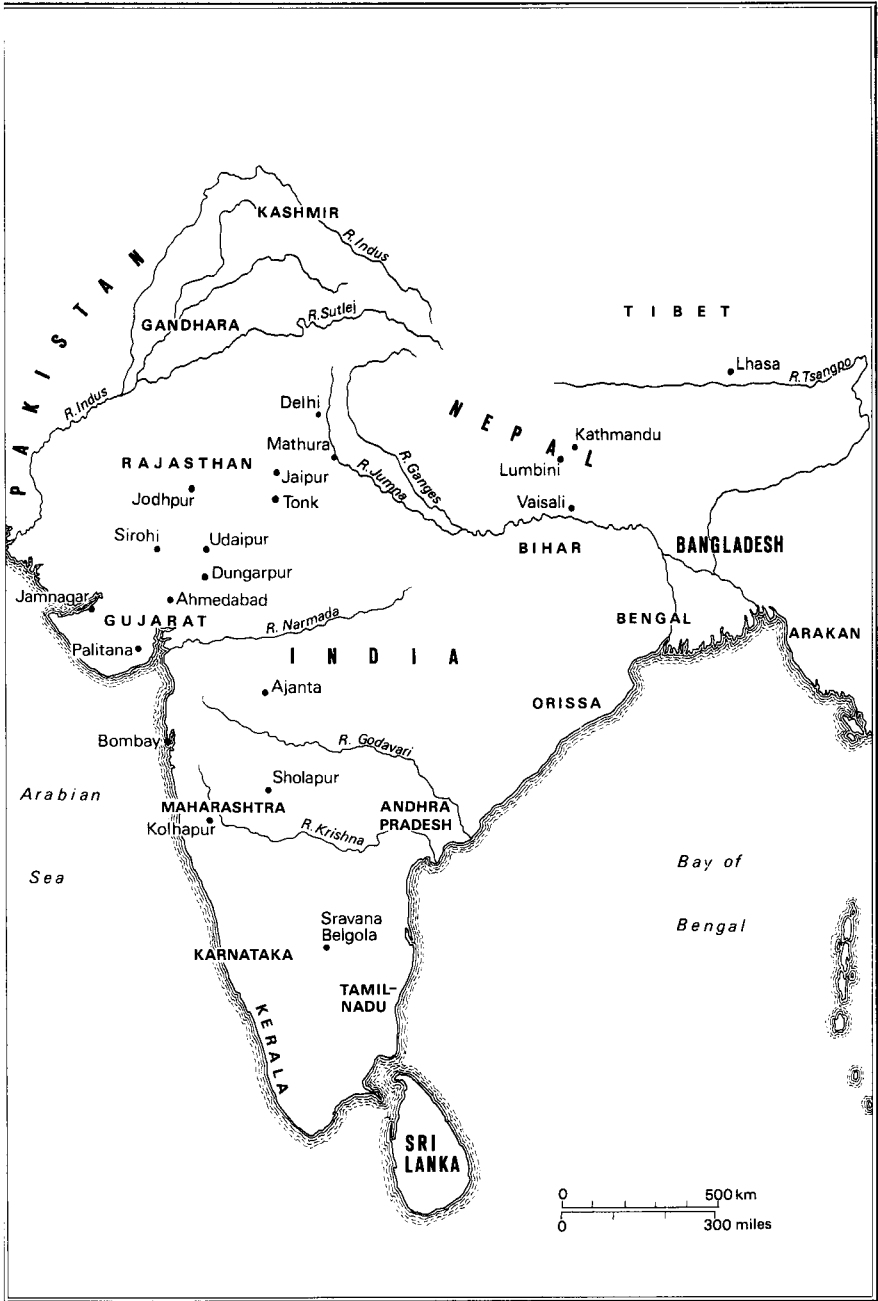
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M.C. and C.H.

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