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0521841194 - State and Locality in Mughal India: Power Relations in Western India,

c. 1572-1730

Farhat Hasan

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State and Locality in Mughal India

This book presents an exploratory study of the Mughal state and its negotiation with local power relations. By studying the state from the perspective of the localities and not from that of the Mughal court, it shifts the focus from the imperial grid to the local arenas, and more significantly, from 'form' to 'process'. As a result, the book offers a new interpretation of the system of rule based on an appreciation of the local experience of imperial sovereignty, and the inter-connections between the state and the local power relations. The book knits together the systems- and action-theoretic approaches to power, and presents the Mughal state as a dynamic structure in constant change and conflict. The study, based on hitherto unexamined local evidence, highlights the extent to which the interactions between state and society helped to shape the rule structure, the normative system and 'the moral economy of the state'.

FARHAT HASAN is Reader in History at the Centre of Advanced Study, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University.

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Dedicated to my parents

(the late) Ishrat Hasan Enver

and Mahtab Enver

and

their close friends, for sharing their dreams, in particular:

(the late) Syed Abul Kazim Warsi, Matinuzzaman Zuberi, Walter

John Eisenbeis, Jalalul Haque and Habib Ahmad, and their

families.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AMU	Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh (India)
BM	British Museum (London)
BN	Bibliothèque Nationale (Paris)
CSSH	<i>Comparative Studies in History and Society</i>
EFI	W. Foster (ed.), <i>The English Factories in India</i>
EFI (New Series)	Charles Fawcett (ed.), <i>The English Factories in India</i>
IESHR	<i>Indian Economic and Social History Review</i>
IOR	India Office Records and Library (London)
JESHO	<i>Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient</i>
JIH	<i>Journal of Indian History</i>
JRAS	<i>Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland</i>
<i>Letters Received</i>	C. T. Danvers (ed.), <i>Letters Received by the English East India Company, etc.</i>
MAS	<i>Modern Asian Studies</i>
MSA	Maharashtra State Archives, Bombay
NAI	National Archives of India (New Delhi)
PIHC	<i>Proceedings of the Indian History Congress</i>