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BINA AGARWAL

GENDER CHALLENGES

VOLUME 1: AGRICULTURE, TECHNOLOGY, AND FOOD SECURITY

VOLUME 2: PROPERTY, FAMILY, AND THE STATE

VOLUME 3: ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND COLLECTIVE ACTION

Bina Agarwal has been a pioneering analyst of gender inequality . . . This collection of her essays offers the readers a wonderful opportunity of reading together her far-reaching contributions in different but related fields.

Amartya Sen, Nobel Laureate, Harvard University

No one, I repeat no one, in this last generation has contributed more to the understanding of rural society than Bina Agarwal. With lucidity, originality, and an insistence on both empirical data and the experienced life worlds of her subjects, Agarwal takes her place with the likes of A. V. Chayanov, Marc Bloch, and Ester Boserup.

James Scott, Yale University

This is an outstanding collection. Analytically original, empirically rigorous, and rooted in years of dedicated fieldwork, it challenges mainstream economics both theoretically and in its policy implications.

Diane Elson, University of Essex

Bina Agarwal has led the study of gender and rural development over several decades. These three volumes constitute a real landmark, in both the analysis of economic and social development and the potential for policy.

Sir Nicolas Stern, London School of Economics and Political Science

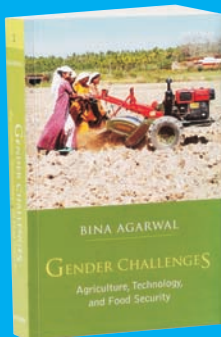
These beautifully discerning essays ... cover a lifetime of pioneering feminist research that has opened new channels of economic empowerment for millions of poor women around the world.

Nancy Folbre, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

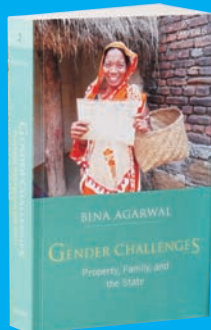


Bina Agarwal is Professor of Development Economics and Environment at the University of Manchester. Prior to this, she was Director of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, where she continues to be affiliated as Professor of Economics.

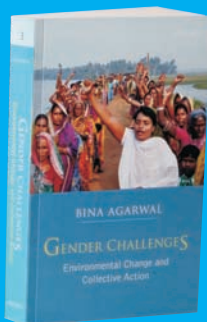
An internationally acclaimed economist, Bina Agarwal is known for her path-breaking writings on agriculture, property rights, and the environment. This three-volume compendium brings together a selection of her essays, written over three decades. Combining diverse disciplines, methodologies and cross-country comparisons, the essays challenge standard economic analysis and assumptions from a gender perspective. They provide original insights on a wide range of theoretical, empirical, and policy issues of continuing importance in contemporary debates.



Volume 1 spans the author's writings on agrarian change since 1981. It identifies gender inequalities in the impact of technical change in agriculture in Asia and Africa; the links between women, poverty and economic growth processes; the statistical undercounting of women's work; and the key role of women farmers in food security. It also offers innovative institutional solutions as ways forward.



Volume 2 focuses on the author's paradigm-shifting work on women's property status in South Asia. It demonstrates the key importance of promoting access to property, especially land, for women's economic empowerment; details gender inequalities in inheritance laws, public policies, and land struggles; and presents the bargaining framework for understanding and overcoming these inequalities.



Volume 3 traces the relationship between gender and environmental change. Critiquing ecofeminism, it outlines an alternative theoretical framework. Also, based on her fieldwork on community forest governance, it demonstrates how a critical mass of women can significantly improve conservation. Finally, the author reflects on which features of feminist scholarship make for an effective challenge to mainstream economics.

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