

Chinese province Jiangsu is given as "Yiangsu" (p. 234); another province given as "Chiliang" (p. 138) seems to be a distorted cross between Jilin and Heilongjiang.

A more rational and careful organization of the volume would have been a big favor to the reader.

Christoph Müller-Hofstede

THOMAS PAULINI: *Agrarian Movements and Reforms in India*. (Sozialökonomische Schriften zur Agrarentwicklung, Bd. 33). Saarbrücken: Breitenbach, 1979. 650 pages.

Paulini's attempt to deal with a difficult chapter of the Indian agrarian history, i.e. the agrarian reform and the agrarian movements, is a brave and in the final instance successful experiment. He does not describe only the history of the agrarian reform and the peasant movements in India but - as could hardly be otherwise in a country where the majority of people are still peasants - the history of Indian independence and liberation.

It is interesting and informative to note the smooth change from what was initially purely an agrarian movement to an anti-British one and in the end a national struggle for independence.

The early moslemic Moplah-movement was, as the author frequently points out, influenced by islamic religious ideas. But he tries to ignore this and - one gets the impression - judges it negatively. At the same time, in view of the latest events in other parts of Asia, it gives this study great topicality.

That the author choose the state of Kerala for his study may have its reasons - even well-based ones, e.g. applying the term *Yenan* of India (birth-place of the Indian revolution) for Kerala. The claim that the experience of Kerala can be transferred to the state of India or the rest of the world should not be accepted without reservations. The mass of material - an indication of the author's diligence - clearly shows that neither the socio-cultural nor the geoclimatic conditions in this state are exemplary for India or other countries. The fact that in Kerala compared to other federal states the Non-Hindu population, especially the number of muslims, is highest and that it was the first federal state in India to elect a communist government is enough evidence to regard the development and history of Kerala as well as the history of its peasant movement and agrarian reform as a special case.

Putting aside the organic and historical interrelations, the Kerala model is worth regarding as a model. It is doubtful if in a differently structured society with a different historical background an agrarian reform in the style of Kerala's would produce the same results.

Due to the fact that the emphasis in the study is laid on the historical development, the process of the agrarian reform is dealt with in less detail. Moreover, it would have been sensible to deal in detail not only with the changes in the agrarian and land tenure constitution but also with essential and complementary components of an agrarian reform such as input supply, agricultural marketing and extension. Be that as it may, this rather politically orientated study is an asset to the literature on agrarian policy in the Third World.

Khosrow Saidi

WERNER RÖLL: Indonesien. Entwicklungsprobleme einer tropischen Inselwelt. Stuttgart: Klett 1979. 206 pages, DM 26.-

The book is extremely informative, but due to the variety of contents and structure not easy to read. It will be profitable mainly for readers who have already acquired a rudimentary knowledge of Indonesian affairs. It is also a rich source of reference for people who want to do research in this field as they will find plenty of statistics, descriptions and short analysis.

The book provides fundamental knowledge concerning the level of development and its characteristic and relevant features and draws a plastic picture of Indonesia. The various data are strewn pragmatically and contribute to the clear and informative lay-out of the book.

Only people who have lived in that country for some time and have tried to understand the problems of culture and population in this country may find that the approach the author has chosen is sometimes a little too rational and excludes one essential characteristic of this country.

Werner Röll himself quotes Alisjahbana saying that in Indonesia feudalism and mysticism of the Middle Ages coexist with the technical age and communal thinking is mixed with the rationalism and communalism of the 20th Century. This phenomenon is essential for an understanding of the process and tendencies in the development of this country and has to be taken into consideration if one wants to do justice to the problems of Indonesia.

The fact that the left hand is still considered to be impure is sometimes more relevant to specific defects or short-comings in this country's development than a rational analysis of the resulting situation can hope to be.

This book is an important step into this direction; it sharpens the reader's awareness of this fundamental problem of all developing countries and it is to be hoped that the author's profound knowledge of Indonesia will contribute to a broader understanding of the needs of a reasonable and productive development policy. - Indonesia has still not found it. -

Eberhard Weller