



## India Study Tour Recommended Reading List

### Books

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*Behind the Beautiful Forevers* by Katherine Boo

Pulitzer Prize winner Katherine Boo tells the dramatic story of families striving toward a better life in Annawadi, a slum settlement in the shadow of luxury hotels in Mumbai, India. With intelligence and humor, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* offers deep insight into what connects people in an era of tumultuous change and a growing chasm between rich and poor. The book carries the reader headlong into one of the 21<sup>st</sup> century's hidden worlds—and into the hearts of families impossible to forget.

*In Spite of the Gods: The Strange Rise of Modern India* by Edward Luce

India remains a mystery to many Americans, even as it is poised to become the world's third largest economy within a generation, outstripping Japan. It will surpass China in population by 2032 and have more English speakers than the United States by 2050. In *In Spite of the Gods*, Edward Luce, a journalist who covered India for many years, makes brilliant sense of India and its rise to global power.

*India After Gandhi: The History of the World's Largest Democracy* by Ramachandra Guha

Born against a background of privation and civil war, divided along lines of caste, class, language and religion, independent India emerged, somehow, as a united and democratic country. This remarkable book tells the full story—the pain and the struggle, the humiliations and the glories—of the world's largest and least likely democracy.

### Articles

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[In India, a Small Band of Women Risk It All for a Chance to Work](#) (The New York Times)

Indian Constitution guarantees equality under the law. But for women facing a patriarchal social order, strict caste rules and centuries of traditions, that guarantee means little.

[Untouchable to indispensable: the Dalit women revolutionizing waste in India](#) (The Guardian)

Massive solid waste accumulation has become an environmental, health and aesthetic hazard for India's cities.

[India's Education Act Aims to Lift the Poor](#) (The New York Times)

In a society where the primal instinct of the classes is to collide rather than to integrate, the education act is creating situations that nobody knows how to resolve.

[Mali Sahi Sex Workers Get An Identity](#) (The New Indian Express)

Commercial sex workers of Mali Sahi were issued identity cards by a voluntary organization. The cards would come in handy to the sex workers during health camps.

### AJWS in the news

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[\*In India, Changing Mindsets to Empower Women:\*](#)

<http://www.thetakeaway.org/story/india-changing-mindsets-empower-women/>

*What India's Sex Workers Want: Power, Not Rescue:*

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/michelle-chen/what-indias-sex-workers-w b 3632905.html>

*In India, an emerging movement for women by women:*

<https://www.devex.com/news/in-india-an-emerging-movement-for-women-by-women-82051>

*Meena Seshu Discusses India Sex Work and Human Rights:*

<https://ajws.org/blog/meena-seshu-discusses-india-sex-work-and-human-rights/>

## Web sites

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The Economist's India page.

[www.economist.com/countries/india/index.cfm](http://www.economist.com/countries/india/index.cfm)

National Public Radio's five-part series about life along the Ganges River.

[www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=9358334](http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=9358334)

The BBC's India country profile page.

[www.news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south\\_asia/country\\_profiles/1154019.stm](http://www.news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/country_profiles/1154019.stm)

OneWorld.net's India guide.

[www.us.oneworld.net/guides/india/development](http://www.us.oneworld.net/guides/india/development)

Country profile from Eldis.org, a website about development policy, practice and research.

[www.eldis.org/go/country-profiles](http://www.eldis.org/go/country-profiles)

Hindustan Times.

[www.hindustantimes.com](http://www.hindustantimes.com)

The Times of India.

[www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com](http://www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com)

All India Radio.

[www.allindiaradio.org](http://www.allindiaradio.org)

## Multimedia

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<http://conferences.ted.com/TEDIndia/>

## History

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A brief, but thorough overview of India from Lonely Planet.

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/india/history>