

Otherwise

Stories you want to hear about Other Books

Memorial Lecture on SMH Nainar; Tuhfa Bi-lingual launched

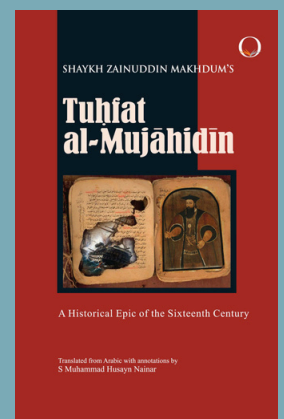
Other Books, along with Department of History at Farook College, conducted a Memorial lecture on S Muhammad Husayn Nainar on the date of 14th October, 2024. The programme was inaugurated by Aysha Swapna, Principle of Farook College. In her inaugural speech, she spoke about the bond and cooperation of Other books with Farook College. Later, Nahla Nainar, senior journalist and archivist, talked on her grandfather's academic achievements and contributions; and she launched bi-lingual edition of Tuhfat al-Mujahidin. Nahla Nainar's lecture was enriching and enlightening. Former HoD, Muhammad Ali, gave insights on the relevance of archiving the historical documents of renowned authors. Head of the department presided over the programme; lecturers of history department M Nisar and Sreelakshmi felicitated the students and Other Books team for conducting this programme. Historians, researchers, and graduates were present there in the meeting.



For Other Books, Dr. Auswaf Ahsan spoke on the relationship of Other Books with Farook College and how he reached to the family of SMH Nainar.

An important event not only in the historical studies of Kerala but in the history of Kerala historiography. This is the first work based on the history of Kerala by a Keralite, albeit in Arabic. Moreover, like Thucydides' Peloponnesian war, Tuhfat is credited with extraordinary historicity, since the author narrates events in which he took part in many ways and which he witnessed.

P Govinda Pillai
Marxian Critic, Thinker



Podcast series; Damodar with N P Chekkutty



Left Politics has the responsibility to fight against Sangh Parivar.
After 1980s left politics totally changed it's focus to secularism.
N P Chekkutty

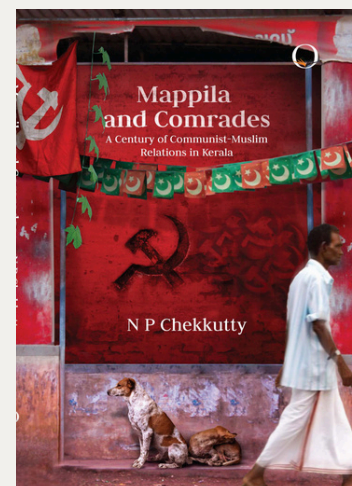
Other Books' flagship outreach program is, Other Books podcast series. The latest in the series was the conversation between Damodar Prasad, one of the leading media critics and a senior journalist, and N P Chekkutty, on the latter's Mappila and Comrades: A Century of Muslim-Communist Relations in Kerala. Here is the brief glimpse of their remarks during their conversation. To hear the conversation fully, kindly see our YouTube channel, Other Books

During the tenure of being a leader of the Communist student organisations and being a journalist, I saw anti-Muslim mindset of the Communist leaders. It is quite contrary to the widely perceived ideological framework of the Communist Party of India. My encounter with this discriminatory position of the communist leaders motivated me to write the book .

I think that the main reason of Mappila alienation from the mainstream politics and history is their staying aloof from their rich and original culture.

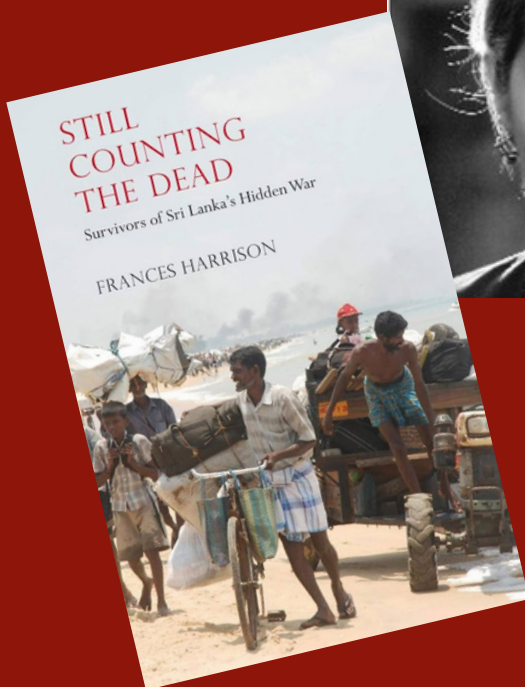
They are copying the West-Asian formulae. I think, this imitation and copying will misplace their own enriched culture.

The book will be a stepping stone in the area of Mappila studies and Communist history of Kerala. I do expect some studies and researches to ensue as follow up to this work.



Samkhyayil Theeratha Maranangal arrived

“Sankhyayil Theeratha Maranangal” arrived on our shelf. *Still Counting the Dead*, written by Frances Harrison and translated into Malayalam by Sunil Kumar, Adv. Kabeer, and Shahar Banu narrate the history of violence committed by the Sri Lankan government and Tamil LTTE. The work offers insights into the unsettling experience of genocide narrative, which is not biased. Her personal experience and other people's stories are used to outline the plot, which deals with the horrific deaths and injuries of thousands of Tamil civilians.



'I was so disgusted. The whole system failed. Not only that of the UN, but the whole international community. Tens of thousands of civilians were slaughtered by the Sri Lankan government and the world just moved on. It just passed us by.'

- UN aid worker

In contemporary India, where hatred and animosity are used as political capital, I believe this book is highly relevant. It offers us valuable insights, and I would strongly recommend reading it.

Adv. Abdul Kabeer
Translator



In focus: Translator

It was during my time as a law student in the 2008 - 09 period that the Sri Lankan civil war reached its peak, as reported through the media. By 2009, the Sri Lankan government declared the end of the civil war. Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi, and Jaffna filled the news' headlines again. With an interest in human rights and studies on genocide, I could not ignore the issue. Various UN bodies, including the Human Rights Council, had passed resolutions on the human rights violations against Tamils in Sri Lanka during this period. I read many articles, news reports and major works in the area. Meantime approximately in March of 2012, I was informed by one of the editors of Other Books and a friend of mine, Sa'ad Salmi, that Other Books is planning to translate the title Still Counting the Dead authored by Francis Harrison into Malayalam; and they were searching for translators. I thought of approaching the editorial team to make a contract and to work on it. There I met Shameer KS, executive editor of Other Books. He talked with the editorial and we agreed to work on it. Although I had translated articles and other works before, this was my first time translating a complete book. It was certainly an unbelievable experience for me, as a beginner. The horrifying descriptions of the Tamil genocide carried out by the Sri Lankan government under the cover of the civil war, including issues such as custodial rape, were enlightening and informative when presented by Francis Harrison. As an experienced journalist, Francis Harrison's portrayal of the victims' accounts was gripping and powerful. In contemporary India, where hatred and animosity are used as political capital, I believe this book is highly relevant. It offers us valuable insights, and I would strongly recommend reading it.

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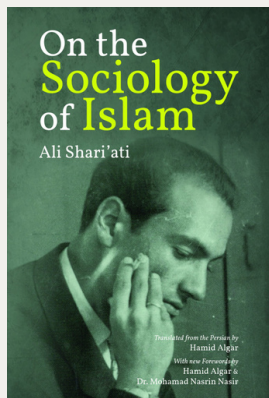
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“Justice has to be done. It's not enough to talk of peace. You cannot have injustice and speak of peace.”

-
A nun from the war front tells Harrison

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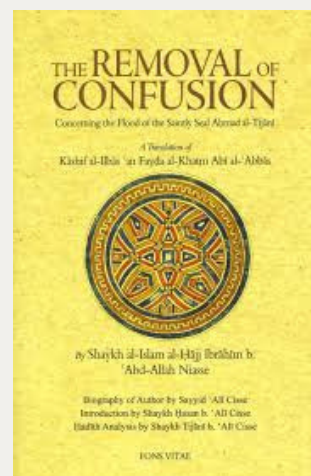
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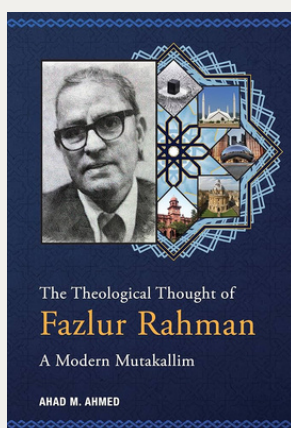
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