

ILHAN NIAZ

“One of Ilhan Niaz’s purposes in undertaking a masterly survey of the sub-continental state in its Harappan, Maurya, Gupta, Turkic, Timurid and British incarnations is to discover how the lessons learnt from it can be applied to the sovereign states of India and Pakistan. Beginning with an essentialist view that the basic functions of the state are the maintenance of order and collection of taxes, he traces the rise and fall of empires in terms of the quality and authenticity of continental bureaucracies. This immensely readable book challenges the reader at every step to decide for himself if the parameters established by Ilhan Niaz for his inquiry are comprehensive enough. In his grand narrative that flows like the great rivers of the land that he studies, he is aware of the pitfalls of historical determinism. He has to continue his quest for truth by assessing the success and failure of the modern state to become an instrument of transforming human societies in an era where globalization of economy and technology make increasing inroads into its autonomy. The discerning reader will certainly share his intellectual journey in the years to come.”

Tanvir Ahmad Khan
Former Foreign Secretary

ILHAN NIAZ

AN INQUIRY INTO THE CULTURE OF POWER OF THE SUBCONTINENT



AN INQUIRY INTO THE
CULTURE OF POWER OF THE
SUBCONTINENT

alhamra

alhamra