

WATERMAN David, *History, Memory, Fiction: New Dimensions in Contemporary Pakistani and Kashmiri Writings*, Oxford, Oxford University Press : Diamond Series, 2023

Résumé :

"History, Memory, Fiction" proposes an examination of several contemporary novels and memoirs of leading Pakistani and Kashmiri writers, considering them as historical fiction, based on real-world facts but able to go further in creating what might be called "possible worlds," ultimately creating a plausible story that might well be a true story. By blurring the frontier between history and fiction, unconstrained by concerns of referential "truth," these novels and memoirs are able to provide us with fresh insights and moral orientation while suggesting that the past -- which is not the same as history -- must be given meaning in our present if we wish to create better possible futures. Thus, these writers are engaged in active social critique, providing readers with a broader perspective of historical consciousness.

