Ajit Bhala: *Royal Tombs of India: 13th to 18th Century* (Mapin, 2009)



Royal Tombs of India, the first book of its kind on the Islamic royal tombs of India, focuses on the Tughluq and Lodi Tombs, Qutb Shahi Tombs and Mughal Tombs (Humayun, Akbar, Aurangzeb, Jahangir and Nur Jahan, Bibi-ka-Maqbara, and the Taj Mahal). It also discusses the controversy surrounding the location of Babur's tomb. These tombs are among the most magnificent pieces of Islamic architecture and grandeur.

Ajit S. Bhalla: Glimpses of Medieval Switzerland Austin Macauley 2015.



Richly illustrated and extensively researched, *Glimpses of Medieval Switzerland* offers a fascinating journey through medieval Switzerland. It describes and illustrates Swiss history and art in its many cities, towns and villages which are replete with attractive cathedrals, castles, town halls and fountains. Decorative and often colourful fountains were the centrepieces of many towns (Basel, Berne, Fribourg, Lucerne, Neuchâtel, Schaffhausen and Solothurn, for example) and they provide the take-off point for an informative account of medieval times

in this scenic country. It traces the history, religious and political changes that took place in various regions of the country during and after the Middle Ages and highlights some aspects of the different architectural styles characteristic of the various cantons. The book also poses many intriguing questions, for example, why are there no decorative fountains in many old cantons of Switzerland such as Geneva, the Grisons and Valais? Do Calvinism and parsimonious nature of Geneva's population have something to do with this situation? Are the differences in their sculpture attributable to such factors as religion (Catholic or Protestant), language (French, German or Italian), or the historical legacy of Austrian Habsburgs, German kings or French counts and dukes?

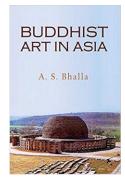
A. S. Bhalla and Dan Luo: Poverty and Exclusion of Minorities in China and India



This is an update of a highly praised book that sheds light on an understudied topic,

draws on brand new empirical data in every chapter and adds discussion on contemporary political and economic issues that have affected the global landscape over the past 5 years.

Ajit S. Bhalla Buddhist Art in Asia Austin Macauley Publishing (2015)



Dr A.S. Bhalla investigates how representations of Buddha, Buddhism and Buddhist art evolved between regions and between epochs. From India to Thailand and Burma and eventually to China the religion grew in influence only to die and thrive again in different forms. With it grew different forms of Buddhist art (architecture, sculpture and painting) from Afghanistan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka in South Asia to Cambodia, Indonesia and Thailand in Southeast Asia, and China, Japan and South Korea in East Asia. How could the monks, normally mendicants surviving on alms, afford to build impressive monasteries and cave temples? Did royal patronage promote

Buddhist art? Why did the Tantric branch emerge? How did Buddhism survive Islam and co-exist with Hinduism? How and why was human form of Buddha depicted even though Buddhism did not believe in idol worship? Bhalla investigates these and other questions in the shadows of the architecture, the murals, and sculptures of Buddha.