



This issue of *Artha-Journal of Social Sciences* focuses on fields of History, Economics and Education. The research papers published in this issue deal with topics of academic and applied value.

The first article, "French Travelers' and Adventurers' Narratives over Indian Education System by Sakul Kundra examines the observations made by the French voyagers regarding Indian education system and its implications. Many firsthand records of French adventurers' have been used in this paper in order to make an assessment of Indian education system by analyzing them. Ignatius Payyappilly in his article "Kuzhikkanam"- Re-Discovery from Historical Palm Leave Manuscripts attempts to explore and analyse the practice of levying Kuzhikkanam (tomb fee) for the burial of dead bodies in the Syrian church cemeteries in Kerala, during the eighteenth and nineteenth century palm leaf records in the Syrian churches which provide interesting information on this practice. This term is borrowed from the secular practice of levying Kulikkanam (Kuzhikkanam), that is, rent paid for cultivating the land that was newly brought under cultivation by land improvements either through reclamation or deforestation. N Karunakatan presents an empirical study in his article "Trends and Overall Growth Analysis of Cashewnut Cultivation in Kerala" which brings out the agrarian economy of Kerala from the drastic hitting of the liberalization, privatization and globalization reforms; farmers of the state began to think that there is no other way to sustain their life. Beena Daliya R and Sudha Bhogle in their article "Learning and Study Strategies: Academic Achievement and Gender Differences" indicate gender differences in the processing of information, motivation and selection of main ideas and find the academic achievement to be significantly related to levels of anxiety, attitude, concentration ability, selection of main ideas, effective time management and test taking strategies. The last article "Futures Trading in Agricultural Commodities: Effects of the Ban on Selected Commodities in India" by Cledwyn Primus Savio Fernandez focuses on the impact of hedging (risk management) and price discovery, which are two major aspects under the agricultural commodity market. The author used secondary data from two main sources, namely, the Multi Commodity Exchange

Market and National Commodity Derivatives Exchange for analysis.

We wish all an intellectually stimulating encouragement with this issue

Editorial Team