Western Daughters in Eastern Lands British Missionary Women in Asia Rosemary Seton

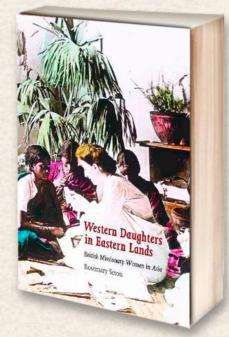
Rosemary Seton takes us to the era stretching between William Wilberforce and Mahatma Gandhi when many hundreds of British women, in a unique venture of Christian womanhood, travelled to remote regions of the world. There, often against a backdrop of civil unrest, famine or war, they set up schools and colleges, ran medical centres and hospitals and trained teachers, medical staff and evangelists. They came from a variety of denominations - Anglican, Baptist, Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian. Some were married, many were not. Comparatively little has



appeared in print about the cultural and spiritual agency of these women and their evolving role within the wider missionary movement. This book is one of the first to offer an historical overview, focusing on the women's activities in the Indian subcontinent and China. It also examines the organisation and support of their work at home.

The author draws upon memoirs, letters, diaries and mission records to reveal a complex and fascinating story. A clear picture of the women emerges: their social background and motivation; their training and preparation; their journeys out and their lives on the mission field; their place in male-dominated mission hierarchies and their interaction with local peoples through their educational, evangelistic, and medical agency. The wider context is also explored: the emerging dominance in the twentieth century of the American missionary movement, the British imperial presence and the developing nationalist movements in China and India.







Chapter Headings

Introduction

- 1. The Making of the British Female Missionary
- 2. Responding to the Call: Motivation, Selection, Training and Preparation
- 3. Life on the Mission Field
- 4. The Structure and Organisation of Women's Missionary Work
- 5. Missionary Women and Education
- 6. Missionary Women and Medical Aid
- 7. Missionary Women and Evangelism Afterword

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