

[Download] Saris on Scooters: How Microcredit Is Changing Village India

## Saris on Scooters: How Microcredit Is Changing Village India

*Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos*

*audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



### SARIS ON SCOOTERS

How Microcredit Is Changing Village India

### SHEILA MCLEOD ARNOPOULOS



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2450213 in eBooks 2010-04-12 2013-02-28File Name: B00CMPCT5K | File size: 55.Mb

**Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos : Saris on Scooters: How Microcredit Is Changing Village India** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Saris on Scooters: How Microcredit Is Changing Village India:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Too Small to FailBy LunamothIn the months just after September 11, 2001, Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos travelled to India where she began collecting stories on the microcredit phenomenon. On several visits, she spent months trekking from village to village, sleeping on reed mats, and learning about the Dalit (formerly known as 'untouchable') women who are the driving force behind the microcredit movement which is spearheading social and economic change throughout the country.In Saris on Scooters, we find a vivid and

fascinating account of the struggles and achievements of remarkable women who, though often illiterate, have overcome great obstacles in building businesses and cooperatives using small loans. The book is also entertaining, thanks to Arnopoulos' quest to understand a vast and baffling country she obviously loves. As she moves around doing interviews and gathering data, a whole, crowded world opens up which would be inaccessible to most travellers in India: the world of village women whose daily lives revolve around subsistence gardening, livestock, cottage industry, and of course family. The more she explores this world, the more fascinating and inspiring her story becomes. Westerners are used to reports of collapsing banks, failing investment funds, and endemic corporate fraud -- but these stories are driven by the heroism of the poorest of the poor, living in a country which is only marginally affected by the high-tech revolution happening in its cities. The world of the village women is still agrarian and communal, and the women behind the self-help movement seem like human incarnations of Mother Earth. As they emerge from the shadows of a pre-industrial society, they offer inspiring solutions to some post-industrial nightmares: pollution, GMOs, social and environmental degradation. Arnopoulos points out the inherent wisdom of these women who live at the bottom of the human totem pole. Their solidarity, spiritual strength, and apparently selfless commitment to creating a better future for their children, stand in stark contrast to the spectacle of western societies now literally drowning in oil, where war for resources is becoming a way of life. Each chapter of *Saris on Scooters* stands as a lesson in how, as one Dalit 'seedkeeper' tells Arnopoulos, the most essential kinds of knowledge come directly from Mother Nature, not from books and universities. It comes down to a revolution based on rediscovering an ancient source of renewable resources and human energy which are there for all, to be shared with the whole world.

Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos uses her talent for investigative reporting to take us into the poorest villages in India. Women who live there make astute use of microcredit to break the cycle of poverty. After witnessing these women's successes, it becomes evident that villages have strengths equal to those of modern cities in India.

These women are living examples of sustainable solutions to poverty. For decades the world has donated billions to fund megaprojects, while also inadvertently supporting corruption and oppressive regimes. This book will make us question how we help people in other societies. (Hudson-St. Lazare Gazette) Inspiring as such stories are, they are abundant in any number of publications and on the internet. What fleshes them out into a lively full-length book are other factors, including striking accounts of Hindu and Muslim women working to avoid conflict in the face of an active attempt to stoke it by polarized communal groups, politicians and the police, and of a stay in a model organic farm in the foothills of the Himalayas to take a two-week course on Gandhi, Cultures of Non-violence and Globalization. (Literary of Canada, The) It's a well-written, inspiring read, perfect for any sustainable traveler interested in the compelling stories of other peoples' lives. (Gap Adventures) Thankfully, *Saris on Scooters* is about microcredit sans the big time. Call it the theory of general relativity. The level of analysis should fit the story, plain and simple. An investigation of microcredit needs to be made on a micro-level. (The Record 2010-07-24) Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos, co-recipient of the 1979 Governor General's Award for non-fiction, visited India between 2001 and 2008. The result is this well-documented, eminently readable and uplifting book. (Horizons 2011-07-01) *Saris on Scooters* makes a compelling read for anyone who is interested in understanding the role of Indian rural women in poverty reduction and the role of microcredit in helping them. (Book Journal (India) 2013-06-15) The women described within these pages demonstrate an extraordinary courage and determination to not only survive, but to thrive.

(Environmentalbookreview.ca) Renowned author and journalist Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos uses her talent for investigative reporting to take us deep into the poorest villages in India. Yet, far from being passive victims of their circumstances, the women who live there have joined forces and are making astute use of microcredit to break the cycle of poverty. Microcredit was made famous by Bangladeshi economist Muhammad Yunus and consists of very small loans made primarily to women for the production of essential commodities or to start small businesses. Basing the book on a number of trips to India between 2001 and 2008, Arnopoulos shows her sense of solidarity and desire for authenticity by sharing the daily life of these villagers. The first-person account of her extensive travels focuses primarily on these women's inspiring success stories. After witnessing many such situations first-hand, she believes that these villages have a potential strength equal to that of the modern, high-tech cities in India. From the Inside Flap Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos uses her talent for investigative reporting to take us into the poorest villages in India. The women who live there are making astute use of microcredit to break the cycle of poverty. After witnessing these women's successes, it becomes evident that such villages have strengths equal to those of modern cities in India. About the Author Sheila McLeod Arnopoulos is the author of a novel and two other non-fiction books, has won the Governor General's Literary Award, and has earned several journalism prizes for exposes about marginalized women and minorities. A former journalism professor, she spent a total of twenty-one months in India meeting grassroots women using microcredit to launch businesses and achieve social change.