NEW ARRIVALS

FEBRUARY 2006

Rethinking Bank Regulation
Till Angels Govern

James R. Barth
Gerard Caprio, Jr.
Ross Levine

WHERE IS THE WEALTH OF NATIONS?
Measuring Capital for the 21st Century

IN FOOL’S PARADISE?
A Journalist’s Account of Bangladesh’s Politics and Society

Nadeem Quadir

Foreword by Afzan Chowdhury

Donors NGOs the State and Their Clients in Bangladesh

Mokbul Morshed Ahmad

The volume consists of historical surveys of North-South cross-border economic flows and their impact on the Third World. Each chapter discusses international trade, investment, finance, and labor from the late nineteenth century to the present. The end of the Cold War and the unchallenged hegemony and ascendance of the USA politically has been followed by the emerging evidence of changing global economic inequality. In this book, the era of imperialism and the emergence of the developmental state and selective industrial policy are surveyed along with their impact and implications. Particular attention is given to similarities and differences in the transformation of various regions in the last quarter century which is associated with increased economic volatility, growing international economic inequalities, reduced aid flows and other contradictory economic developments favoring trans-national corporate (especially financial) ascendance.

Systemic Financial Crises: Containment and Resolution, by Patrick Honohan, Luc Laeven - October 2005

Faced with a systemic financial sector crisis, policymakers need to make difficult choices under pressure. Based on the experience of many countries in recent years, few have been able to achieve a speedy, lasting and low-cost resolution. This volume considers the strengths and weaknesses of the various policy options, covering both microeconomic (including recapitalization of banks, bank closures, subsidies for distressed borrowers, capital adequacy rules and corporate governance and bankruptcy law requirements) and macroeconomic (including monetary and fiscal policy) dimensions. The contributors explore the important but little understood trade-offs that are involved, such as between policies which take effect quickly, those which minimize long-term fiscal and economic costs, and those which create favorable incentives for future stability. Successfully implementing crisis management and crisis resolution policy required attention to detail and a good flow of information.

Rethinking Bank Regulation: Till Angels Govern by James R. Barth, Gerard Caprio, Jr., Ross Levine - January 2006

This volume assembles and presents a new database on bank regulation in over 150 countries (included also on CD). It offers the first comprehensive cross-country assessment of the impact of bank regulation on the operation of banks, and assesses the validity of the Basel Committee's influential approach to bank regulation. The treatment also provides an empirical evaluation of the historic debate about the proper role of government in the economy by studying bank regulation and analyzes the role of politics in determining regulatory approaches to banking. The data also indicate that restrictions on the entry of new banks, government ownership of banks, and restrictions on bank activities hurt banking system performance. The authors find that domestic political factors shape both regulations and their effectiveness.

The Long Twentieth Century - Globalization Under Hegemony: The Changing World Economy

Edited by Jomo K. S. December 2005

The eight papers in this volume offer a rich historical insight into the different dimensions of economic developments in the 20th century as they affect globalization. They share a common over-arching concern the growing divergence between the North and the South. The papers trace factors that have been responsible for the growing inequalities colonial exploitation, protectionism, perverse labour laws, and exploitative international capital flows. In doing so, the authors question many of the conventional explanations of neo-classical economics relating to international trade and finance. The volume traces the evolution of the development state, condemns the gross accumulation of wealth and power in the developed countries, and argues for the establishment of a decentralized, development democracy.

Much is currently being made of the World Bank’s apparent retreat from the neoliberal market economics of the Washington Consensus. New concepts and priorities like social capital and governance have been taken on board alongside the continuing pressures on developing countries for deregulation, privatization, free trade and so on. But how much has really changed? In what ways has the so-called post-Washington Consensus and its “New” Development Economics really parted company with the overly simplistic nostrums of the still dominant market economics? This important and thought-provoking volume makes clear for scholars, students and policymakers alike the most recent trends in theoretical argument and policy thinking within mainstream development economics.


Historically much economic thought, especially until the 1960s, has been preoccupied with development economics. The history of modern economic thought associated with the emergence of industrial capitalism over two centuries ago was pre-occupied with the question of economic transformation or development. This volume surveys important contributions to the economics of development by various economists, including many not normally considered as pioneers of development economics.

The Pioneers of Development Economics: Great Economists on Development Edited by Jomo K. S. - January 2006

The history of modern economic thought associated with the emergence of industrial capitalism over two centuries ago was pre-occupied with the question of economic transformation or development. This volume surveys important contributions to the economics of development by various economists, including many not normally considered as pioneers of development economics.


The book presents estimates of total wealth for nearly 120 countries, using economic theory to decompose the wealth of a nation into its component pieces: produced capital, natural resources and human resources. The wealth estimates provide a unique opportunity to look at economic management from a broader and comprehensive perspective. The book’s basic tenet is that economic development can be conceived as a process of portfolio management, so that sustainability becomes an integral part of economic policy making. The rigorous analysis, presented in accessible format, tackles issues such as growth, development and equity.

The Effectiveness of World Bank Support for Community-Based and -Driven Development: An OED Evaluation by Nalini Kumar, Anju Vajja, Barbara Pozzoni, George Garner Woodall. 2005

Participatory approaches that involve local communities in their own development have gained substantial support among international donors over the past quarter-century and have become increasingly important in the work of the World Bank. Community participation is an approach to development that can be used with any Bank lending instrument and across sectors. Projects can involve communities in different ways—by sharing information, consulting, collaborating, or empowering them. The process of involving communities in project activities is also expected to contribute in most cases to community capacity enhancement.
Consumer Participation in Infrastructure Regulation: Evidence from the East Asia and Pacific Region by Elisa Muzzini, December 2005

Consumer Participation in Infrastructure Regulation draws on results of a survey questionnaire conducted among 45 infrastructure regulators in the East Asia and Pacific (EAP) region. It finds that EAP regulators have successfully begun to involve consumers in the regulatory process: consumer representation is a well-established practice in the region; and regulators draw on standard mechanisms to inform consumers, resolve consumer complaints, and solicit consumer input. However, regulators must take further actions to firmly move up the “ladder of consumer engagement,” from merely providing information to actively consulting with consumers. In particular, consumer participation would benefit from more open disclosure policies, more effective strategies to reach out to the poor, and tighter regulatory intervention to hold service providers accountable for resolving consumer complaints.

Consensus, Confusion, and Controversy: Selected Land Reform Issues in Sub-Saharan Africa by Rogier van den Brink, Hans Binswanger, John W. Bruce, Glen Thomas, Frank Byamugisha

Land reform can be divided broadly into land tenure reform (the establishment of secure and formalized property rights in land) and land redistribution (the transfer of land from large to small farmers). This paper therefore is in two parts. The first part focuses on property rights, giving a short narrative of some of the key land tenure and land policy issues. Though these issues remain politically sensitive, a solid consensus is emerging on how to deal with them—but only once the confusion is cleared up surrounding private common property and formal and informal rights. The second part addresses redistributive land reform—the redistribution of property rights in land from large to small farmers. A heightened sense of urgency surrounds the need to address land redistribution, especially in the former settler colonies in southern Africa, but controversy exists regarding the appropriate implementation mechanisms. The study highlights the case of South Africa, because success there would have tremendous regional and international implications for land redistribution. A policy framework for redistributive land reform is outlined, within which the competing paradigms compete where it actually matters—on the ground.

In fool’s paradise? A journalist’s account of Bangladesh’s politics and society, by Nadeem Qadir. 2003

This is a collection on authors’ articles which were published mainly in the Daily Star newspaper. The writings cover wide ranging topics some of which drew national attention. This is a time bound record of a period in Bangladesh’s history, both politically and socially. The articles focus on issues like politics, electricity crisis, etc.


This book analyzes contemporary media from an insider’s professional view. It explores a series of issues including why the elite class invests in media, why there is a growing crisis in this sector and how socio-economic power and denials decides which way media will move. It examines how low wages in an increasingly market influenced sector is leading to loss of professionalism, and growth of corruption.

Donors NGOs the state and their clients in Bangladesh, by Mokbul Morshed Ahmad. 2000

Importance of NGOs in development has been generated by the limitation of the state in reaching and providing some basic services to the poor and the disadvantages. But although many NGOs have shown success in reaching the poor, organizing them to build awareness and providing microcredit, the vast majority of the poorest in the south have remained beyond their reach. In Bangladesh, the NGOs play a pivotal and pragmatic role when the state does not reach the poor and meet their needs. NGOs can only complement the state’s activity. Due to donor pressure, the state cannot ask NGOs to become more transparent and accountable or to cooperate more with the state.
Human rights in Bangladesh 2004. Ain O Salish Kendra. 2005

This book offers an analytical overview of the situation of human rights. It provides a serious self examination of the fault lines in the system of governance and political culture that have aggravated violations of human rights by both state and non-state actors and allowed impunity to the perpetrators.


The major contribution of the book is the academic articulation and stylization of the managerial practices in both Japan and Bangladesh. Especially it gives a comprehensive description and analyses of various management practices and issues in the major business enterprises in Japan and the jute industry in Bangladesh.

Policy marking in Bangladesh - a study of the health policy process, Ferdous Arfina Osman. 2004

This book’s special focus is on the health policy of Bangladesh. It provides a huge evidence for health policy failure and a comprehensive enumeration of the variety of factors underlying that failure. It examines the health policy formation as well as its implementation process accompanied with a thorough, comprehensive analysis as the influences of policy actors and policy context over the process.

Total sanitation: A community stake, Helal Mohiuddin and others. 2005

This book is a complete process of motivation and mobilization services along with hardware provision, and the impact and effectiveness of the services facilitated by LGIs, NGOs and the community allies from an evaluate perspective. The book presents and reflects the success of CLTS approach that leads to understand the capabilities and experience.

Education in a rapidly changing world focus on Bangladesh, by Abul Ahsan of IUB. 2005

This publication is a sequel to the seminar organized by IUB in October 2003 on the theme “Education in a global society”.

NGOs and development – alleviating rural poverty in Bangladesh, by AKM Ahsan Ullah and Jayant K. Routray. 2003

This study analyzes the current poverty situation and trend of poverty, poverty alleviation efforts of two NGOs (BRAC and Proshika) with emphasis on the impacts of their activities in two villages in Barisal district.