South Asia has developed from a group of newly independent post-colonial states of at most secondary importance to the wider world to its current position as a region of central strategic importance to both global economic development and world peace and stability.

This *Atlas* highlights the global significance of South Asia in relation to economic, geopolitical and strategic interests. It provides a coherent descriptive and analytical account of the key elements of the complex societies that make up the region and its component countries. It is illustrated with more than 100 original maps and offers concise entries on key issues, including population growth, the geopolitics of transboundary water resources, natural disaster management and climate change. The book is structured thematically in these sections:

- Global context
- Geographical environments
- Historical evolution of South Asia
- Key issues in modern South Asia
- · Economy and security

Designed for use in teaching undergraduate and graduate classes and seminars in geography, history, economics, anthropology, international relations, political science and the environment, as well as regional courses on South Asia, this book is also a comprehensive reference source for libraries and decision makers focusing on South Asia.

Robert W. Bradnock has published extensively on South Asian Affairs, first at SOAS, where he became Head of the Department of Geography, and subsequently at King's College London. Here most recently he has been a Senior Visiting Research Fellow in the Department of Geography. He continues to lecture, broadcast and publish widely on the politics and current affairs of South Asia. His recent work includes *Paths to Peace*, a Chatham House report based on the first-ever opinion poll to be undertaken in both Indian and Pakistani-held Kashmir.

Catherine Lawrence trained as a Cartographer while also studying for a Geography Degree at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand. After coming to London she became Cartographer at King's College, where she met her future husband. While raising her family she did freelance cartography for journals and magazines like the *Geographical Magazine*, returning to academic map-making for 10 years as Cartographer at SOAS. A freelancer once more, since 1998 she has produced a wide range of original and illuminating work.

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