Contents

Introduction 1
Mary Searle Chatterjee and Ursula M. Sharma

Is a theory of caste still possible? 25
Declan Quigley

Caste, democracy and the politics of community formation in India 49
Subrata Mitra

Berreman revisited; caste and the comparative method 72
Ursula M. Sharma

Girasias and the politics of difference in Rajasthan: ‘caste’, kinship and gender in a marginalised society 92
Maya Unnithan

Caste without a system; a study of South Indian Harijans 122
Robert Deliège

Caste, religion and other identities 147
Mary Searle-Chatterjee

Caste – a personal perspective 169
A Shukra

Notes on contributors 179

Index 181