The present work is an in-depth study of class formation and class relations of late 20th century, Malabar region of Kerala. The class formation and class relations of 20th century Malabar has enrooted in the earlier events, protestations, uprisings and movements of the 19th century. A drastic change in the concept of class and restructuring of the social fabric began in Malabar in the late 18th century. After the colonialization and modernization, the people of Malabar became more conscious about the different forms of exploitation and injustices. Due to the spread of colonial education, new social classes developed and played a dynamic role in the social relations here.

Class is a historically relevant concept for understanding social dynamism. The context of social fabric is very complex now and naturally the study of it also facing many problems. The concept of ‘class’ has played a predominantly dynamic role in the long history of sociological thought as well as the revolutionary political movement of the 20th century. In the early 20th century, many movements and actions developed against diverse forms of social evils in Malabar like that of other parts of Kerala. These reforms and movements oriented and reoriented the class formation and class-consciousness of the people of Malabar. After independence the class struggles were represented in the form of peasant struggles. The wave of migration changed the class structure and relations of Malabar. External migration had dynamically and radically changed the social fabric of Malabar. The process of Globalization has made unprecedented change in the lives of traditional folk. In this era of liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation working class movements and its prospects have been facing an ideological crisis. This served as a motivating factor for taking up this line of research pertaining to the class formation and class relations of modern Kerala, especially the Malabar region.
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