Health, Disease and Indian Immigrants in Nineteenth Century Mauritius

By Raj Boodhoo

It is the first publication of Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund which deals with issues of health, sanitation, quarantine/quarantine laws and sites, the establishment of state hospitals and health care provided to the indentured labourers between the mid-nineteenth and early 20th century. This groundbreaking work sheds new light on a largely neglected theme in modern Mauritian Indenture Labour historiography. It deals with the living and working conditions and health issues and the general welfare of Indenture and ex-Indenture labourer on and off the sugar estate between the 1830’s and the early 1900’s. It also takes a close look at the quarantine station such as Ile aux Gabriel, Flat island, Pointe aux Cannonier, Ile aux Tonneliers, Ile aux Benitiers and even health and sanitary regulations at the immigration depot. It is a well-written and well-researched academic publication which shows to what extent health issue sanitation and public health played a crucial role in shaping the Mauritian experience with Indentured Labour.