This book is the latest anthology from Roberts that caters to the reading public in Lanka by collecting his essaying interventions in the public realm, usually on web, within one cover. These articles were written between 2009 and 2012. Two long articles, however, are new products drafted in 2012. One explores the significance of a Karaiyar caste coterie within the LTTE, while clarifying the ideological currents that inspired their opposition to the Sinhala-dominated state. The other clarifies the circumstances of the Tamil peoples within the de facto to state of Thamilīlam from 2002 to the crucible of war in "the Vanni Pocket" in 2009 and thence to the detention centres at Mänik Farm.

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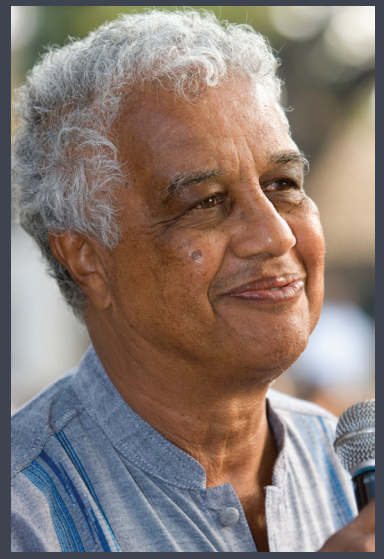

Rhodes Scholar for Ceylon in 1962 Michael Roberts is a historian by training and has taught at the Dept of History, Peradeniya University (1961-76) and the Dept of Anthropology, Adelaide University (1977-2003). His major works are in agrarian history, social mobility, nationalism and ethnic conflict. Among his major works are *Caste Conflict and Elite Formation: The Rise of a Karāva Elite in Sri Lanka, 1500-1931* (1982); *People Inbetween:* (1989); *Exploring Confrontation* (1994); *Narrating Tamil Nationalism* (2005); *Sinhala Consciousness in the Kandyan Period, 1590s -1815* (2004); and *Essaying Cricket: Sri Lanka and Beyond* (Colombo: Vijitha Yapa Publications, 2006). He has also edited the several volumes on Sri Lanka entitled *Collective Identities* (1979, 1997, 1998). More recently, Vijitha Yapa Publications has presented three of his anthologies: *Confrontations in Sri Lanka* (2009), *Fire and Storm* (2010) and *Incursions & Excursions in and around Sri Lanka Cricket* (2011).

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