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Taking a broad perspective of livelihoods, this book draws on more than ninety case studies from thirty-six countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America to examine how people are engaging and living with modernity. This extends from changes in the ways that households operate, to how and why people take on new work and acquire new skills, how migration and mobility are become increasingly common features of existence, and how aspirations and expectations are being reworked under the influence of modernization.

To date, this is the only book which takes such an approach to building an understanding of the global South. By using the experience of the non-Western world to illuminate and inform mainstream debates in geography, and in beginning from the lived experiences of `ordinary' people, this book provides an alternative insight into a range of geographical debates. The clarity of argument and its use of detailed case studies makes this book an ivaluable resource for students.

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