Record Nr. UNINA9910462850203321 Autore Lahiri-Dutt Kuntala **Titolo** Dancing with the River: People and Life on the Chars of South Asia // Gopa Samanta, Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt Pubbl/distr/stampa New Haven, CT:,: Yale University Press,, [2013] ©2013 **ISBN** 0-300-18957-5 0-300-18830-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (297 p.) Collana Yale Agrarian Studies Series Disciplina 304.2095414 Human beings - Effect of environment on - South Asia Soggetti Human ecology - South Asia River life - South Asia Electronic books. South Asia Economic conditions South Asia Rural conditions South Asia Social conditions South Asia Social life and customs Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments --Nota di contenuto Abbreviations -- Chapter 1. Introducing Chars -- Chapter 2. Char Jage -- Chapter 3. Controlling the River to Free Up Land -- Chapter 4. Bhitar o Bahir Katha -- Chapter 5. Silent Footfalls -- Chapter 6. Living with Risk -- Chapter 7. Livelihoods Defined by Water -- Chapter 8. Living on Chars, Drifting with Rivers -- Appendix -- Notes -- Glossary --References -- Index Sommario/riassunto With this book Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt and Gopa Samanta offer an intimate glimpse into the microcosmic world of "hybrid landscapes." Focusing on chars-the part-land, part-water, low-lying sandy masses that exist within the riverbeds in the floodplains of lower Bengal-the authors show how, both as real-life examples and as metaphors, chars straddle

the conventional categories of land and water, and how people who live

on them fluctuate between legitimacy and illegitimacy. The result, a study of human habitation in the nebulous space between land and water, charts a new way of thinking about land, people, and people's ways of life.