1. Record Nr. UNINA9910547690603321 Autore Bes Lennart Titolo The Heirs of Vijayanagara: Court Politics in Early-Modern South India Pubbl/distr/stampa Leiden,: Leiden University Press, 2022 Leiden University Press, , 2021 ©2021 **ISBN** 90-8728-371-7 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (1 online resource) Colonial and Global History through Dutch Sources Collana Disciplina 954/.8025 Soggetti Asian history Politics & government India India, South Court and courtiers History India, South Kings and rulers India, South History India, South Politics and government India History 1526-1765 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Machine generated contents note: Historical Background -- Sources --Nota di contenuto Historiography -- Structure -- ; ch. 1 Foundations and Foundation Myths -- Vijayanagara -- Sangamas -- Saluvas, Tuluvas, and Aravidus -- Successor States -- Nayakas of Ikkeri -- Nayakas of Tanjavur --Bhonsles of Tanjavur -- Nayakas of Madurai -- Setupatis of Ramnad --Conclusions -- ; ch. 2 Dynastic Successions -- Vijayanagara --Sangamas and Saluvas -- Tuluvas -- Aravidus -- Successor States --Nayakas of Ikkeri -- Nayakas of Tanjavur -- Bhonsles of Tanjavur --Nayakas of Madurai -- Setupatis of Ramnad -- Conclusions -- ; ch. 3 The Power of Courtiers -- Vijavanagara -- Sangamas and Saluvas --Tuluvas -- Aravidus -- Successor States -- Nayakas of Ikkeri --Nayakas of Tanjavur -- Bhonsles of Tanjavur -- Nayakas of Madurai --

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Sommario/riassunto

This comparative study investigates court politics in four kingdoms that succeeded the s outh Indian Vijayanagara empire during the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries: Ikkeri, Tanjavur, Madurai, and Ramnad. Building on a unique combination of unexplored Indian texts and Dutch archival records, this research offers a captivating new analysis of political culture, power relations, and dynastic developments.

In great detail, this monograph provides both new facts and fresh insights that contest existing scholarship. By highlighting their competitive, fluid, and dynamic nature, it undermines the historiography viewing these courts as harmonic, hierarchic, and static. Far from being remote, ritualised figures, we find kings and Brahmins contesting with other courtiers for power. At the same time, by stressing continuities with the past, this study questions recent scholarship that perceives a fundamentally new form of Nayaka kingship. Thus, this research has important repercussions for the way we perceive both these kingdoms and their 'medieval' precursors.