1. Record Nr. UNINA9910787604203321 Autore Chua Jocelyn Lim Titolo In pursuit of the good life: aspiration and suicide in globalizing South India / / Jocelyn Lim Chua Pubbl/distr/stampa Berkeley, California:,: University of California Press,, 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-520-95764-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (255 p.) Classificazione SOC002010SOC002000 Disciplina 362.280954/83 Soggetti Suicide - Social aspects - India - Kerala East Indians - India - Kerala - Psychology East Indians - India - Kerala - Social conditions Kerala (India) Social conditions 21st century Kerala (India) Economic conditions 21st century 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. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Note -- Introduction -- 1. Between the Devil and the Deep Sea -- 2. Gazing at the Stars. Aiming for the Treetops -- 3. Tales the Dead Are Made to Tell -- 4. Care-full Acts -- 5. Anywhere but Here -- 6. Fit for the Future --Afterword -- Notes -- References -- Index Once celebrated as a model development for its progressive social Sommario/riassunto indicators, the southern Indian state of Kerala has earned the new distinction as the nation's suicide capital, with suicide rates soaring to triple the national average since 1990. Rather than an aberration on the path to development and modernity, Keralites understand this crisis to be the bitter fruit borne of these historical struggles and the aspirational dilemmas they have produced in everyday life. Suicide, therefore, offers a powerful lens onto the experiential and affective dimensions of development and global change in the postcolonial world. In the long shadow of fear and uncertainty that suicide casts in

> Kerala, living acquires new meaning and contours. In this powerful ethnography, Jocelyn Chua draws on years of fieldwork to broaden the field of vision beyond suicide as the termination of life, considering

how suicide generates new ways of living in these anxious times.