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Sommario/riassunto	This reissue of Sandar Panikkar's 1959 book is based upon a series of lectures given at the Institut d'Etude de Development Economique et Social, which spotlights the problems faced by the multitude of African and Asian states which achieved independence between 1945 and 1957. From Asia, the author discusses the plight of India, Pakistan, Burma, Indonesia, Ceylon, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Syria and Lebanon whilst in Africa he assesses the independence of the Sudan, Tunisia, Morocco and Ghana. The problems faced by these countries have many similarities, not least the need to develop systems of