

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910819584603321
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Titolo	The Afro-Asian states and their problems / / K. M. Panikkar
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxfordshire, England ; ; New York : , : Routledge, , 2014 ©1959
ISBN	1-136-85860-1 0-203-83574-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (105 p.)
Collana	Routledge Library Editions: Development ; ; Volume 83
Disciplina	309.15
Soggetti	Newly independent states Africa Asia
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Half Title; Title; Copyright; Original Title; Original Copyright; CONTENTS; INTRODUCTION; I Political Structure; II The Problems of Administration; III The Problems of Economic Life; IV Education; V Science in the New States; VI The Social Problems of the New States; INDEX
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