

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910828689603321
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Titolo	Traditional industry in the economy of colonial India // Tirthankar Roy
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Cambridge University Press, 1999
ISBN	1-107-11673-2 0-521-03305-5 0-511-15025-3 0-511-11750-7 0-511-31009-9 1-280-15380-6 0-511-05201-4 0-511-49742-3
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xi, 252 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Cambridge studies in Indian history and society ; ; 5
Disciplina	338.0954
Soggetti	Industries - India Industrial policy - India
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di contenuto	; 1. Introduction -- ; 2. Markets and organization -- ; 3. Handloom weaving -- ; 4. Gold thread (jari) -- ; 5. Brassware -- ; 6. Leather -- ; 7. Carpets -- ; 8. Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	The majority of workers in South Asia are employed in industries that rely on manual labour and craft skills. Some of these industries have existed for centuries and survived great changes in consumption and technology over the last 150 years. In earlier studies, historians of the region focused on mechanized rather than craft industries, arguing that traditional manufacturing was destroyed or devitalized during the colonial period, and that 'modern' industry is substantially different. Exploring new material from research into five traditional industries, Tirthankar Roy's book contests these notions, demonstrating that while traditional industry did evolve during the Industrial Revolution, these transformations had a positive rather than destructive effect on manufacturing generally. In fact, the book suggests, the major

industries in post-independence India were shaped by such transformations. Tirthankar Roy's book offers penetrating insights into India's economic and social history.
