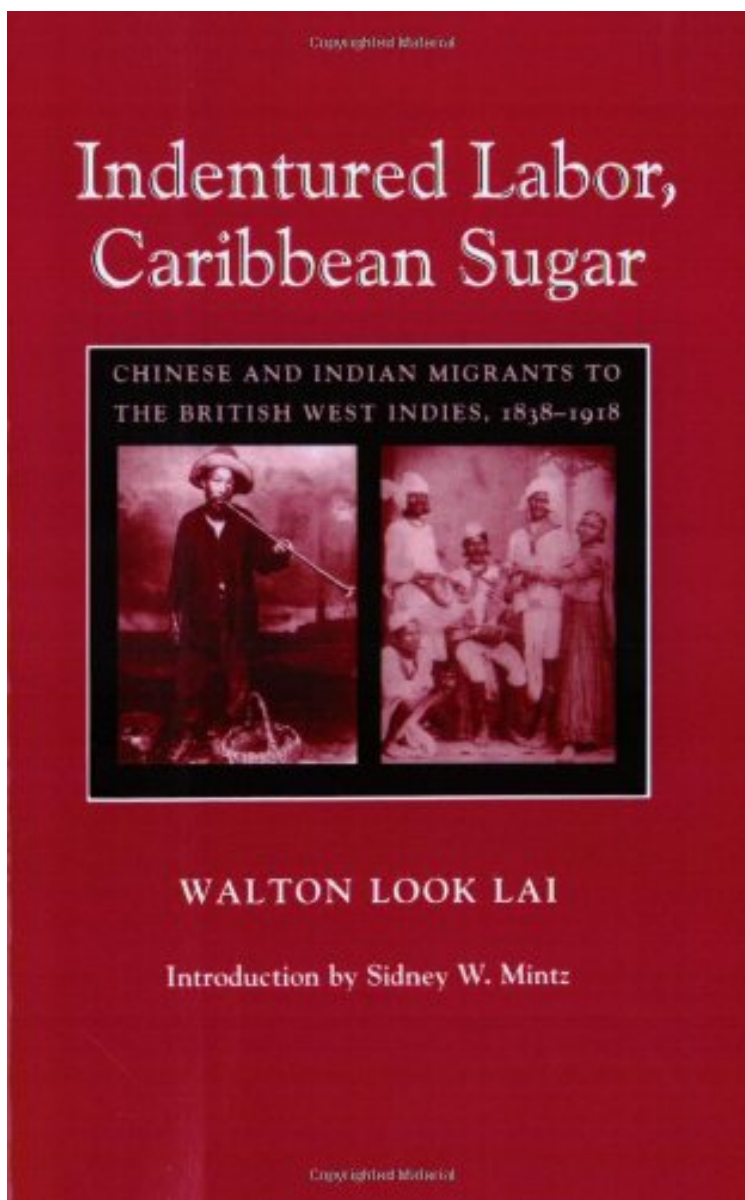


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Indentured Labor, Caribbean Sugar: Chinese and Indian Migrants to the British West Indies, 1838-1918 (Johns Hopkins Studies in Atlantic History and Culture)

Walton Look Lai

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Walton Look Lai : Indentured Labor, Caribbean Sugar: Chinese and Indian Migrants to the British West Indies, 1838-1918 (Johns Hopkins Studies in Atlantic History and Culture)

before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Indentured Labor, Caribbean Sugar: Chinese and Indian Migrants to the British West Indies, 1838-1918* (Johns Hopkins Studies in Atlantic History and Culture):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Book for Indian Americans
By Neal Kluge
Great details about which parts of India these migrants came from their behavior in the West Indies. Also, even then the British were decent people following the law.
3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Wealth of Information
By H. Mera
This is not your Alex Haley "Roots" type book. It is closer to a reference manual. This book provides a wealth of information on the Chinese and Indian migrants to the West Indies. There is extensive research on the routes, places of origins, and multiple census type information that does not seem to be taught these days. Highly recommended!
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Family ties to ex-indentured servants
By Elba Conde Latuff
For those wanting to explore an in-depth account of indenture this is a reliable and enlightening source. If you have a passion for Caribbean literature, having read this book will make the Caribbean novels you read come alive, because it gives the historical account of how the Chinese and Indian migrants arrived in the West Indies and of all the vicissitudes they endured. For many years the focus of intellectuals had centered on the arrival of the African slaves and their work in the sugar cane plantations of the West Indies. Now, *Indentured Labor, Caribbean Sugar* allows us to have a full picture of the migrants that constitute the greater part of the population of former colonies like Trinidad and British Guiana, among others, and establishes a basis for comparison between the two waves of migrations: the imposed African migration and the latter "voluntary" one described in this book.

In *Indentured Labor, Caribbean Sugar* Walton Look Lai offers the first comprehensive study of Asian immigration and the indenture system in the entire British West Indies with particular emphasis on the experiences of indentured laborers in the major receiving colonies of British Guyana, Trinidad, and Jamaica. Exploring living and working conditions as well as the makeup of immigrant communities and their cultures, Look Lai offers a "dialectical pluralist" model of Caribbean acculturation that contrasts with the more familiar "melting pot" or "pure pluralist" model.

"A work of rich scholarship... Look Lai proves an adept and perceptive labor historian. His sensitive depiction of the world of the indentured East Asian workers of Trinidad and British Guyana is easily the best available: it is a notable achievement that sets a high standard for future research on the topic." (Labor History)
"This carefully researched book... thoughtfully compares the experiences and responses of the Chinese and Indians as they settled in and became part of these colonial societies, the former often moving into trade and the later largely remaining in agriculture... A well written study, highly recommended for students of Asian-American and Caribbean studies, and migration history." (Choice)
"Look Lai's excellent book... is the first 'integrated' history of Asian migration to the Caribbean which incorporates (and often compares) the experiences of both Asian groups... illuminating an important chapter in Caribbean history." (Journal of Caribbean History)
"Important not only for the study of Atlantic history and culture, but also for the comparative study of migration, labor coercion, and the effects of labor segmentation in the labor process... It is an excellent book, thoroughly researched, clearly organized, and well written, and it deserves a wide audience." (International Labor and Working Class History)
"Should be required reading for Caribbeanists, scholars of Asian diasporas, and labor historians." (New West Indian Guide)
"A most welcome addition to the growing literature on Asian migration to the West Indies... well structured and well written." (International of Social History)
"Sound in its scholarship and detailed in its findings... A fine piece of work." (Brian L. Moore Business History)
"Well-researched and lucidly written... Look Lai's excellent study puts us all in his debt." (Sunday Guardian (Trinidad))
"*Indentured Labor, Caribbean Sugar* provides fascinating detail on the origin and implementation of the indentured labor system in British Guiana, Trinidad, and Jamaica... filled with a solid array of well-researched details." (Surendra Bhana SAFUNDI: The Journal of South African and American Studies)
About the Author
Walton Look Lai is Lecturer in History at the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago. He is a former Rockefeller Foundation fellow at the Asian American Center, Queen's College, City University of New York.