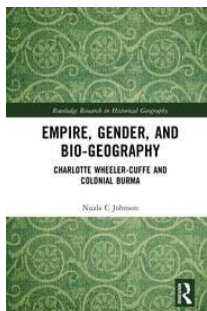


UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO
INSTITUTO DE GEOGRAFIA

AT'N: MTRO. LUIS RAUL ITURBE FUENTES
COORDINADOR DE LA BIBLIOTECA



Empire, Gender, and Bio-geography Charlotte Wheeler-Cuffe and Colonial

Burma, By [Nuala C Johnson](#) Copyright 2024, ISBN 9781003157595, 244 Pages 25 B/W Illustrations, Published July 26, 2023 by Routledge, \$54.99

DESCRIPTION

This book explores the relationships between empire, natural history, and gender in the production of geographical knowledge and its translation between colonial Burma and Britain. Focusing on the work of the plant collector, botanical illustrator, and naturalist, Charlotte Wheeler-Cuffe, this book illustrates how natural history was practised and produced by a woman working in the tropics from 1897 to 1921.

Drawing on the extensive and under-studied archive of private and official correspondence, diaries, sketchbooks, photographs, paintings, and plant lists of Wheeler-Cuffe, this book advances our conceptual understanding of the 'invisible' historical geographies underpinning scientific knowledge production, by focusing on the role of a female actor in the complex gendered setting of colonial Burma. Using a bio-geographical approach, this analysis reconceptualises female agency beyond authorship and publication, and stresses how Wheeler-Cuffe represents an instantiation of the occluded contribution of women to the historiography of natural history. This book highlights Wheeler-Cuffe's production of scientific knowledge about Burma in the context of her relationship, as a white Western woman, with local, indigenous actors and details her practice of fieldwork and its embodied geographies in different parts of Burma, while she maintained the domestic superstructure of a colonial wife.

This book will be of interest to advance-level students and researchers in historical and cultural geography; the history of science; feminist geography; women and natural history; colonial Burma and imperialism; and botanical art and illustration.