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SWAMINATHAN, MADHURA; SURJIT, V. AND RAMACHANDRAN, V. K., EDS. *Economic Change in the Lower Cauvery Delta: A Study of Palakurichi and Venmani*. Agrarian Studies, vol. 7. New Delhi: Tulika Books, 2023. Pp. xxvi, 384. \$55.00. ISBN 978-81-950559-5-1, cloth.

Sixteen papers examine historic changes in the relations of production in the lower Cauvery delta, considering such features as changes in the technology of rice production, changes in the crop calendar, decline of surface water, and urbanization outside of crop production. Papers discuss the cropping pattern of the Palakurichi village; the scheduled caste population of the village of Venmani; how households in Palakurichi and Venmani are categorized into socioeconomic classes; the decline in the flow of water through the Grand Anicut irrigation system; soil moisture in the process of aridification occurring in the lower Cauvery delta; the ownership of landholdings by holding size, social groups, and gender; the distribution of incomes from livestock compared to that of crop production; the level and composition of asset ownership; features of rural credit markets; yield and profitability from crop production; key features of the labor market and the nature of employment and wages; income from nonagricultural sources as well as household incomes; the relationship between years of schooling and occupation; caste-based residential segregation; the impact of Cyclone Gaja of 2018 on households in Palakurichi and Venmani; and the collapse of employment in the nonagricultural sectors of Palakurichi and Venmani due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Swaminathan is Professor at the Indian Statistical Institute in Bengaluru. Surjit is Associate Professor with the Centre for Agrarian Studies at the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. Ramachandran is with the Kerala State Planning Board in Thiruvananthapuram. Bibliography; index.