

## Village Voices

### 40 Years of Rural Transformation in South India

This film offers a unique opportunity to view the different paths of development that a large canal irrigation scheme triggered off in Mangala, an irrigated village, and Kalenahalli, a dry land village, both situated in the same culture area of Mandya Sub-District in South India.

The film focuses on the problem of Rural Development. It indicates the importance of culturally sensitive development strategies. Mangala, the irrigated village is on the way to becoming a model growth centre. The village continues to be introverted, the villagers still have a strong social identity and feel proud of their village achievements. By contrast, in order to participate in the growing regional economy Kalenahalli people had to go outside their village; many now are professionals, such as doctors, lecturers, teachers who have left Kalenahalli altogether; others commute and work in manufacturing establishments as mechanics, electricians, clerks etc. Therefore, Kalenahalli has become more and more village extroverted, so much so that social anomie has set in and the village may become absorbed as a suburb of the nearby expanding town of Mandya.

The study on which the film is based was begun by DR. T. S. EPSTEIN in 1954 and has been continued up to the present day. It is the only study in the whole of India in which the same researcher covers a period as long as 43 years. The film not only presents how the villagers themselves see the changes that have taken place, but also how one of them, T. THINMEGOWDA, now a senior administrative official, perceives the development and how the expatriate researcher analyses it.

The film poses a challenge not only to developers but also to a wide public concerned with rural development.

#### "Village Voices – 40 Years of Rural Transformation in South India" by

T. S. EPSTEIN, A. P. SURYANA-RAYANA

& T. THINME-GOWDA

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Format	VHS-PAL, colour, 60 min
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Direction	BEATE ENGELBRECHT
Advisory and Commentary	T. SCARLETT EPSTEIN, T. THIMMEGOWDA
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of Rural Transformation in South India“**

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