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HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN INDIA IN THE CONTEXT OF THE 'GREAT SYNERGY'



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GRIN Verlag Okt 2009, 2009. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 218x146x17 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2008 in the subject Business economics - Economic and Social History, grade: 1,0, European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder) (Lehrstuhl für Wirtschafts- und Sozialgeschichte der Neuzeit), course: The Great Divergence. History and Legacy of Industrialization in Europe and Asia, language: English, abstract: The purpose of this paper is the discussion of a recent article presented by Joel Mokyr who offered, according to his own words, a new 'variant of the European Miracle question'¹. The main thesis of his article The Great Synergy: the European Enlightenment as a factor in Modern Economic growth points to the European Enlightenment as being a crucial factor for attaining and establishing modern, i.e. sustainable economic growth in Europe once the British Industrial Revolution had overcome its humble beginnings at the end of the eighteenth century. Mokyr argues that the stability of economic growth which was reached in Europe after 1825 was to a great extent due to a new attitude towards the relation between technology and progress. This new attitude was the result of a development that had its roots in the European Enlightenment where the foundations for a new understanding of science and technology were laid. The outcome of this development was the unique 'idea of research' that made scientists and craftsmen cooperate, giving way to a very fruitful convergence of science and technology that helped making sustainable economic growth possible. This evolution mingled with the modification of institutional mechanisms which was a result of the Enlightenment, too. These two trends both formed a 'Great Synergy' that finally yielded the 'European Miracle'. To prove and strengthen his thesis, Mokyr compares the history of European sciences with those...



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