



NATIONALISM AND ETHNIC CONFLICT IN NEPAL

Identities and Mobilization after 1990

Edited by Mahendra Lawoti and Susan Hangen

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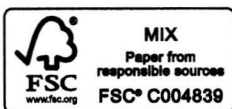
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Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict in Nepal

Identity movements, based on ethnicity, caste, language, religion and regional identity, have become increasingly significant in Nepal, reshaping debates on the definition of the nation, nationalism and the structure of the state. This book analyzes the rapid rise in ethnic and nationalist mobilization and conflict since 1990, the dynamics and trajectories of these movements, and their consequences for Nepal.

From an interdisciplinary perspective, the book looks at the roots of mobilization and conflicts, the reasons for the increase in mobilization and violent activities, and the political and social effects of the movements. It provides a historical context for these movements and investigates how identities intersect with forms of political and economic inequality. Nepal's various identity groups – Dalits, indigenous nationalities, Madhesi and Muslims – have mobilized to different extents. By examining these diverse movements within the same time period and within a unitary state, the book illuminates which factors are more salient for the earlier and extensive mobilization of identity groups.

Bringing together empirical contributions on key issues in identity production in a comparative perspective, the book presents an interesting contribution to South Asian studies as well as studies of nationalism and identity more broadly.

Mahendra Lawoti is Professor of Political Science at Western Michigan University, Associate Fellow at Asia Society, USA and a columnist at The Kathmandu Post. His research interests are democratization and ethnic politics in Nepal and South Asia, and he has published widely in these areas.

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Susan Hangen, New York, NY
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Abbreviations

ANAI	All Nepal Anjuman Islah
BCE	before common era
CHHE	caste hill Hindu elite (Bahuns and Chhetris from the hill region)
CHHEM	caste hill Hindu elite males
CPN-UML	Communist Party of Nepal – United Marxist Leninist
DHRO	Dalit Human Rights Organization
DNF	Dalit NGO Federation
DNP	Dalit Nationalities Party (Dalit Janajati Party)
DWO	Dalit Welfare Organization
FDNF	Federal Democratic National Forum (Sandhiya Loktantrik Rastriya Manch)
FEDO	Feminist Dalit Organization
FLSC	Federal Limbuwan State Council (Sanghiya Limbuwan Rajya Parishad)
FPTP	first past the post
ILO	International Labour Organization
IN	indigenous nationalities
JUP	Jana Utthan Parishad (People Upliftment Council)
KWP	Kirat Worker's Party
KYC	Kirat Yakthung Chumlung
LANCAU	Lawyer's National Campaign Against Untouchability
LLF	Limbuwan Liberation Front (Limbuwan Mukti Morcha)
MJF	Madhesi Janadhikar Forum (Madhesi People's Rights Forum)
MLT	Madhesi Liberation Tigers (Madhesi Mukti Tigers)
MNO	Mongol National Organization
MPRF	Madhesi People's Rights Forum (Madhesi Janadhikar Forum)
MRMM	Madhesi Rashtriya Mukti Morcha
NASWN	National Association for Social Welfare in Nepal (Nepal Rastriya Samaj Kalyan Sangh)
NC	Nepali Congress
NCARD	National Coalition against Racial Discrimination
NCDPDN	National Council for Dalit People's Development in Nepal (Nepal Rastriya Dalit Jana Bikash Parishad)

NCP	Nepal Communist Party
NDA	Nepal Defense Army
NDLF	Nepal Dalit Labor Front (Nepal Dalit Shramik Morcha)
NEFIN	Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities
NFDIN	National Foundation for the Development of Indigenous Nationalities
NGC	Nepal Goodwill Council (Nepal Sadbhavana Parishad)
NGP	Nepal Goodwill Party (Nepal Sadbhavana Party, NSP)
NGP-A	Nepal Goodwill Party – Anandi
NJM	Nepal Janajati Mahasangh (Nepal Federation of Nationalities)
NMFN	National Muslim Forum Nepal
NNDSWO	Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organization
NNP	Nepa National Party (Nepa Rastriya Party)
NPF	National People's Front (Rastriya Jana Morcha)
NPLP	National People's Liberation Party (Rastriya Janamukti Party)
NRJJP	Nepal Rastriya Jana-jati Party (Nepal National Nationalities Party)
NRJMM	Nepal Rastriya Jana Mukti Morcha (Nepal National People's Liberation Front)
NRJMP	Nepal Rastriya Jana Mukti Party (Nepal National People's Liberation Party)
NRJP	Nepal Rastriya Jana Party
NTC	Nepal Tarai Congress
PKLNF	Pallo Kirat Limbuwan National Forum (Pallo Kirat Limbuwan Rastriya Manch)
PR	proportional representation
TMDP	Tarai Madhes Democratic Party (Tarai Madhes Loktantrik Party)
TPLF	Tarai People's Liberation Front (Janatantrik Tarai Mukti Morcha)
TSS	Tarai Samrakshan Samiti
UNNIP	United Nations Nepal Information Platform
v.s.	Vikram Sambat (Nepali calendar)
WHF	World Hindu Federation (Vishwa Hindu Mahasangh)
YCL	Young Communist League
YF	Youth Force

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