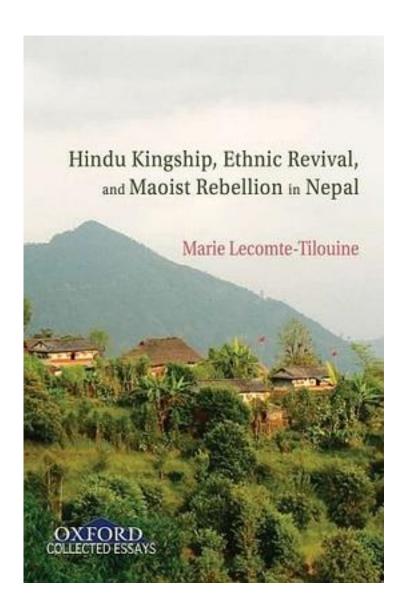
Hindu Kingship, Ethnic Revival, and Maoist Rebellion in Nepal



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出版者:OUP India

出版时间:2009

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9780195697926

This volume discusses issues of tribal identity and the Maoist rebellion in the face of Hindu kingship and caste organization. The 1990s witnessed the rise of two successive but interrelated movements that transformed society-ethnic revivalism and the Maoist rebellion. The author, who lived for some months in central Nepal before the emergence of these movements, studied a multi-caste and a multi-ethnic village community. The site of the author's fieldwork is a place where Hindus have been in very close touch with the tribal population. As far back as the fifteenth century, Hindu rulers had forged ties with the tribal chiefs. Of the indigenous people-who form a third of the country's population-the Magars are the largest group and developed the closest relationship with Hindu rulers. The essays explore the strategies of the Magars in building relations with high-caste Hindus and how these strategies were determined unilaterally by the Hindu rulers. Over a period of time, this created ground for tribals to join hands with Maoists to construct a model of society in opposition to caste organization and Hindu monarchy.

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目录: Table of Contents

Introduction: Stereotypes, Alterocenrtrism, and Alterization in Nepal

1. Spirits, Shamans and Englishmen: Perception of the Others in Vir Caritra, a 19th Century Nepalese Novel

2. Hindu Power in a Tribal Territory: The Cult of the Earth-Goddess Bhume among the Magars

3. The Enigmatic Pig: On Magar Participation in the State Rituals of Nepal

4. Desanskritization of the Magars: Ethno-History of a Group with no History 5. The Messianic and Rebel King Lakhan Thapa: Utopia and Ideology among the

6. The Transgressive Nature of Hindu Kingship in Nepal

7. Regicide and Maoist Revolutionary Warfare: Modern Incarnations of a Warrior Kingdom

8. 'Kill one, he becomes one hundred': Martyrdom as Generative Sacrifice in the Nepal People's War.

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