



Hindu Rulers, Muslim Subjects: Islam, Rights and the History of Kashmir

By Mridu Rai



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This is a remarkable work of scholarship which shows how Kashmir's modern Muslim identity came into existence. In doing this, it demonstrates the complex manner in which politics can enforce the creation of religious identity. This book is a brilliant historical study of this central issue in the troubled politics of South Asia's most picturesque - and most volatile - province.



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Review

"Rai's contribution lies in the extremely thorough and painstaking documentation that she provides when tracing the marginalization of the native inhabitants of Kahmir, the chicanery of the British, and the fecklessness of the Dogra rulers. Her account of the growth of Muslim religio-political consciousness in the early part of the twentieth century . . . unearths a wealth of detail. . . . Rai's book is a useful one. Those interested in understanding the background of the continuing tragedy in Kahmir will find much to consider in her substantial account of the historical backdrop."--**Sumit Ganguly, *Journal of Asian Studies***

From the Inside Flap

"*Hindu Rulers, Muslim Subjects* is a brilliant work of historical scholarship that will become indispensable reading for all those interested in the modern history and politics of the subcontinent. It a pioneering historical study of rights, religion, and regional identity in Kashmir that could also inspire future studies on other regions of the subcontinent."--**Sugata Bose, Harvard University**

"This is a major contribution to Kashmir studies and should set the standard for the next generation of publications on Kashmir. Challenging the existing literature, this work is heady and fresh--and deserves attention."--**Alexander Evans, King's College London and the Royal Institute of International Affairs**

"Mridu Rai's book reminds us powerfully of the crucial importance of colonial history to the present. She is able to de-essentialize religion and secularism in the Kashmir conflict, which is very useful in light of India's secularist claims and the ways in which some sociologists have theorized those claims. Carefully researched and lucidly conceptualized and written, this book forwards an important thesis on an important topic."--**Peter van der Veer, University of Amsterdam**

From the Back Cover

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