Fundamentalism

Prophecy and Protest in an Age of Globalization

This book investigates the origins of fundamentalism, outlining its characteristics and the history of key fundamentalist movements around the world, with examples from Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism. The book argues that fundamentalism develops when modern lay religious leaders challenge the authority of secular states and traditional religious establishments. These new leaders and their followers seek to infuse religious values and practices into all spheres, especially law, politics, education, and science. The patterns of religious authority and leadership that characterize fundamentalism have their roots in a Christian context but were globalized through intense intercultural contacts after the mid-nineteenth century. Fundamentalism is a thoroughly modern and global phenomenon because it presupposes the globalization of ideas and practices concerning religious leadership and organization, as well as universal changes in the relationship of religion to modern societies and states.

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Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-76625-8 - Fundamentalism: Prophecy and Protest in an Age of Globalization
Torkel Brekke
Frontmatter
More information
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Tokyo, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press
32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013-2473, USA
www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521149792

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First published 2012

Printed in the United States of America

A catalog record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data
Brekke, Torkel.
Fundamentalism: prophecy and protest in an age
of globalization / Torkel Brekke.
p. cm.
Includes bibliographical references and index.
isbn 978-0-521-76625-8 (hardback) – isbn 978-0-521-14979-2 (paperback)
b123456789012
2011023536

isbn 978-0-521-76625-8 Hardback
isbn 978-0-521-14979-2 Paperback

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For Kristian, Iris, and Marius
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The idea for this book came up in a conversation with Beatrice Rehl of Cambridge University Press at a conference in Oslo in 2008, and most of it was written during autumn 2010 and spring 2011 while I was on sabbatical leave from the Institute for Cultural Studies and Oriental Languages at the University of Oslo. I thank colleagues and students at my department in Oslo for years of discussion and encouragement, and I am grateful to the University of Oslo for a grant that made it possible to spend my sabbatical in Oxford. In spring and summer 2011, I was a visiting scholar at the Oxford Centre for Buddhist Studies, and I am grateful for its hospitality. Friends and colleagues in several departments of Oxford University and at Wolfson College made the stay very rewarding.

I am particularly grateful to Peter B. Clarke for reading a draft of the first part of the book and making useful comments. Peter was a generous scholar and will be missed. I thank Mahinda Deegalle for his advice and for sharing unpublished material about Buddhism and politics in Sri Lanka, and Suwanna Satha-Anand for advice regarding Buddhism in Thailand. Hilal Ahmed offered valuable advice about Islam in contemporary India, and Dale F. Eickelman did likewise about questions related to recent
developments in religious authority in Islam in the Middle East. I thank Werner Menski and Surendra Subramanian for advice on how to approach the question of Hindu law and fundamentalism. I am also grateful to Martin Riexinger for sharing unpublished material about Islam and creationism.

On matters of South Asian religion, I am indebted, as always, to Richard Gombrich and Sanjukta Gupta. I also thank Lars Tore Flåthen for letting me read some of his research on modern Hinduism and education. Through the years, I have received a lot of good advice about Sikhism from Gurinder Singh Mann, and some of this has been relevant to this book, although I did not have space to treat Sikhism in depth here.

I have over the past few years been invited to give an introductory lecture, followed by a seminar, as part of a course about fundamentalism at the Centre for Theology and the History of Religions at the University of Lund in Sweden. The discussions with staff and students in Lund have been valuable in the development of some of the arguments in this book.

Finally, I would like to thank colleagues at the think tank Civita for years of intellectual debate, some of which has been relevant to the subject of this book.