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978-1-107-00567-9 - Nepal in Transition: From People's War to Fragile Peace

Edited by Sebastian Von Einsiedel, David M. Malone and Suman Pradhan

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NEPAL IN TRANSITION

Since emerging in 2006 from a 10-year Maoist insurgency, the “People’s War,” Nepal has struggled with the difficult transition from war to peace, from autocracy to democracy, and from an exclusionary and centralized state to a more inclusive and federal one. The present volume, drawing on both international and Nepali scholars and leading practitioners, analyzes the context, dynamics, and key players shaping Nepal’s ongoing peace process. Although the peace process is largely domestically driven, it has been accompanied by wide-ranging international involvement, including initiatives in peacemaking by nongovernmental organizations, the United Nations (UN), and India; significant investments by international donors; and the deployment of a Security Council–mandated UN field mission. This book shines a light on the limits, opportunities, and challenges of international efforts to assist Nepal in its quest for peace and stability and offers valuable lessons for similar endeavors elsewhere.

Sebastian von Einsiedel works in the policy planning unit of the UN’s Department of Political Affairs. From 2007 to 2008, he served as a political affairs officer with the UN Mission in Nepal, providing analysis on a range of peace-process–related issues. He also served as Senior Program Officer of the International Peace Academy (now Institute) and as Special Assistant to its president. He was a member of the research team of the UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change and worked for two years in the Secretary-General’s strategic planning unit. Einsiedel has published a number of journal articles and book chapters on multilateral security issues.

David M. Malone was appointed as President of the International Development Research Center (IDRC) in July 2008 for a term of five years. Before that, he served as Canada’s High Commissioner to India and nonresident Ambassador to Bhutan and Nepal. He currently serves as Adjunct Professor at the New York University School of Law and is a Senior Fellow of Massey College in the University of Toronto. He has published extensively on peace and security issues, and his books include *Does the Elephant Dance? Contemporary Indian Foreign Policy* (2011), *The Law and Practice of the United Nations* (2008), *The UN Security Council: From the Cold War to the 21st Century* (2004), and *The International Struggle over Iraq: Politics in the UN Security Council, 1980–2005* (2006).

Suman Pradhan is a former Nepali journalist who has written extensively on the struggle to institutionalize democracy in Nepal, as well as on the Maoist conflict. His articles have been published in leading Nepal-based newspapers. He was the news editor of *The Kathmandu Post* newspaper from 2000 to 2003 when he also served as Nepal correspondent for the Inter Press Service. He also was a Nepal analyst for the International Crisis Group from 2003 to 2005. Since late 2006, he has worked for the UN as a political officer in Nepal, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and New York.

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DAVID M. MALONE

SUMAN PRADHAN



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Mr. Malone has published extensively on peace and security issues, in book form and in journals. He has taught at Columbia University and the University of Toronto. He currently serves as Adjunct Professor at the New York University School of Law and is a Senior Fellow of Massey College in the University of Toronto. His books include *The Law and Practice of the United Nations* (Oxford University Press, 2008); *The UN Security Council: From the Cold War to the 21st Century* (LRP, 2004); *The International Struggle over Iraq: Politics in the UN Security Council, 1980–2005* (Oxford University Press, 2006); and *Does the Elephant Dance? Contemporary Indian Foreign Policy* (Oxford University Press, 2011).

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Suman Pradhan is a former Nepali journalist who wrote extensively on the struggle to institutionalize democracy in Nepal, as well as on the Maoist conflict. His articles have been published in leading Nepal-based newspapers, such as *The Kathmandu Post*, *Nepali Times*, and *Himal Southasian*, as well as abroad in publications including *The Times of India*, *Asian Age*, and numerous others through Inter Press Service, for which he served as Nepal correspondent. He has also written for research publications such as *South Asia Intelligence Review* and served as a Nepal Analyst for the International Crisis Group in 2003–5. He was the News Editor of *The Kathmandu Post* newspaper in 2000–3. He was also a coeditor of “Asia Media Report 2006: The Crisis Within,” published by Inter Press Service as a review of the media trends and issues in the region. He was a Knight Journalism Fellow at Stanford University in 2005–6. Since late 2006, he has been working for the UN as a political officer in Nepal, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and New York.

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He completed one year of research and writing on Indian foreign policy and Chinese strategic access during his tenure as a Professional Development Award recipient in 2009 at the Canadian International Development Research Centre in Ottawa. Before going to Ottawa, Mr. Chaturvedy was engaged in a major research project at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), which was aimed at outlining the future of India's external policy from the point of view of India's national interest. He has worked on energy, nuclear, and proliferation issues with the Indian Pugwash Society and was part of the "Nuclear Cluster" at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. Mr. Chaturvedy has published extensively on India's foreign and security policy, India-China strategic access, energy security, nuclear issues, and hydro-diplomacy in various journals, magazines, and websites. He also writes regularly on Indian foreign policy and India's South Asian neighbors in leading Indian newspapers, including *The Hindu* and the *Business Standard*.

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Towards a Democratic Nepal: Inclusive Political Institutions for a Multicultural Society (2005); *Contentious Politics and Democratization in Nepal* (2007); *Federal State-Building in Nepal: Challenges in Framing the Nepali Constitution* (2009); *The Maoist Insurgency in Nepal: Revolution in the Twenty-First Century* (2010); *Ethnicity, Inequality and Politics in Nepal* (2010); and *Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict* (2011).

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Thanks to CIC and IDRC, the editors and the authors of this book's chapters were able to meet in New York in 2009, along with a number of other interested individuals to discuss our collective approach, having read and commented on each other's early contributions. The spirited, friendly, and highly involved discussion that unfolded on this occasion has done much to shape this volume's outlook. Since then, the editors have worked hard to challenge the authors to move well beyond their first drafts, in terms of both breadth and depth. We are very grateful to them all for the very significant commitment of time and effort they have made to the volume – and for their patience in enduring and responding to multiple comments in several rounds of drafts and redrafts.

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