This book is a collection of essays exploring various domains of the Nepali public sphere in which ideas about democracy and citizenship are debated and contested. The book investigates the ways in which the public meaning of the major political and sociocultural changes that occurred in Nepal since 1990 was constructed, conveyed and consumed. These changes took place against the backdrop of an enormous growth in literacy, the proliferation of print and broadcast media, the emergence of a public discourse on human rights, and the vigorous reassertion of linguistic, ethnic and regional identities. Meanwhile, the political space which was previously occupied by the monarch and associated elites filled with a new class of citizens who were educated and political, but not necessarily politicised in party terms. Scholars from a range of different disciplinary locations delve into debates on rumours, ethnicity and identity, activism and gender to provide empirically grounded histories of the nation during one of its most important political transitions.

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Political Change and Public Culture in Post-1990 Nepal

Edited by
Michael Hutt
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