Community, Numbers, and Politics in Nagaland

Ankush Agrawal
Vikas Kumar

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This volume offers interdisciplinary perspectives on the historical, cultural, and traditional traditions, rituals, and institutions of democratic politics and elections in Nagaland. It draws upon “institutional analyses” of democratic structures and governance by looking at the political, historical context in which modern democracy was introduced, how Naga themselves view democracy, the reasons they accept it and engage in polls, the stages or “stage practices” and rituals, and the pros and cons of electoral participation, which outcomes. It also examines how democracy is affected by and affects the environment of Nagaland. The Naga political context is unique in that it is a semi-autonomous region of India, yet also a part of a larger national political landscape. The contributors to this volume provide a range of perspectives on the issue of democracy in Nagaland, whether through historical analysis, ethnographic research, or theoretical examination.

Contributors:


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DEMOCRACY IN NAGALAND

EDITED BY JELLE J.P. WOUTERS & ZHOTO TUNYI

Democracy is commonly understood in the singular - a governing system that society has more or less taken for granted. In Nagaland, democracy testifies to the belief of inherent democracy, the traditions of political autonomy, and the recognition of local self-representative institutions. The Nagas have a long history of self-governance, from the traditional system of village councils to the more recent Nagaland Human Rights Organization (NHRO). The Nagas have been active participants in the Indian political process, and have played a significant role in the development of modern democracy in Nagaland.

The contributors to this volume provide a range of perspectives on the issue of democracy in Nagaland, whether through historical analysis, ethnographic research, or theoretical examination. The volume explores the complex relationship between tradition and modernity, and the challenges of adapting to the political landscape of Nagaland. It also examines the role of women in the political process, and the impact of globalization on traditional institutions.

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