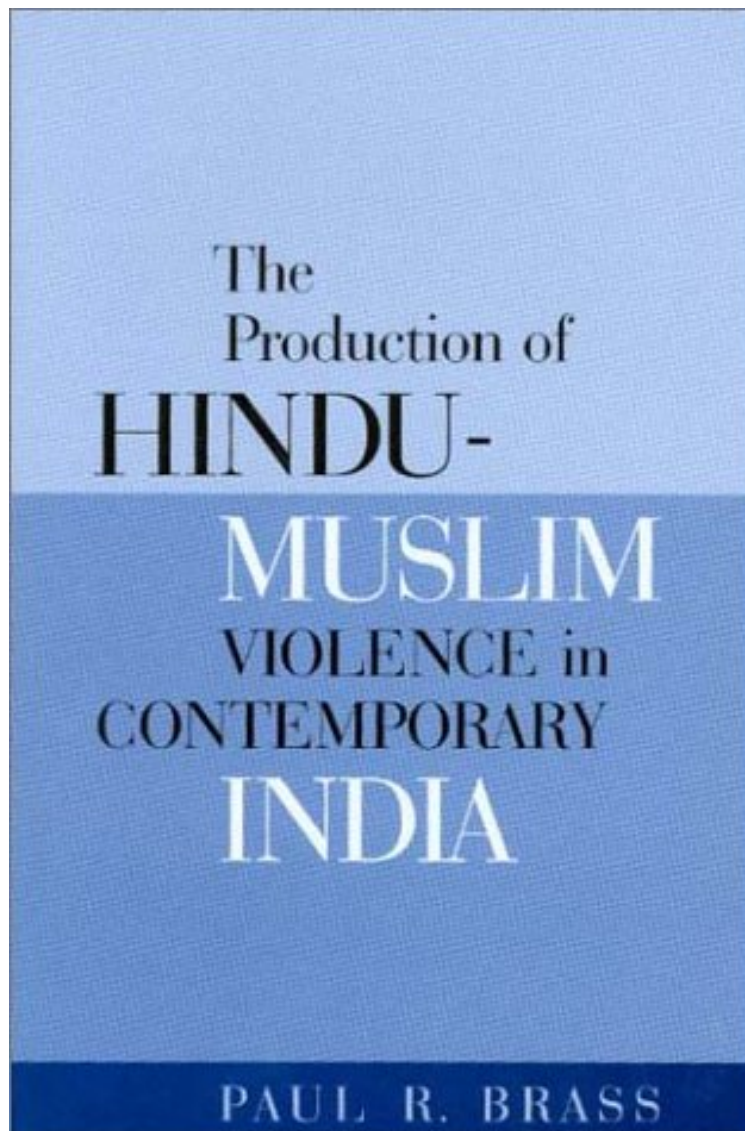


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Paul R. Brass

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Unbelievably SpecificBy EsotericWafflesAmazing, if dense, work describing the production of Hindu-Muslim violence. He shifts somewhat drastically from the rest of the foray in his field by changing the methodology of interpreting riots in India. This is to say that he views the causes of riots in India as a analytical quagmire and, instead, chooses to focus on how riots are produced rather than why. A very impressive work with an astounding amount of research. Congratulations.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent coverage of a complex subjectBy Anon AnonFascinating, well written, very clear, very well researched.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. great sociology booksBy Hanifthis book is a valuable asset for any sociologist and specifically people of inidan origin. Mr. Brass is a scholar par excellence and has shown is schlorship throughout his book. The conflicts between Hindus and muslims are very real and serves the purpose of vested intrests. I hope more people read this book and understand the politics of religion

Chronic Hindu-Muslim rioting in India has created a situation in which communal violence is both so normal and so varied in its manifestations that it would seem to defy effective analysis. Paul R. Brass, one of the world's preeminent experts on South Asia, has tracked more than half a century's riots in the north Indian city of Aligarh. This book is the culmination of a lifetime's thinking about the dynamics of institutionalized intergroup violence in northern India, covering the last three decades of British rule as well as the entire post-Independence history of Aligarh. Brass exposes the mechanisms by which endemic communal violence is deliberately provoked and sustained. He convincingly implicates the police, criminal elements, members of Aligarh's business community, and many of its leading political actors in the continuous effort to "produce" communal violence. Much like a theatrical production, specific roles are played, with phases for rehearsal, staging, and interpretation. In this way, riots become key historical markers in the struggle for political, economic, and social dominance of one community over another. In the course of demonstrating how riots have been produced in Aligarh, Brass offers a compelling argument for abandoning or refining a number of widely held views about the supposed causes of communal violence, not just in India but throughout the rest of the world. An important addition to the literature on Indian and South Asian politics, this book is also an invaluable contribution to our understanding of the interplay of nationalism, ethnicity, religion, and collective violence, wherever it occurs.

Paul R. Brass is the most distinguished political scientist working on Indian politics today..[This is] an outstanding work that marks a radical new departure in the study of riots in India and, probably, much more broadly. (Ethnic and Racial Studies) In this important book, Brass has collected a quite astounding amount of material on elections, caste politics, and the geography of riots and their morphology. The book contains a wealth of detailed observations about political parties, economic actors, and developments, as well as the geography of rioting, which makes it a landmark study of South Asian politics. (Contemporary Sociology) Brass is the leading South Asia political scientist in North America, and he brings to this work a maturity and a wealth of field experience unmatched by others. (N. Gerald Barrier, University of Missouri) About the Author Paul R. Brass is professor emeritus of political science at the University of Washington. He is the author of many books including "Theft of an Idol" and "Riots and Pogroms."