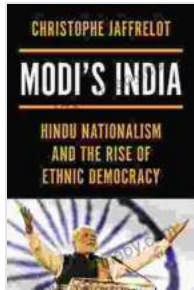# Hindu Nationalism: The Rise of Ethnic Democracy

Modi's India: Hindu Nationalism and the Rise of Ethnic Democracy by Christophe Jaffrelot

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 8506 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 647 pages
Screen Reader	: Supported

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Hindu nationalism is a form of ethnic nationalism that seeks to establish the dominance of the Hindu majority in India. It is a political ideology that has been growing in popularity in recent years, and has had a significant impact on Indian politics and society.

This book provides a comprehensive exploration of the rise of Hindu nationalism in India. It provides a historical and sociological analysis of the movement, and examines its impact on Indian politics and society. The book argues that Hindu nationalism is a form of ethnic democracy, in which the majority group seeks to establish its dominance over minority groups. This has led to increased tensions between Hindus and Muslims in India, and has also contributed to the rise of authoritarianism in the country.

Historical Roots of Hindu Nationalism

The roots of Hindu nationalism can be traced back to the 19th century, when the British colonial government began to implement policies that favored Hindus over Muslims. This led to the growth of Hindu communalism, which was a movement that sought to protect the interests of Hindus.

In the early 20th century, Hindu nationalism became more organized and militant. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS),a Hindu nationalist organization, was founded in 1925. The RSS played a major role in the Indian independence movement, and after independence it became the driving force behind the Hindu nationalist movement.

The Rise of the Bharatiya Janata Party

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is the main political party of the Hindu nationalist movement. The BJP was founded in 1980, and it has since become the largest political party in India. The BJP has been in power since 2014, and it has implemented a number of policies that have favored Hindus.

The BJP's rise to power has led to increased tensions between Hindus and Muslims in India. The BJP has been accused of promoting a divisive agenda, and of targeting Muslims for violence. This has led to a number of protests and riots, and has also contributed to the rise of authoritarianism in India.

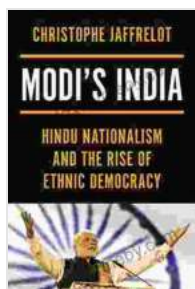## The Impact of Hindu Nationalism on Indian Society

Hindu nationalism has had a significant impact on Indian society. The movement has led to increased tensions between Hindus and Muslims,

and has also contributed to the rise of authoritarianism in the country.

The BJP's policies have favored Hindus and discriminated against Muslims. This has led to a rise in hate crimes against Muslims, and has also made it more difficult for Muslims to access education, employment, and housing.

The BJP's policies have also eroded democratic institutions in India. The government has cracked down on dissent, and has attacked the judiciary and the media. This has led to a decline in freedom of speech and expression, and has also made it more difficult for citizens to hold the government accountable.

Hindu nationalism is a major threat to democracy in India. The movement has led to increased tensions between Hindus and Muslims, and has also contributed to the rise of authoritarianism in the country. The BJP's policies have favored Hindus and discriminated against Muslims, and have also eroded democratic institutions in India. It is important to resist the growth of Hindu nationalism, and to promote a more inclusive and democratic society in India.

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