



A Concise History of India (Cambridge Concise Histories)

Barbara D. Metcalf, Thomas R. Metcalf

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In a challenging new history of modern India, the authors explore the imaginative and institutional structures that have changed and sustained the country. While previous histories have been composed as handmaids of British nationalism or as products of emerging nationalist identities, this book challenges the notion that a continuous meaning can be applied to social categories such as "caste," "Hindu," "Muslim," or even "India." An initial chapter focuses on the period of Muslim dynasties that preceded colonial conquest, while the final chapter analyzes the dramatic recent events of the 1990s, including economic change, religious nationalism and India's emergence as a nuclear power. Illustrations and quotations from historical sources are integral to the narrative. Thomas R. Metcalf is Professor of History, University of California, Berkeley. His previous books include *An Imperial Vision* (California, 1989) and *Ideologies of the Raj* (Cambridge, 1997). Barbara Metcalf is Professor of History at the University of California, Davis. She is the editor of *Making Muslim Space in North America* (University of California Press, 1996).

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