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# MODERN CENTRAL ASIA

**Ram Rahul**



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## PREFACE

I have written fairly extensively on Central Asia. This book especially deals with the major aspects of modern Central Asia. There is also the material on Bukhara and Tibet, which disappeared as separate states from the political map of Central Asia in the wake of the revolutions in Russia and China in 1917 and 1949 respectively.

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Central Asia is a many-splendoured region, being at the crossroads of great civilizations. It is also the home of several exotic civilizations. It is now completely Communist politically and Socialist culturally, Soviet or Han in form and national in content.

Professor Ram Rahul has written fairly extensively on Central Asia. This book especially deals with the major aspects of modern Central Asia like the Sino-Soviet struggle for Central Asia. The material on India's ties with Central Asia is specially interesting. The material on Bukhara and Tibet, which disappeared as separate states from the political map of Central Asia in the wake of the revolutions in Russia and China in 1917 and 1949 respectively, is also interesting.

Central Asia is the area of struggle for supremacy between China and the Soviet Union now. The struggle is not yet over. This book provides insights into such major problems of modern Central Asia.

## **THE HIMALAYA AS A FRONTIER**

**Ram Rahul**

This book is the first of its kind, dealing with the frontier countries of Tibet, Sikkim, Bhutan and Nepal. As such, it is concerned with the relations that these countries have maintained among themselves and with India and China. The work also takes due consideration of the role of the Bon, Buddhist and Hindu religions in the history and geopolitics of these countries.

## **POLITICS OF CENTRAL ASIA**

**Ram Rahul**

Written in a lucid style, the book provides historical insight into the subject. Among many other aspects of Central Asian politics Professor Ram Rahul shows clearly the part the lamas have played since the thirteenth century in Sino-Tibetan relations, stressing the fact that though today their dominance over Tibet is at an end, it in no way eclipses the fascinating story of their centuries-old dealing with the Chinese emperors.

## **TIBETAN FRONTIER FAMILIES**

**Barbara Nimri Aziz**

This is a chronicle of the people of D'ing-ri, a Tibetan people living in the valley north of Mount Everest. The first bold attempt to understand a contemporary mountain civilization, it describes, along with the personalities of these mountain people, their complex culture, their economy and trade networks, and their monastic leadership. Out of this emerges the rhythm of a civilization in continuum.

## **RELIGION AND POLITICS IN TIBET**

**Bina Roy Burman**

This book highlights the historical context of the emergence of theocracy in Tibet, and the changing relationship between religion and politics in Tibet after the Chinese occupation. The author shows how theocracy served the needs of the Chinese, simultaneously examining the attempts at the integration of Tibet with China proper—attempts which, at every stage, involved an encounter with old traditions, connections and institutions.

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