

# Politics of Central Asia

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Central Asia is one of the most fascinating areas of our world. The peoples of this area have made a profound contribution to the civilization of mankind. From Central Asia Buddhism travelled to China, Korea, and Japan. Again it was from Central Asia that science travelled to West Asia and thence to Europe.

Central Asia is again growing in importance. It occupies a unique place both in the present relations of China, India, and the USSR and in Asian and international relations.

This book, based on author's deep understanding of the history and politics of Central Asia and on his assessment of Central Asia as a factor in the relations between China and the Soviet Union, deals chiefly with those aspects which constitute an important part of the politics of Central Asia. It studies comprehensively the boundaries of China, the frontiers of India, and the marches of Russia which are of paramount importance in the present border conflicts in Central Asia.

The author examines the role of the high priests of Buddhism and Islam in the politics as well as diplomacy of Central Asia. He also discusses the lamas and mullahs which are still important agents of change in Central Asia.

The study concludes with a few observations on the future of Central Asia.