

NATION and MIGRATION

The Politics of Space in the South Asian Diaspora

Edited by Peter van der Veer

This volume explores the complex relationship between South Asian nationalism, migration, ethnicity and the construction of religious identity. Although nationality and diaspora seem to represent opposite ideas and values, van der Veer argues that nationalism is strengthened, even produced by migration. One of the most important answers to emerge from this book is that familiar Western categories are too rigid to contain the experience of the communities studied and that these categories will have to be rethought if we are to understand either the immigrants' construction of group identities or the political manipulation of those identities.

PETER VAN DER VEER is Professor of Comparative Religion and Director of the Centre for the Comparative Study of Religion and Society at the University of Amsterdam. He is the author of *Gods on Earth* and *Religious Nationalism* and co-editor of *Orientalism and the Postcolonial Predicament: Perspectives on South Asia* (University of Pennsylvania Press 1993) *A volume in the South Asia Seminar Series*. 6 pages, 7 illus., £31.50 hb, £14.95 pb

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All correspondence should be addressed to Dr Gordon Johnson, Wolfson College, Cambridge CB3 9BB, England.

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