



Encyclopedia of Modern Ethnic Conflicts

By Joseph R. Rudolph Jr.

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A century ago, Marxists predicted the social class would replace such primitive bases of political association as ethnicity and language. Yet at the beginning of a new millennium, ethnic identity remains integral to politics in the modern world. Ethnicity is a resilient and virulent political force, and its reach includes developing nations, totalitarian states, and peaceful democracies. Ethnic conflicts have occurred throughout the world. In Africa, conflicts involving the Hutu and the Tutsi have led to genocide. The Sinhalese-Tamil conflict has disrupted both Sri Lanka and India in Asia. The presence of foreign workers has created controversy in Germany and France, the Arab-Israeli crisis has been capturing the worlds' attention for years, and African Americans in the United States have been waging a civil rights battle since the 1860s.

This book focuses on 38 ethnic conflicts. Each surveyed conflict is presented with a timeline and an extensive essay that covers the conflict's details, historical background, management, and significance. Sources for further reading are also provided. This book is the perfect starting point for students and general readers seeking information about the complex and often violent forces that have changed and continue to change the world's political landscape.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 10 Up-Signed essays explore the history and issues that were the root causes of 38 major ethnic conflicts, the attempts to "manage" them, and the impact they have had on the politics of the region in question. An introductory chapter presents the criteria used for inclusion of the case studies. Organized alphabetically by country or geographic area, the entries include a time line of significant events in the region, followed by a general discussion of the area. The volume opens with five regional maps with legends that indicate the geographic location of each of the case studies. The volume is sparsely illustrated, with most of the essays including a small, black-and-white photograph. The typeface is large, giving the pages a clean and readable appearance. Students will find this volume to be a useful tool in understanding the history and causes behind some of the major events in today's world.

Linda Greengrass, Bank Street College Library, New York City

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From [Booklist](#)

The *Encyclopedia of Modern Ethnic Conflicts* consists of 38 articles focusing on specific ethnic conflicts around the world. The articles are substantial, covering the historical background of the conflict's characteristics, management, and significance and including a chronology, cross-references, and a bibliography. Examples include "Central Europe: The Romany, a Stateless Minority in a World of States"; "United Kingdom: Scotland and Scottish Nationalism"; and "Western Sahara: Ethnic Conflict and the Twentieth Century's Last Colonial War." Arrangement is alphabetical based on country or geographic area. An appendix lists the volume's contents by region, and an extensive index gives good access.

Averaging about 10 pages in length, the articles provide excellent, in-depth treatment of each conflict. The limited number of articles means that the coverage is highly selective, but the editor did a good job of choosing conflicts that are prominent in the news and likely to be of interest to library patrons. Selective detailed coverage combined with a global reach set this source apart from related reference tools. Other sources with a global scope, such as *Ethnic Relations: A Cross-Cultural Encyclopedia* (2d ed., ABC-CLIO, 1998), have shorter entries on a wider variety of topics. Sources such as *Racial and Ethnic Relations in America* (Salem, 2000) focus on particular geographic areas. Even for collections with other sources on ethnic conflicts, *Encyclopedia of Modern Ethnic Conflicts* will be a useful addition and is recommended for academic and public libraries. *RBB*

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Review

?If your high school students are following any of the varied cultural clashes around the world, this is an essential volume....We would classify this as both a first-level and second-level resource because the timelines provide background and the advanced information provides depth. Essential for the high school collection.?-Gale Resources Reference Reviews

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Patricia French:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray anyone, why because this Encyclopedia of Modern Ethnic Conflicts

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