



Mona Chettri

Ethnicity and Democracy in the Eastern Himalayan Borderland

Constructing Democracy

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Asian Borderlands

Asian Borderlands presents the latest research on borderlands in Asia as well as on the borderlands of Asia – the regions linking Asia with Africa, Europe and Oceania. Its approach is broad: it covers the entire range of the social sciences and humanities. The series explores the social, cultural, geographic, economic and historical dimensions of border-making by states, local communities and flows of goods, people and ideas. It considers territorial borderlands at various scales (national as well as supra- and sub-national) and in various forms (land borders, maritime borders), but also presents research on social borderlands resulting from border-making that may not be territorially fixed, for example linguistic or diasporic communities.

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For my grandparents, Baba and Ama

Figure 1 Map of Sikkim, Darjeeling and east Nepal



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List of Acronyms

ABGL	Akhil Bharatiya Gorkha League
AKRS	Akhil Kirat Rai Sangh
BGP	Bharatiya Gorkha Parishad
DGHC	Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council
GJM	Gorkha Janmukti Morcha
GNLF	Gorkha National Liberation Front
GTA	Gorkha Territorial Administration
ILO	International Labour Organisation
KYC	Kirat Yathung Chumlung
MBC	Most Backward Classes
MNO	Mongol National Organisation
NEFIN	Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities
OBC	Other Backward Classes
SC	Scheduled Castes
SDF	Sikkim Democratic Front
SSEC	State Socio-Economic Census
ST	Scheduled Tribes
VDC	Village Development Committee