ANTHROPOLOGY

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### Field Guide to the Patchy Anthropocene

**The New Nature**

Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing, Jennifer Deger, Alder Keleman Saxena, and Feifei Zhou

Field guides teach us how to notice, identify, name, and so better appreciate more-than-human worlds. They hone our powers of observation to see the world anew. **Field Guide to the Patchy Anthropocene** leads readers through a series of sites, observations, thought experiments, and genre-stretching descriptive practices to take stock of our current planetary crisis.

Foregrounding nonhumans as world-changing historical actors, this book looks to nurture a revitalized natural history to address the profound challenges of our times. This field guide shifts attention away from knowledge-extractive practices of globalization to encourage skilled observers of many stripes to pursue their commitments to place, social justice, and multispecies community. It is through attention to the beings, places, ecologies, and histories of the Anthropocene that we can reignite curiosity, wonder, and care for our damaged planet.

352 pages, May 2024
9781503637320 Cloth $30.00 $24.00 sale

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### My Brother, My Land

**A Story from Palestine**

Sami Hermez, with Sireen Sawalha

In 1967, Sireen Sawalha’s mother, with her young children, walked back to Palestine against the traffic of exile. This book is the story of Sireen’s family in the decades that followed and their lives in the Palestinian village of Kufr Ra’i. From Sireen’s early life growing up in the shadow of the ‘67 War, to the involvement of her brother in armed resistance in the First and Second Intifada, Hermez crafts a rich story of intertwining voices, mixing genres of oral history, memoir, and creative nonfiction. This book confronts readers with the politics and complexities of armed resistance and the ethical tensions and contradictions that arise, as well as with the dispossession and suffocation of people living under occupation and their ordinary lives in such times.

“A breathtaking display of literary prowess that tells the story of an entire homeland through the frame of one woman’s life.”

—Hala Alyan

304 pages, March 2024
9781503628397 Cloth $28.00 $22.40 sale

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Security capitalism can be recognized by the marks it leaves on society, remaking public space in its own image—privatized, fortified, unequal, straited, and access-controlled. Maguire and Low offer intimate portraits of the people behind security capitalism—who agree that a price must be paid in blood to maintain public safety—and critique phenomena like the transfer of public funds to arms dealers via the militarization of police, securitized housing developments, and inefffectual counterterrorism efforts.

Angela Davis has written of the challenge of persuading people that “safety, safeguarded by violence, is not really safety.” Maguire and Low aid us in thinking through the challenge, providing a common language to discuss security capitalism, and offering ways to escape its clutches.

“This engaging book does an excellent job of analyzing the dynamics of security capitalism and offering an agenda for addressing them.”

—Alex Vitale, author of The End of Policing

How to Live at the End of the World
Theory, Art, and Politics for the Anthropocene

Travis Holloway

Assessing the dawn of the Anthropocene era, a poet and philosopher asks: How do we live at the end of the world?

The irony of the Anthropocene era is that, in a neoliberal culture of the self, it is forcing us to consider ourselves as a collective again. How to Live at the End of the World is a hopeful exploration of how we might inherit the name “Anthropocene,” renarrate it, and revise our way of life or thought in view of it. In his book on time, art, and politics in an era of escalating climate change, Holloway takes up difficult, unanswered questions in recent work by Donna Haraway, Kathryn Yusoff, Bruno Latour, Dipesh Chakrabarty, and Isabelle Stengers, sketching a path toward a radical form of democracy—a zoocracy, or, a rule of all of the living.

“Beautifully written and of our time.”
—Peg Birmingham, editor of Philosophy Today

Trapped
Life under Security Capitalism and How to Escape It
Mark Maguire and Setha M. Low

Academic Outsider
Stories of Exclusion and Hope
Victoria Reyes

Tenure-track, published author, recipient of fellowships and awards—these credentials mark Victoria Reyes as somebody who has achieved the status of insider in the academy. Woman of color, family history of sexual violence, first generation, mother—these qualities place Reyes on the margins of the academy; a person who does not see herself reflected in its models of excellence.

This contradiction allows Reyes to theorize the conditional citizenship of academic life—a liminal status occupied by a rapidly growing proportion of the academy, as the majority white, male, and affluent space simultaneously transforms and resists transformation. Her searing commentary takes on, with sensitivity and fury, the urgent call for academic justice.

“A must-read book for fellow outsiders navigating the labyrinth of academic culture, and for any academic who aspires to challenge inequity. Essential.”

—M. F. Jones, Choice

How to Live at the End of the World
Theory, Art, and Politics for the Anthropocene

Travis Holloway

How to Live at the End of the World
138 pages, 2022
9781503633339 Paper $14.00 $11.20 sale
Over the last several decades, life in Lahore has undergone profound transformations, from rapid and uneven urbanization to expanding state institutions and informal economies. What do these transformations look like if viewed from the lens of waste? In Lahore, waste workers—whether municipal employees or informal laborers—are drawn from low- or noncaste (Dalit) groups and dispose the refuse of 11 million inhabitants. Bringing workers into contact with potentially polluting materials reinforces their marginalization, and yet, their work allows city life to go on. This historical and ethnographic account examines how waste work has been central to transforming the city of Lahore from the colonial period to the present. *Life Beyond Waste* maintains that processes reproducing life in a city like Lahore must be critically assessed along the lines of caste, class, and religion, which have been constitutive features of urbanization across South Asia.

**Circular Ecologies**  
*Environmentalism and Waste Politics in Urban China*  
Amy Zhang

Based on long-term research in Guangzhou, *Circular Ecologies* critically analyzes the implementation of technologies and infrastructures to modernize a mega-city’s waste management system, and the grassroots ecological politics that emerged in response. In Guangzhou, waste’s transformation revealed uncomfortable truths about China’s mode of environmental governance: a preference for technology over labor, the aestheticization of order, and the expropriation of value in service of an ecological vision.

Amy Zhang argues that in post-reform China, waste—the material vestige of decades of growth and increasing consumption—is a systemic irritant that troubles China’s technocratic governance. Waste provoked an unlikely political coalition of urban communities, from the middle class to precarious migrant workers, that came to constitute a nascent, bottom-up environmental politics, and offers a model for conceptualizing ecological action under authoritarian conditions.

**Struggling for Time**  
*Environmental Governance and Agrarian Resistance in Israel/Palestine*  
Natalia Gutkowski

This book examines how time is used as a mechanism of control by the Israeli state and a site of mundane resistance among Palestinian agriculture professionals. Gutkowski unpacks power structures to show how a settler society lays moral claim on indigenous time through agrarian environmental policies, science, technologies, landscapes, and bureaucracy. Traveling across both policymaking arenas and Palestinian citizens’ agrarian fields, Gutkowski follows the multiple ways that state officials, agronomists, planners, environmentalists, and agriculturalists use time as a tool of collective agency. Through investigations of wetland drainage in Galilee, transformations in olive agriculture, and sustainable agrarian development, this work highlights how Palestinian citizens’ agriculture has become a site for the state to settle and mediate time conflicts to justify its existence.

**Life Beyond Waste**  
*Work and Infrastructure in Urban Pakistan*  
Waqas H. Butt

Over the last several decades, life in Lahore has undergone profound transformations, from rapid and uneven urbanization to expanding state institutions and informal economies. What do these transformations look like if viewed from the lens of waste? In Lahore, waste workers—whether municipal employees or informal laborers—are drawn from low- or noncaste (Dalit) groups and dispose the refuse of 11 million inhabitants. Bringing workers into contact with potentially polluting materials reinforces their marginalization, and yet, their work allows city life to go on. This historical and ethnographic account examines how waste work has been central to transforming the city of Lahore from the colonial period to the present.
Mother Cow, Mother India
A Multispecies Politics of Dairy in India
Yamini Narayanan

India imposes stringent criminal penalties for cow slaughter, based on a Hindu ethic of revering the cow as sacred. And yet India is also among the world’s leading producers of beef, leather, and milk. Using ethnographic and empirical data gathered across India, this book reveals the harms caused to cows in industrial dairying, and the exploitation required of the diverse, racialized labor throughout India’s dairy production continuum to obscure such violence. Yamini Narayanan argues that the dominant Hindu framing of the cow as “mother” is one of human domination, wherein bovine motherhood is simultaneously capitalized for dairy production, and weaponized by right-wing Hindu nationalists to oppress Muslim and “low” caste Hindus. Ultimately, Narayanan traces how the unraveling of human-animal domination and exploitation is an integral component of liberal, progressive, democratic politics.

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
424 pages, 2023
9781503634374 Paper $35.00 $28.00 sale

Breathless
Tuberculosis, Inequality, and Care in Rural India
Andrew McDowell

Over one million people fall sick with tuberculosis (TB) in India each year, an infectious, airborne, and potentially deadly lung disease. Drawing on long-term ethnographic engagement with a village in North India and its TB epidemic, Andrew McDowell tells the stories of socially marginalized Dalit (“ex-untouchable”) farming families afflicted by TB, and the nurses, doctors, quacks, mediums, and mystics who care for them.

From this raft of stories about the ways people make sense of and struggle with troubled breath, McDowell develops a philosophy and phenomenology of breathing. He theorizes that breath—as an intersection between person and world—provides a unique perspective on public health and inequality. Through it all, Breathless traces the multivalent relations that breath engenders between people, environments, social worlds, and microbes.

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
264 pages, April 2024
9781503638778 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale

When Misfortune Becomes Injustice
Alicia Ely Yamin, Foreword by Sakiko Fukuda-Parr

This book surveys the progress and challenges in deploying human rights to advance health and social equality over recent decades. In this revised and expanded second edition, Yamin incorporates crucial lessons learned about the state of global health equity and public health systems during the COVID-19 pandemic, demonstrating just how incompatible the current institutionalized world order—based on neoliberal, financialized capitalism—is with one in which the rights of diverse people around the globe can be realized. COVID-19 struck a world that had been shaped by decades of disinvestment in public health, as well as gaping social inequalities within and between countries. Yamin argues that transformative human rights praxis in health calls for addressing issues of structural inequality and political economy, and working across disciplinary silos through networks and social movements.

STANFORD STUDIES IN HUMAN RIGHTS
326 pages, 2023
9781503635944 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale
Cemetery Citizens
Reclaiming the Past and Working for Justice in American Burial Grounds
Adam Rosenblatt

Across the United States, groups of grassroots volunteers gather in overgrown, institutionally neglected cemeteries. Drawing on interviews, activist anthropology, poems, and drawings, Adam Rosenblatt takes us to gravesite reclamation efforts in three prominent American cities. The cemeteries in this book are not only sites for preserving undervalued pasts; they are also urgent places of political struggle and radical imagination.

Cemetery Citizens dives into the ethical quandaries and practical complexities of cemetery reclamation, showing how volunteers build community across social boundaries, craft new ideas about citizenship and ancestry, and expose injustices that would otherwise be suppressed. Ultimately, Rosenblatt argues that an ethic of reclamation must honor the presence of the dead—treating them as fellow cemetery citizens who share our histories, landscapes, and need for care.

264 pages, April 2024
9781503639119 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale

Laboring for Justice
The Fight Against Wage Theft in an American City
Rebecca Berke Galemba

Drawing on a long-term community-engaged research project that received the 2022 Setha M. Low Engaged Anthropology Award, this book analyzes the widespread problem of wage theft and its disproportionate impact on low-wage immigrant workers. Rebecca Galemba focuses on the plight of day laborers in Denver, Colorado—a quintessential purple state that has swung between some of the harshest and more welcoming policies around immigrant and labor rights—to reveal how labor abuses like wage theft persist, and how advocates, attorneys, and workers struggle to redress and prevent those abuses using proactive policy, legal challenges, and direct action tactics.

Applying a public anthropology approach that integrates the experiences of community partners, students, policy makers, and activists in the production of research, this book uses the pressing issue of wage theft to offer a methodologically rigorous, community-engaged, and pedagogically innovative approach to the study of immigration, labor, inequality, and social justice.

328 pages, 2023
9781503635203 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale

The Ends of Paradise
Race, Extraction, and the Struggle for Black Life in Honduras
Christopher A. Loperena

The future of Honduras begins and ends on the white sand beaches of Tela Bay on the country’s northeastern coast where Garifuna, a Black Indigenous people, have resided for over two hundred years. In The Ends of Paradise, Christopher Loperena examines the Garifuna struggle for life and collective autonomy. Using a combination of participant observation, courtroom ethnography, and archival research, Loperena reveals how purportedly inclusive tourism projects form part of a larger neoliberal, extractivist development regime, which remakes Black and Indigenous territories into frontiers of progress for the mestizo majority.

Steeped in Loperena’s long-term activist engagement with Garifuna land defenders, this book is a testament to their struggle and to the promise of “another world” in which Black and Indigenous peoples thrive.

“A brilliant look at the contemporary dilemmas facing Black and Indigenous peoples.”
—Shannon Speed, University of California, Los Angeles

232 pages, 2022
9781503634008 Paper $26.00 $20.80 sale
Raising Two Fists
Struggles for Black Citizenship in Multicultural Colombia
Roosbelinda Cárdenas

Raising Two Fists is a historically grounded ethnography of Afro-Colombian political mobilization. Roosbelinda Cárdenas explores three major strategies that Afro-Colombians’ developed in their struggles against racialized dispossession—the defense of culturally specific livelihoods through the creation of Black Territories; the demand for differential reparations for Afro-Colombian war victims; and the fight for inclusion in Colombia’s peace negotiations and post-conflict rebuilding.

Cárdenas shows that while Afro-Colombians pursue rights-based claims, they also forge African Diasporic solidarities and protect the flourishing of their lives outside the frame of rights, and with or without the state’s sanction—a “two-fisted” strategy for Black citizenship.

“Black peace is truly about a life without fear. In this book, Roosbelinda Cárdenas gets at the center of it.”
—Francia Márquez, Vice-President of Colombia

278 pages, February 2024
9781503635807 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

Reworking Citizenship
Race, Gender, and Kinship in South Africa
Brady G’Sell

Across the world, anxieties abound that wage labor regimes and state-citizen covenants are eroding. What obligations do states have to support their citizens? What meaning does citizenship itself hold? This book unpacks the broiling discontent around political belonging in South Africa through long-term fieldwork with impoverished black African, Indian, and coloured (mixed race) women living in the Point, a dense urban neighborhood that has historically functioned as an epicenter for welfare intervention. Moving chronologically and thematically, Brady G’Sell highlights how they strive to rework political institutions that effectively exclude them, and reveals the interrelationship between seemingly disconnected domains: citizenship, kinship, and political economy. Blending intimate ethnography with rich historical analysis, G’Sell argues that women’s kinship-based labor is central to ensuring the survival of modern states and imbues their citizenship with essential content, and through the notion of relational citizenship offers new imaginaries of political belonging.

288 pages, June 2024
9781503639171 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

Political Children
Violence, Labor, and Rights in Peru
Mikaela Luttrell-Rowland

Grounded in extensive interviews, longitudinal ethnography, historical analysis, and archival work, Mikaela Luttrell-Rowland shows how two distinct groups of working young people in Lima, Peru, have become political protagonists, resisting and critiquing the daily inequality and injustice they face. She details the ways marginalized youth interpret and address a range of issues affecting their lives—from environmental degradation to second-rate public facilities, gender-based violence to dangerous working conditions—and reveals a range of ways they make sense of their systematic marginalization and their own labor, and in doing so, how they navigate everyday state violence. These “political children” expose the contradictions of public policy narratives in which the Peruvian state is cast as a neutral site for engagement and action. Through their criticism and activism, the young people demonstrate that such narratives divorce state power from the very places in which it is experienced as structural violence.

266 pages, 2023
9781503634022 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale
Involuntary Consent
The Illusion of Choice in Japan’s
Adult Video Industry
Akiko Takeyama

The popularity of pornography is
predicated on the idea that partici-
pants have given consent. Looking
at behind-the-scenes negotiations
and abuses in Japan’s massive $5
billion a year adult video industry,
Akiko Takeyama challenges this
notion with the idea of “involuntary
consent.” This phenomenon, she
argues, is ubiquitous, not only in the
porn industry, but in our everyday
lives, and yet modern society, built
on beliefs of free choice, renders it
all but invisible.

Takeyama argues that contract-
making writ large is based on
fundamentally dualistic terms,
implying consent and pleasure on
the one hand, and coercion and pain
on the other. Taking consent as her
starting point, Takeyama illustrates
the nuances of Japan’s pornographic
and sex work industries and the
legal structures, or lack thereof,
that govern them.

252 pages, 2023
9781503633780 Paper $26.00  $20.80 sale

Aid and the Help
International Development and the
Transnational Extraction of Care
Dinah Hannaford

Hiring domestic workers is a
routine part of the expat develop-
ment lifestyle. Whether working for
the United Nations, governmental
aid agencies, or NGOs such as
Oxfam, Save the Children, or World
Vision, expatriate aid workers
in the developing world employ
maids, nannies, security guards,
gardeners and chauffeurs. Though
nearly every expat aid worker in the
developing world has local people
working within the intimate sphere
of their homes, these relationships
are seldom, if ever, discussed
in analyses of the development
paradigm and its praxis. Aid and the
Help addresses this major lacuna
through an ethnographic analysis
of the intersection of development
work and domestic work. Examining
the reproductive labor cheaply
purchased by aid workers posted
overseas opens the opportunity
to assess the multiple ways that
the ostensibly “giving” industry of
development can be an extractive
industry as well.

GLOBALIZATION IN EVERYDAY LIFE
228 pages, 2023
9781503635500 Paper $28.00  $22.40 sale

Conflicted
Making News from Global War
Isaac Blacksin

How is popular knowledge war of
shaped by the stories we consume,
what are the boundaries of this
knowledge, and how are these
boundaries policed or contested by
journalists producing knowledge
from warzones? Based on years of
fieldwork in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon,
Afghanistan, and Ukraine, with jour-
nalists from the New York Times,
the Washington Post, the Wall
Street Journal, and other prominent
publications, Isaac Blacksin shows
why news coverage of contemporary
conflict, widely presumed to
function as a critique of excessive
violence, instead serves to sanction
official rationales for war.

Blacksin argues that journalism’s
humanitarian frame—now hege-
monic in conflict coverage—serves
to de-politicize and re-moralize war,
transforming war from the effects
of policy on populations to the effects
of violence on the innocent. As new
wars, and new reportage, continue
to shape our understanding of
armed conflict, this book makes
visible both the power and the
particularity of war reportage.

312 pages, July 2024
9781503639447 Paper $30.00  $24.00 sale
Right Refused
Grassroots Activism and State Violence in Myanmar
Elliott Prasse-Freeman

The outside world has mostly known Myanmar as the site of a valiant human rights struggle against an oppressive military regime. And yet, a closer look at Burmese grassroots sentiments reveals a significant schism between elite human rights cosmopolitans and subaltern Burmese subjects maneuvering under brutal governance who often go so far as to refuse rights, seeing in them no more than empty promises.

Taking the reader from protest camps, to flop houses, to prisons, and presenting practices as varied as courtroom immolation, occult cursing ceremonies, and land reoccupations, Rights Refused shows how Burmese subaltern politics compel us to reconsider how rights frameworks operate everywhere.

“A combination analytical breadth, sparkling playfulness, ethnographic granularity, and deep sympathy for the heroic resistance of the Burmese democratic movement.”
—James C. Scott, Yale University

South Asian Studies
366 pages, 2023
9781503636672 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale

Past Progress
Time and Politics at the Borders of China, Russia, and Korea
Ed Pulford

While anxiety abounds in the old Cold War West that progress – whether political or economic – has been reversed, for citizens of former-socialist countries, murky temporal trajectories are nothing new. Grounded in the multiethnic frontier town of Hunchun at the triple border of China, Russia, and North Korea, Ed Pulford traces how several of global history’s most ambitiously totalizing progressive endeavors have ended in cataclysmic collapse here. From the Japanese empire which banished Qing, Tsarist, and Choson dynastic histories from the region, through Chinese, Soviet, and Korean socialisms, these borderlands have seen projections and disintegrations of forward-oriented ideas accumulate on a grand scale.

Taking an archaeological approach to notions of historical progress, the book’s three parts follow an innovative structure moving backwards through linear time. Examining a borderland across linguistic, cultural, and historical lenses, Past Progress is a simultaneously local and transregional analysis of time, borders, and the state before, during, and since socialism.

South Asia in Motion
296 pages, June 2024
9781503639362 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale

Fragile Hope
Seeking Justice for Hate Crimes in India
Sandhya Fuchs

In India, discriminatory violence has become particularly urgent. Since 2015, the country has seen a dramatic rise in violence against ex-untouchable groups (Dalits) and other minorities. Consequently, an emerging “Dalit Lives Matter” movement has campaigned for effective implementation of India’s only hate crime law: the 1989 Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Prevention of Atrocities Act.

Drawing on long-term fieldwork with Dalit survivors, human rights NGOs, police, and judiciary, Sandhya Fuchs unveils how Dalit communities interpret, mobilize, and reframe the Atrocities Act in their quest for justice. Going beyond statistics and abstract judicial arguments, Fuchs uses the intimate lens of personal narrative to lay bare the unseen ways legal systems converge and conflict with political and gendered concerns about justice for hate crime, and create new controversies, inequalities, and hope.

South Asia in Motion
296 pages, June 2024
9781503639362 Paper $32.00 $25.60 sale
Perpetrators
Encountering Humanity’s Dark Side
Antonius C.G.M. Robben and Alexander Laban Hinton

Perpetrators of mass violence are commonly regarded as evil, and their violent nature is believed to make them commit heinous crimes. Upon close examination, however, perpetrators are contradictory human beings who often lead unset- tlingly ordinary and uneventful lives. Through interlinked ethnographic essays, methodological and theo- retical reflections, and dialogues between the two authors, this thought-provoking book conveys practical wisdom for the benefit of other researchers who face ruthless perpetrators and experience turbulent emotions when listening to perpetrators and their victims.

Drawing on decades of on-the-ground research with perpetrators of genocide, mass violence, and enforced disappearances in Cambodia and Argentina, Antonius Robben and Alexander Hinton use their expertise to provide insightful lessons on the epistemological, ethical, and emotional challenges of ethnographic fieldwork in the wake of atrocity.

STANFORD STUDIES IN HUMAN RIGHTS
274 pages, 2023
9781503634275 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale

Resistance as Negotiation
Making States and Tribes in the Margins of Modern India
Uday Chandra

“Tribes” appear worldwide today as vestiges of a pre-modern past at odds with the workings of modern states. Tribal resistance and rebellion are held to be tragic yet heroic political acts by “subaltern” groups confronting omnipotent states. By contrast, this book draws on fifteen years of archival and ethnographic research to argue that statemaking is intertwined inextricably with the politics of tribal resistance in the margins of modern India.

Uday Chandra demonstrates how the modern Indian state and its tribal or adivasi subjects have made and remade each other throughout the colonial and postcolonial eras, historical processes of modern statemaking shaping and being shaped by myriad forms of resistance by tribal subjects. Accordingly, tribal resistance is better understood vis-à-vis negotiations with the modern state, rather than its negation. Ultimately, the empirical material unearthed in this book requires rethinking and rewriting the political history of modern India from its “tribal” margins.

SOUTH ASIA IN MOTION
304 pages, June 2024
9781503638112 Cloth $70.00 $56.00 sale

Dictatorship on Trial
Coup and the Future of Justice in Thailand
Tyrell Haberkorn

In 2014, after a decade of political turmoil, the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) carried out Thailand’s 13th coup since the country’s transformation from absolute to constitutional monarchy in 1932. Though the NCPO promised to restore the rule of law, justice—long tenuous in Thailand—disappeared entirely.

Organized chronologically across the five years of the NCPO regime, each chapter of Dictatorship on Trial takes up a different political case and enumerates the ways in which political activists were made vulnerable rather than protected by the state’s interpretations of the law. Inspired by feminist legal scholars, the substantive analysis in each chapter is followed by new, rewritten judgments created in collaboration with Thai human rights activists. In plotting these alternative logics, interpretations of evidence, and conclusions, Tyrell Haberkorn outlines what true justice might look like, and assesses the legal and political transforma- tions necessary to realize it.

248 pages, August 2024
9781503639409 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale
Feel the Grass Grow
Ecologies of Slow Peace in Colombia
Angela Jill Lederach

On November 24, 2016, the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia signed a revised peace accord that marked a political end to over a half-century of war. This book traces the far less visible aspects of moving from war to peace: the decades of campesino struggle to defend life, land, and territory prior to the national accord, as well as their engagement with the challenges of the state's post-accord reconstruction efforts. Drawing on nearly a decade of extensive ethnographic and participatory research, Angela Jill Lederach advances a theory of “slow peace.” Lederach shows how the campesino call to “slowness” redirection grassroots practices of peace that gives primacy to the everyday, where relationships are deepened, ancestral memories reclaimed, and ecologies regenerated.

“This beautifully written book is a powerful example of what collaborative ethnography can be.”
—Joanne Rappaport, Georgetown University

300 pages, 2023
9781503635685 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

A Blessing and a Curse
Oil, Politics, and Morality in Bolivarian Venezuela
Matt Wilde

A Blessing and a Curse examines the lived experience of political change, moral uncertainty, and economic crisis amid Venezuela’s controversial Bolivarian Revolution. Matt Wilde argues that this period was intimately shaped by a critical contradiction: that in their efforts to capture a larger portion of oil money and distribute it more widely among the population, the governments of Hugo Chávez and Nicolás Maduro pursued policies that ultimately entrenched Venezuela in the very position of dependency they sought to overcome. Offering a new synthesis between anthropological work on energy, politics, and morality, the book brings a vital perspective to debates about energy transitions by proposing a new way of thinking about the political and moral economies of natural resources in postcolonial settings.

“This is the book on Venezuela that we have been waiting for. A highly readable and eminently teachable text.”
—Robert Samet, Union College

236 pages, 2023
9781503637078 Paper $30.00 $24.00 sale

Crossing the Current
Aftermaths of War along the Huallaga River
Richard Kernaghan

In contemporary accounts of the Shining Path insurgency and Peru’s internal war, the Upper Huallaga Valley has largely been overlooked—despite its former place as the country’s main cocaine-producing region. How have ordinary encounters with land, territory, and law, and with the Huallaga River that runs through them all, been altered in the aftermaths of war? Gathering stories of transportation workers who have ferried passengers and things across and along the river for decades, Richard Kernaghan elaborates a notion of legal topographies to understand how landscape interventions shape routes, craft territories, and muddle temporalities. This ethnography conveys how prior times of violence have silently accrued: in bridges and roads demolished, then rebuilt; in makeshift moorings that facilitate both licit and illegal trades; and above all through the river, a liquid barrier and current with unstable banks, whose intricate mesh of tributaries partitions terrains now laden with material traces and political effects of a recent yet far from finished past.

352 pages, 2022
9781503633407 Paper $28.00 $22.40 sale
Jobless Growth in the Dominican Republic
Disorganization, Precarity, and Livelihoods
Christian Krohn-Hansen

The Dominican Republic has posted impressive economic growth rates over the past thirty years. Despite this, the generation of new, good jobs has been remarkably weak. How have ordinary and poor Dominicans worked and lived in the shadow of the country’s conspicuous growth rates? This book considers this question through an ethnographic exploration of the popular economy in the Dominican capital, Santo Domingo. Focusing on the city’s precarious small businesses, including furniture manufacturers, food stalls, streetcorner stores, and savings and credit cooperatives, Krohn-Hansen shows how people make a living, tackle market shifts, and the factors that characterize their relationship to the state and pervasive corruption.

Elastic Empire
Refashioning War through Aid in Palestine
Lisa Bhungalia

This book traces how foreign aid, on which much of the Palestinian population is dependent, has multiplied the sites and means through which Palestinian life is regulated, surveilled, and policed—this book tells the story of how aid has also become war. The US war chronicled here is not one of tanks, grenades, and guns, but a quieter one waged through the interlacing of aid and law. It emerges in the infrastructures of daily life and indelibly transfigures lives. Situated in a landscape where the lines between humanitarianism and the global war on terror are increasingly blurred, Elastic Empire reveals the shape-shifting nature of contemporary imperial formations, their realignments and reformulations, their haunted sites, and their obscured but intimate forms.

“Essential reading for anyone interested in the intimacies of US empire and the topological tentacles of counterterrorism law.”
—Alison Mountz, Wilfrid Laurier University

Afterlives of Revolution
Everyday Counterhistories in Southern Oman
Alice Wilson

This book considers the “social afterlives” of revolutionary values and networks in Oman where veteran militants have used kinship and daily socializing to reproduce networks of social egalitarianism and commemorate the revolution in unofficial ways. These afterlives highlight lasting engagement with revolutionary values, the agency of former militants in postwar modernization, and the limitations of government patronage for eliciting conformity. Recognizing that those typically depicted as coopted can still reproduce counterhegemonic values, this book considers a condition all too common across South- west Asia and North Africa: the experience of defeated revolutionaries living under the authoritarian state they once contested.

“Advances a brilliant critique of reductionist perceptions that often define revolutions merely with references to their success or failure. Ethnographically rich and theoretically sophisticated.”
—Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi, Princeton University
Practicing Sectarianism
Archival and Ethnographic Interventions on Lebanon
Edited by Lara Deeb, Tsolin Nalbantian, and Nadya Sbaiti

This book explores the imaginative and contradictory ways that people live sectarianism, and reveals the many ways sectarianism is used to exhibit, imagine, or contest power. Essays analyze how people experience sectarianism, sometimes pushing back, sometimes evading it, sometimes deploying it strategically, to a variety of effects and consequences. The collection advances an understanding of sectarianism simultaneously constructed and experienced. Even as the book's focus is Lebanon, its analysis fractures the association of sectarianism with the nation-state and suggests possibilities that can travel to other sites. Practicing Sectarianism argues that sectarianism can only be fully understood—and dismantled—if we first take it seriously as a practice.

“Provocative, incisive, grounded in lived realities, the book delivers a powerful antidote to those who see Lebanon simplistically through the lens of religion. A necessary read.”
—Suad Joseph, University of California, Davis

Monuments Decolonized
Algeria’s French Colonial Heritage
Susan Slyomovics

“Statuomania” overtook Algeria beginning in the nineteenth century as the French affinity for monuments placed thousands of war memorials across the French colony. Following Algeria’s hard-fought independence in 1962, these monuments took on different meaning. This book follows the afterlives of French-built war memorials in Algeria and those taken to France. Drawing on extensive fieldwork in both countries and interviews with French and Algerian heritage actors and artists, Slyomovics analyzes the colonial nostalgia, dissonant heritage, and ongoing decolonization and iconoclasm of these works of art. Monuments emerge here as objects with a soul, offering visual records of the colonized Algerian native, the European settler colonizer, and the contemporary efforts to engage with a dark colonial past. Richly illustrated with more than 100 color images, Monuments Decolonized offers a fresh aesthetic take on the increasingly global move to fell monuments that celebrate settler colonial histories.

WORLDING THE MIDDLE EAST
369 pages, July 2024
9781503639485 Paper $35.00 $28.00 sale

The Alternative University
Lessons from Bolivarian Venezuela
Mariya P. Ivancheva

Over the last few decades, the decline of the public university has dramatically increased under intensified commercialization and privatization, with waves of public unrest in both developed and developing countries advocating for reforms to higher education. Yet even the most visible campaigns have rarely put forward any proposals for an alternative institutional organization. Based on extensive fieldwork in Venezuela, The Alternative University outlines the origins and day-to-day functioning of the colossal effort of late President Hugo Chávez’s government to create a university that challenged national and global higher education norms.

Through participant observation, extensive interviews with policymakers, senior managers, academics, and students, as well as in-depth archival work, Mariya Ivancheva examines the complex and often contradictory and quixotic visions, policies, and practices that turn the alternative university model into a lived reality, and outlines lessons for policymakers and educators who aspire to develop higher education alternatives.

ANTHROPOLOGY OF POLICY
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258 pages, 2022
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Antinuclear Citizens
Sustainability Policy and Grassroots Activism in Post-Fukushima Japan
Akihiro Ogawa

Following the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011, tsunamis engulfed the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, leading to the worst nuclear disaster the world has seen since the Chernobyl crisis of 1986. Prior to this disaster, Japan had the third largest commercial nuclear program in the world, surpassed only by those in the United States and France. This long period of institutional stasis was, however, punctuated by the crisis of March 11, which became a critical juncture for Japanese nuclear policymaking. As Akihiro Ogawa argues, the primary agent for this change is what he calls “antinuclear citizens”—a conscientious Japanese public who envision a sustainable life in a nuclear-free society. Drawing on over a decade of ethnographic research conducted across Japan, Ogawa presents an historical record of ordinary people’s actions as they sought to survive and navigate a new reality post-Fukushima.

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Global Ayahuasca
Wondrous Visions and Modern Worlds
Alex K. Gearin

Ceremonies of drinking the psychoactive brew ayahuasca have flourished across the planet in recent decades. Astonished and allured by descriptions of ayahuasca experiences, researchers in psychology, anthropology, and philosophy have attempted to define the shared properties of the visions. In this book, Alex Gearin challenges the simplified obsession with universal or primordial truth that has pervaded inquiries into ayahuasca experiences, and explores the practices of contemporary ayahuasca drinkers to reveal how the brew has conjured contradictory visions across the globe.

Based upon ethnographic research among Shipibo healers in remote Peru, alternative medicine groups in urban Australia, and enterprising individuals in mainland China, Global Ayahuasca examines how the wondrous visions of ayahuasca are entangled within the social and economic realities that they illuminate, revealing tensions, fears, and hopes of everyday life.

Seductive Spirits
Deliverance, Demons, and Sexual Worldmaking in Ghanaian Pentecostalism
Nathanael J. Homewood

Pentecostalism, Africa’s fastest growing form of Christianity, has long been preoccupied with the business of banishing demons from human bodies. And nowhere is Ghanaian Pentecostal obsession with demons more pronounced than with sexual demons. In this book, Nathanael Homewood examines the frequent and varied experiences of spirit possession and sex with demons that constitute a vital part of Pentecostal deliverance ministries, offering insight into these practices assembled from long-term ethnographic engagement with four churches in Accra, the capital of Ghana.

Demons are a knowledge regime, one that shapes how Pentecostals think about, engage with, and construct the cosmos. Ultimately, Homewood argues for a distinction between colonial demonization and decolonial demons, which chart another path to understanding being, the body, and sexualities.

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ANTHROPOLOGY OF POLICY
ANTHROPOLOGY OF RELIGION
Subcontractors of Guilt
Holocaust Memory and Muslim Belonging in Postwar Germany
Esra Özyürek

At the turn of the millennium, Middle Eastern and Muslim Germans had unexpectedly become central to the country’s Holocaust memory culture—not as welcome participants, but as obstacles to German national reconciliation with its Nazi past, and as targets for re-education and reform, so that they, too, can learn the lessons of the Holocaust and embrace Germany’s most important postwar democratic political values.

Based on ethnographic research conducted over a decade, Subcontractors of Guilt explores when, how, and why Muslim Germans have moved to the center of Holocaust memory discussions. Esra Özyürek argues that German society “subcontracts” guilt of the Holocaust to new minority immigrant arrivals, with the false promise of this process leading to inclusion into the German social contract and equality with other members of postwar German society, to explore the paradoxes of postwar German national identity.

Sufi Civilities
Religious Authority and Political Change in Afghanistan
Annika Schmeding

Afghanistan has a complex and varied religious landscape where a broad spectrum of religious belief vie for a place in society. This book, based on long-term ethnographic field research among multiple Sufi communities, examines navigational strategies employed by Sufi leaders to weather periods of instability and persecution over the past four decades. Schmeding shows how they have adapted in novel ways to changing conditions to craft Sufism as a force in the civil sphere. This book offers a rare on-the-ground view into how Sufi leaders react to moments of transition within a highly insecure environment, and how humanity shines through the darkness during times of turmoil.

“There through astute anthropological observation, Schmeding shows how Sufis became important players in the contests for religious authority that emerged from the cultural whirligig of a NATO-supported Islamic Republic. A major contribution.”

—Nile Green, University of California, Los Angeles

Unholy Catholic Ireland
Religious Hypocrisy, Secular Morality, and Irish Irreligion
Hugh Turpin

There are few instances of a contemporary Western European society more firmly welded to religion than Ireland is to Catholicism. For much of the twentieth century, to be considered a good Irish citizen was to be seen as a good and observant Catholic. Today, the opposite may increasingly be the case. The Irish Catholic Church, once a spiritual institution beyond question, is not only losing influence and relevance; in the eyes of many, it has become something utterly desacralized. In this book, Hugh Turpin offers an innovative and in-depth account of the nature and emergence of “ex-Catholicism”—a new model of the good, and secular, Irish person that is being rapidly adopted in Irish society. Turpin examines how numerous factors have interacted to produce a rapid growth in ex-Catholicism. He shows how deeply the meanings of being religious or non-religious have changed in the country once described as “Holy Catholic Ireland.”