## **Contents**

List of Figures	viii
List of Abbreviations	ix
Preface	xi
Introduction: Pastness and Politics	1
Saffron Imagining of the Local:	
A Communal Map of an Indian Village	41
* · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Local Cultures and Communal Politics	58
Making of a Warring Hero:	
	80
Creating Popular Politics:	
Caste Histories and BJP's Electoral Discourse	101
Legend War: Mapping the	
Political Mobilisation of the Nishads	116
The Politics of Cultural Resources:	
The Mushahars of North India	137
Saffronisation of a Dalit Hero:	
The Story of Salhes of North Bihar	158
The Path Traversed and the Way Ahead	175
Bibliography	184
Index	190
About the Author	195
	Introduction: Pastness and Politics Saffron Imagining of the Local: A Communal Map of an Indian Village Exploring Dalit Militia: Local Cultures and Communal Politics Making of a Warring Hero: Hindutva Politics of Memory and Forgetting Creating Popular Politics: Caste Histories and BJP's Electoral Discourse Legend War: Mapping the Political Mobilisation of the Nishads The Politics of Cultural Resources: The Mushahars of North India Saffronisation of a Dalit Hero: The Story of Salhes of North Bihar The Path Traversed and the Way Ahead  Bibliography Index