

CONTENTS

<i>List of Figures</i>	xii
<i>List of Tables</i>	xiv
<i>Foreword by Aurel Croissant</i>	xviii
<i>Preface</i>	xxvi
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xxviii
<i>List of Contributors</i>	xxx
PART I	
Introduction	1
1 Elections, Parties and Democratic Deepening in Transitional Societies: India's Parliamentary Elections of 2019 and Their Aftermath <i>Subrata K. Mitra, Rekha Saxena, and Pampa Mukherjee</i>	3
2 Party Competition, the Electoral Process and Political Transaction: The Deepening of Democracy in India <i>Subrata K. Mitra</i>	18
PART II	
Elections and Parties in India: A Macro-Political View	45
3 The Party System in India: Ideological Spectrum and Structure of Competition <i>Mahendra Prasad Singh</i>	47

x Contents

4	Critical Realignment and Democratic Deepening: The Parliamentary Elections of 2014 and 2019 in India <i>Subrata K. Mitra, Jivanta Schöttli, and Markus Pauli</i>	61
5	The 17th Lok Sabha Elections and the Dismal Performance of the Indian National Congress: In 'Recuperating' Hibernation or Terminal Decline? <i>Rekha Saxena</i>	87
6	Party Politics in India since the 2014 General Elections: BJP Dominance and the Making of the Fourth Party System <i>Arjan H. Schakel, Chanchal Kumar Sharma, and Wilfried Swenden</i>	112
PART III		
View from India's Regions		139
7	The Decline of the Left in West Bengal: A Strange Identity Turn, and Bengali Exceptionalism <i>Harihar Bhattacharyya</i>	141
8	Leadership, Welfare, and Fluctuating Electoral Fortunes: A Diachronic Analysis of Two Elections in Delhi, 2019 and 2020 <i>Biswajit Mohanty and Babita Verma</i>	163
9	The Electoral Politics and Regional Dynamics of a Hill State: The Lok Sabha Elections of 2019 in Uttarakhand in Retrospect <i>Pampa Mukherjee</i>	182
10	The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) and the 2019 Elections in Odisha: Towards a Political Alternative <i>Subhendu Ranjan Raj</i>	210
PART IV		
The Electoral Process and Indian Society		235
11	An Appraisal of Women's Rights Discourse in the Election Manifestoes of the Bharatiya Janata Party <i>Alisha Dhingra and Nishant Yadav</i>	237
12	Does the Muslim Vote Matter? The Parliamentary Elections of 2019 and its Aftermath <i>Hilal Ahmed</i>	255

13	Continuity and Change in Electoral Campaigns, Media and Competing Issues: Parliamentary Elections of 2014 and 2019 <i>Siddhartha Mukerji</i>	277
14	The BJP's Electioneering Strategy and Use of Social Media in 2019: Creating a New Public? <i>Manisha Madhava</i>	298
PART V		
	Epilogue	317
15	Beyond the Parliamentary Elections of 2019: India's Middle Democracy Trap <i>Subrata K. Mitra</i>	319
	<i>Index</i>	337