



## Animal Kingdoms: Hunting, the Environment, and Power in the Indian Princely States

By Julie E. Hughes

Permanent Black, New Delhi, India, 2013. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. First Indian Edition. This book is about the hunting of tigers and leopards, wild boar and game birds, by Indian princes a hundred years ago. Focusing on Rajput princely states in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, it reveals a world of royal huntsmen differing in rank and prestige, ambition and personality, culture and politics. Their hunting practices, involving large and small game striped, horned, and feathered in environments ranging from desert to jungle, are described in detail. Weaponry and guns, costumes and trophies, shooting towers and photography, are among the book's many other fascinating subjects. These Indian princes operated within contexts shaped by local claims and hierarchies, regional rivalries and alliances, and British imperial interests. They were influenced by ties to ancestral territory, nostalgia for bygone days, the rise of conservationism, and the martial associations of hunting and sportsmanship. Informed by the analytical approaches of environmental historians, animal geographers, art historians, and ecological anthropologists, this book demonstrates that no strict divisions existed between human and animal realms in princely India. Sovereigns, wild animals, and environments were interactive participants in the construction of territory, identity, and history. Julie E....



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