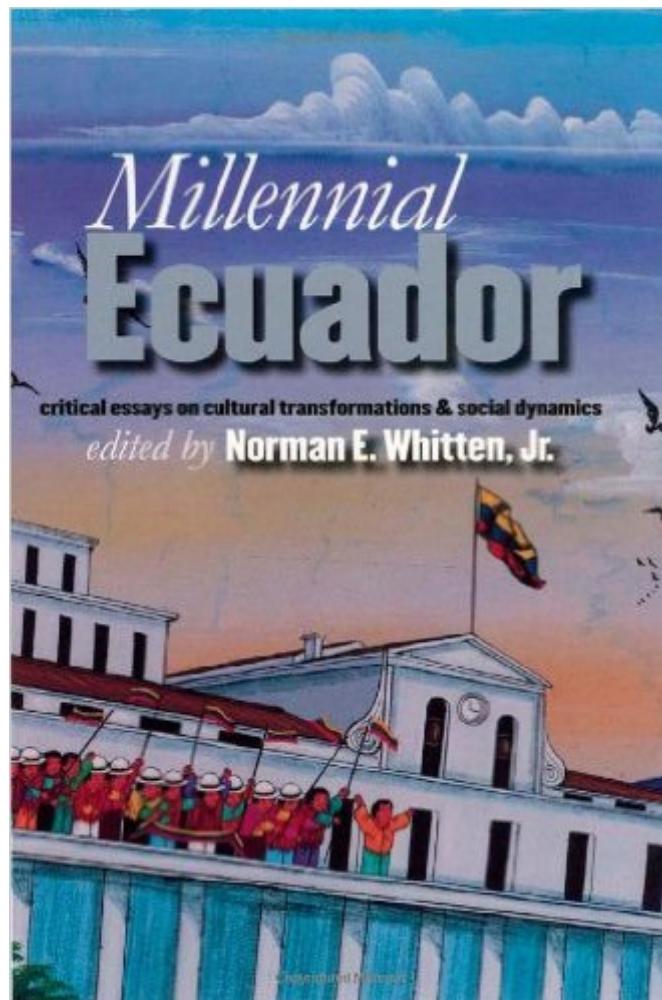


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Millennial Ecuador: Critical Essays Cultural Transformations



Synopsis

Since the 1980s, Ecuador has seen five indigenous uprisings, the emergence of the powerful Pachakutik political movement and the strengthening of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador and the Associations of Black Ecuadorians, all of which have contributed substantially to a new constitution proclaiming the country to be multietnic and multicultural. Furthermore, January 2003 saw the inauguration of a new populist president, who immediately appointed two indigenous persons to his cabinet. In this volume, 11 critical essays, plus a lengthy introduction and epilogue explore the multicultural forces that have allowed Ecuador's indigenous peoples to have such dramatic effects on the nation's political structure. systems of local-level aesthetics, ritual and cosmology and the national political-economic transformations that have shaped this paradoxical, globalizing nation. In their descriptions and analyses, they bring together interpretive anthropological, sociological and historical scholarship to consider these transcultural and intercultural phenomena. throughout the Americas, these essays should appeal to Latin Americanists, social scientists and humanists of the Andes and elsewhere, and, in particular, anthropologists as well as undergraduates and graduate students.

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Customer Reviews

This welcome collection brings together research by anthropologists, historians, and indigenous scholars who offer a comprehensive overview of the social and political dynamics of contemporary Ecuador. Contributors document practices of Andean, ian, and Afro-Ecuadorian peoples as they

struggle to address pressing issues in their personal lives. Whitten puts papers in context by providing a preface, a thorough introduction, and an epilogue updating the Ecuadorian political situation to 2003. The editor also provides a glossary and a useful appendix containing background information on Ecuador. Chapters by Rachel Corr, William T. Vickers, Michael A. Uzendoski, and Diego Quiroga are outstanding. Recommended. Stephen D. Glazier, University of Nebraska

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