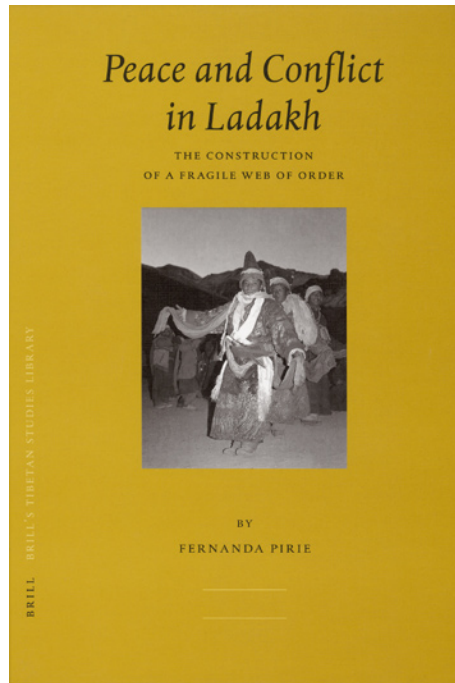


# Peace and Conflict in Ladakh

## *The Construction of a Fragile Web of Order*

Fernanda Pirie



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Long caught between powerful neighbours, Ladakh is now a border region in the vast Indian nation state. In this detailed, anthropological study Fernanda Pirie traces the ways order has been created by, but also despite and in defiance of, the powerful external forces of religion, war, politics and wealth.

Gradually a clear analysis unfolds of the subtle dynamics that have long characterised relations between local communities and centres of power and which can successfully be applied to the wider region. This exemplary study of conflict resolution brings to light the means by which small

communities, both rural and urban, negotiate peace amidst the heterogeneous forces of modernity, while at the same time critically re-examining theories that over-emphasize the explanatory power of Buddhism.

This rich ethnographic account of local practices fills a conspicuous gap in secondary literature on Tibetan law.

*Readership:* All those with a scholarly interest in Tibet and the Himalayan region, as well as anthropologists of law, politics and religion and researchers in socio-legal studies.

Fernanda Pirie, DPhil (2002) in anthropology at Oxford University, is a research fellow at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford University.

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