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Legal Pluralism in Action

Dispute Resolution and the Kurdish Peace Committee

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'Dr Tas' path-breaking empirical study of dispute processing in Britain's Kurdish community underpins his superb book. Using case studies, ethnographic observation and rich interview material, and setting everything in historical and cultural context, he illustrates how legal pluralism can be an everyday reality for ethnic minority groups, and why state law so often does not help to solve their problems. This is essential reading for anyone interested in problems of regulating multicultural societies today.'

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This book contributes to, and refocuses, public debates about the incorporation of plural approaches into the English legal system by examining a secular method of dispute resolution practised by the Kurdish Peace Committee in London. The pluralistic approach is seen by Kurdish communities in the UK as widely applicable elsewhere, and in a possible future Kurdish state, as a practical solution to the challenges of a pluralistic life. The book provides a substantive evidence base, using extensive ethnographic data, and examines detailed case studies in the context of the customs and practices of the Kurdish community.

Contents: Introduction; Legal pluralism; Kurds in Turkey: the historical background; Kurds in the UK: settlements and processing of their needs; Marriage, rituals and conflicts in Kurdish society; Business and criminal disputes and their customary solutions; Concluding thoughts; Glossary; Bibliography; Index.

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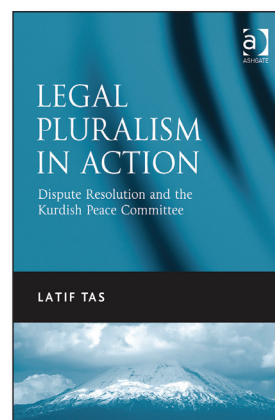
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