

The Discipline of Power:

Methodologies in Political Historiography

First Edition

Author

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Preface

This book explores the complex relationship between power and political history, offering a fresh approach to understanding how power shapes historical narratives. Traditionally, power has been treated as a background element in political history, but this work argues that power should be a central analytical category. By examining the various forms and mechanisms of power, ranging from authority and sovereignty to domination and legitimacy, the book calls for a more disciplined and critical approach to how political power is conceptualized.

The first part of the book addresses the theoretical underpinnings of power, discussing its multiple forms and how they have been legitimized throughout history. It challenges traditional views by emphasizing not only the visible power exercised through laws and institutions but also the invisible, structural power that shapes social and political relations. The second part examines different historiographical methodologies, including positivism, Marxism, and Weberian analysis, shedding light on the ways historians have studied power through various lenses.

Ultimately, this book emphasizes that the study of political history is inseparable from an awareness of how power operates within the practice of historiography itself. It argues that political historians must continually question not only the power structures they study but also the methodologies and narratives that shape their understanding of the past.

Acknowledgement

I express my heartfelt gratitude to my parents, family members, friends, and well-wishers for their constant motivation, unwavering belief, and encouragement throughout this journey. Their support and blessings have been a great source of strength and inspiration in the successful completion of this book.

I also extend my sincere thanks to all those who have directly or indirectly contributed to this work in various ways. Their guidance, assistance, and goodwill have played a crucial role in bringing this book to fruition. I remain deeply grateful to each one of them for their valuable support.

About the Author

Dr. Syed Kadhar G is an academician with 18 years of teaching experience across various educational institutions. He has made significant contributions to the field of education through his work in teaching, research, and academic development.

He has published over 38 research papers in national and international journals and conference proceedings. Additionally, he has presented more than 72 papers at both national and international conferences. His academic work and professional contributions have been recognized through several prestigious awards.

Dr. Syed Kadhar G is a life member of multiple professional societies and serves as a reviewer for renowned journals. He continues to make valuable contributions to the academic community through his unwavering dedication to teaching, research, and innovation.

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