

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910452903703321
Titolo	Everyday life in Central Asia : past and present // edited by Jeff Sahadeo and Russell Zanca
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Bloomington : , : Indiana University Press, , 2007
ISBN	0-253-01353-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (418 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	SahadeoJeff <1967-> ZancaRussell G. <1964->
Disciplina	958/.04
Soggetti	Ethnology - Asia, Central Electronic books. Asia, Central Social life and customs
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages [385]-388) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; Acknowledgments; Introduction: Central Asia and Everyday Life; Part 1: Background; Introduction; 1 Turks and Tajiks in Central Asian History; Part 2: Communities; Introduction; 2 Everyday Life among the Turkmen Nomads; 3 Recollections of a Hazara Wedding in the 1930's; 4 Trouble in Birgilich; 5 A Central Asian Tale of Two Cities: Locating Lives and Aspirations in a Shifting Post-Soviet Cityscape; Part 3: Gender; Introduction; 6 The Limits of Liberation: Gender, Revolution, and the Veil in Everyday Life in Soviet Uzbekistan 7 The Wedding Feast: Living the New Uzbek Life in the 1930's 8 Practical Consequences of Soviet Policy and Ideology for Gender in Central Asia and Contemporary Reversal; 9 Dinner with Akhmet; Part 4: Performance and Encounters; Introduction; 10 An Ethnohistorical Journey through Kazakh Hospitality; 11 Konstitutsiya buzildi! Gender Relations in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan; 12 Fat and All That: Good Eating the Uzbek Way; 13 Public and Private Celebrations: Uzbekistan's National Holidays; 14 Music across the Kazakh Steppe; Part 5: Nation, State, and Society in the Everyday; Introduction 15 The Shrinking of the Welfare State: Central Asians' Assessments of Soviet and Post-Soviet Governance 16 Going to School in Uzbekistan; 17 Alphabet Changes in Turkmenistan, 1904-2004; 18 Travels in the

Margins of the State: Everyday Geography in the Ferghana Valley Borderlands; Part 6: Religion; Introduction; 19 Divided Faith: Trapped between State and Islam in Uzbekistan; 20 Sacred Sites, Profane Ideologies: Religious Pilgrimage and the Uzbek State; 21 Everyday Negotiations of Islam in Central Asia: Practicing Religion in the Uyghur Neighborhood of Zarya Vostoka in Almaty, Kazakhstan  
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Sommario/riassunto

For its citizens, contemporary Central Asia is a land of great promise and peril. While the end of Soviet rule has opened new opportunities for social mobility and cultural expression, political and economic dynamics have also imposed severe hardships. In this lively volume, contributors from a variety of disciplines examine how ordinary Central Asians lead their lives and navigate shifting historical and political trends. Provocative stories of Turkmen nomads, Afghan villagers, Kazakh scientists, Kyrgyz border guards, a Tajik strongman, guardians of religious shrines in Uzbekistan

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