

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910463941603321
Titolo	Traitors [[electronic resource]] : suspicion, intimacy, and the ethics of state-building / / edited by Sharika Thiranagama and Tobias Kelly
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Philadelphia, : University of Pennsylvania Press, c2010
ISBN	0-8122-2237-7 1-283-89792-X 0-8122-0589-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (312 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	ThiranagamaSharika KellyTobias
Disciplina	364.1/31
Soggetti	Treason Treason - Moral and ethical aspects Traitors Electronic books.
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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Xiconhoca: Mozambique's ubiquitous post-independence traitor / Lars Buur -- Denunciatory practices and the constitutive role of collaboration in the Bangladesh War / Nayanika Mookherjee -- Intimacy, loyalty, and state formation: the specter of the "anti-national" / Richard W. Whitecross -- Traitors, terror, and regime consolidation on the two sides of the Taiwan straits: "revolutionaries" and "reactionaries" from 1949 to 1956 / Julia C. Strauss -- Betraying trust and the elusive nature of ethnicity in Burundi / Simon Turner -- In praise of traitors: intimacy, betrayal, and the Sri Lankan Tamil community / Sharika Thiranagama -- Treason and contested moralities in a coloured township, Cape Town / Steffen Jensen -- In a treacherous state: the fear of collaboration among West Bank Palestinians / Tobias Kelly -- The glass agency: Iranian war veterans as heroes or traitors? / Kamran Rastegar -- The man in the white raincoat: betrayal and the historian's task / Istvan Rev -- Afterword: questions of judgment / Stephan Feuchtwang.
Sommario/riassunto	The figure of the traitor plays an intriguing role in modern politics.

Traitors are a source of transgression from within, creating their own kinds of aversion and suspicion. They destabilize the rigid moral binaries of victim and persecutor, friend and enemy. Recent history is stained by collaborators, informers, traitors, and the bloody purges and other acts of retribution against them. In the emergent nation-state of Bhutan, the specter of the "antinational" traitor helped to transform the traditional view of loyalty based on social relations. In Sri Lanka, the Tamil Tigers' fear of traitors is tangled with the Tamil civilians' fear of being betrayed to the Tigers as traitors. For Palestinians in the West Bank, simply earning a living can mean complicity with people acting in the name of the Israeli state. While most contemporary studies of violence and citizenship focus on the creation of the "other," the cases in *Traitors: Suspicion, Intimacy, and the Ethics of State-Building* illustrate the equally strong political and social anxieties among those who seem to be most alike. Treason is often treated as a pathological distortion of political life. However, the essays in *Traitors* propose that treachery is a constant, essential, and normal part of the processes through which social and political order is produced. In the political gray zones between personal and state loyalties, traitors and their prosecutors play roles that make and unmake regimes. In this volume, ten scholars examine political, ethnic, and personal trust and betrayals in modern times from Mozambique to the Taiwan Straits, from the former Eastern Bloc to the West Bank. This fascinating collection studies the tension between close personal relationships, the demands of nation-states, and the moral choices that result when these interests collide. In asking how traitors are defined in the context of local histories, contributors address larger comparative questions about the nature of postcolonial citizenship.
