

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910733290103321
Autore	Berger Peter
Titolo	Subaltern sovereigns : rituals of rule and regeneration in Highland Odisha, India // Peter Berger
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Boston : , : De Gruyter, , 2023
Edizione	[First edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (viii, 471 pages) : illustrations, maps
Collana	Religion and Society, , 14375370 ; ; 66
Disciplina	305.800954
Soggetti	Indigenous peoples - India Ritual - History Sovereignty - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Sommario/riassunto	The vast and ancient topic of kingship in India has mostly been studied from the perspectives of rulers and other elites. But what constitutes sovereignty viewed from "below"? This book -- ethnographic and comparative in its essence -- deals with indigenous conceptualizations of sovereignty taking as its starting point a local proverb that connects the ritual (Dasara) of the king with festivals performed by his "tribal" subjects. The first part of the book initially introduces some pan-Indian ideas of kingship and proceeds to discuss indigenous notions of sovereignty as represented in rituals and myths in the region concerned (highland Odisha). The second part is devoted to the investigation of the proverbial performances. Mainly based on historical sources first the Dasara festival of the king is discussed, subsequently the indigenous rituals are described and analyzed, which the author ethnographically documented around the turn of the millennium. Ultimately, the proverb and the rituals constitute the idea of a sacrificial polity in which rulers and ruled share sovereignty in the sense that they are co-responsible for the flow of life.