

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910790012203321
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Titolo	Muscular nationalism [[electronic resource] ] : gender, violence, and empire in India and Ireland, 1914-2004 // Sikata Banerjee
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : New York University Press, c2012
ISBN	0-8147-2331-4 0-8147-8977-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (219 p.)
Collana	Gender and political violence series
Disciplina	305.4209415
Soggetti	Women - India - History Women - Ireland - History Masculinity - Great Britain - History Nationalism - History Great Britain Colonies
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	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Under the British Gaze -- 2. "Muscular Gael" and "Warrior Monk" -- 3. Irish and Indian Women in Muscular Nationalism -- 4. Politicized Femininity and Muscular Nationalism in the Postcolonial Context -- 5. Who Is a Proper Woman in the Nation? -- Conclusion -- Notes -- Bibliography -- index -- About the Author
Sommario/riassunto	A particular dark triumph of modern nationalism has been its ability to persuade citizens to sacrifice their lives for a political vision forged by emotional ties to a common identity. Both men and women can respond to nationalistic calls to fight that portray muscular warriors defending their nation against an easily recognizable enemy. This "us versus them" mentality can be seen in sectarian violence between Hindus and Muslims, Tamils and Sinhalas, Serbs and Kosovars, and Protestants and Catholics. In Muscular Nationalism, Sikata Banerjee takes a comparative look at India and Ireland and the relationship among gender, violence, and nationalism. Exploring key texts and events from 1914-2004, Banerjee explores how women negotiate "muscular nationalisms" as they seek to be recognized as legitimate

nationalists and equal stakeholders in their national struggles. Banerjee argues that the gendered manner in which dominant nationalism has been imagined in most states in the world has had important implications for women's lived experiences. Drawing on a specific intersection of gender and nationalism, she discusses the manner in which women negotiate a political and social terrain infused with a masculinized dream of nation-building. India and Ireland—two states shaped by the legacy of British imperialism and forced to deal with modern political/social conflict centering on competing nationalisms—provide two provocative case studies that illuminate the complex interaction between gender and nation.

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