

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910809972503321
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Titolo	Struggles for local democracy in the Andes // John Cameron
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Boulder, Colorado : , : FirstForumPress, , 2010 ©2010
ISBN	1-62637-157-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (403 p.)
Disciplina	320.8098
Soggetti	Local government - Andes Region Municipal government - Andes Region Democratization - Andes Region Indians of South America - Andes Region - Politics and government
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	""Book Title""; ""Table of Contents""; ""List of Tables""; ""Acronyms""; ""Map of Research Area""; ""Acknowledgments""; ""1-Introduction""; ""Theoretical Approaches to Municipal Democratization""; ""A Relative Power Approach to Municipal Democratization""; ""Research Methodology""; ""Decentralization in the Andes""; ""Overview of the Book""; ""Notes""; ""2-Municipal Democratization After Agrarian Reform in Guamote, Ecuador""; ""Agrarian Transformation and Political Power in Guamote""; ""External Interventions and the Emergence of Indigenous Peasant Organizations"" ""From an a€?Abandoned Rural Towna€? to a Model of Rural Development?""""Changes and Continuities in Municipal Administration Under Peasant Control""; ""Conclusion""; ""Notes""; ""6-From Clientelism to Democracy and Back in Limatambo, Peru""; ""Agrarian Change and Struggles for Local Power in Limatambo""; ""Struggles for Municipal Democracy in Limatambo""; ""The Breakdown of Municipal Democratization: A Chronicle Foretold?""; ""Conclusion""; ""Notes""; ""7-Municipal Democratization After Political Violence in Haquira, Peru""; ""Historical Changes in Local Power Relations in Haquira"" ""Political Violence and Changes in Local Power Relations""""Municipal Democratization Efforts in the Wake of Political Violence"";

""Conclusion""; ""Notes""; ""8-Conclusion""; ""What Factors Best Explain Rural Municipal Democratization?""; ""What Kinds of Municipal Democracy Are Emerging in the Rural Andes?""; ""The Impacts of Municipal Democratization on Rural Populations""; ""Notes""; ""Bibliography""; ""Index""; ""About the Book""

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Sommario/riassunto

John Cameron draws on power-based approaches to the study of democratization as he thoughtfully explores efforts by indigenous and peasant groups to gain control of local governments and deepen democracy in Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru. Cameron addresses three fundamental questions: What factors best explain the success or failure of local political movements in the Andes? What forms of democracy are emerging in indigenous- and peasant-controlled municipalities? What are the impacts of municipal democratization on the well-being and political identities of the citizenry? As he elucidates his results, he reminds readers that, in the midst of some of the most exclusionary and elite-dominated systems of local government in Latin America, political struggles for democracy are having a profound impact.

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