

ETHNIC MINORITIES AND POLITICS: The British Electoral System

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AND POLITICS**
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Britain is a multi-ethnic society. Ethnic minorities now make up ten percent of the population and have the right to vote and stand for elections. Their participation in the electoral system gives them the opportunity to express their views. Their representation in politics is crucial to achieve equality of opportunity in the political system, as well as in other fields. Due to their concentration in certain areas, ethnic minority participation is becoming increasingly significant. This book examines how they have exercised their political rights and changing trends of political participation among ethnic minorities, building on the author's previous work.

The book covers immigration and settlement patterns in Britain and analyses registration levels, turnout patterns, voting behaviours and attitudes to the political process. It discusses election issues, attitudes towards race relations, under-representation, and suggests the way forward. It concludes that there is progress but Britain has a long way to go in providing equality for ethnic minorities in the decision-making process.

The book would interest academics, students, political parties, political activists, those in the field of race relations, the media and the general public concerned with race, ethnicity and politics. It would also appeal to readers in other countries in similar situations.

Contents: 1. Introduction, 2. Settlement Patterns and Socio-Economic Position, 3. Political Participation of Ethnic Minorities: Theoretical Issues, Ethnic Minorities and Election Issues, 4. Electoral Participation: Registration and Turn-out, 5. Voting Patterns of Ethnic Minorities, 6. Representation of Ethnic Minorities, 7. Local Politics and Ethnic Minorities, 8. Race Relations in the Political Context, 9. Anti-Ethnic Minority Campaigns and the Vote, 10. Conclusions, 11. References

Muhammad Anwar is Professor of Ethnic Relations in the Centre for Research in Ethnic Relations (CRER), University of Warwick, having formerly been Director of CRER(1989-94) and Head of Research, Commission for Racial Equality(1981-9).He has published extensively and was appointed an OBE for services to higher education in 2007.

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