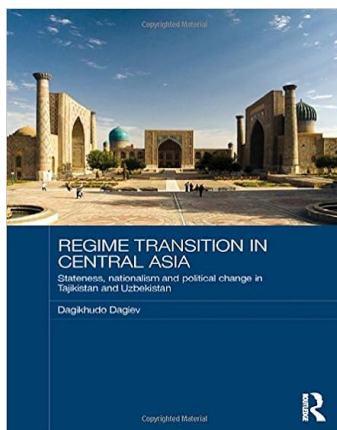


<b>Titel:</b>	Regime Transition in Central Asia
<b>BuchID:</b>	1812
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<b>ISBN-10(13):</b>	978-0415663106
<b>Verlag:</b>	Taylor & Francis Ltd
<b>Seitenanzahl:</b>	246
<b>Sprache:</b>	English
<b>Bewertung:</b>	
<b>Bild:</b>	



**Beschreibung:**

***Stateness, Nationalism and Political Change in  
Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (Routledge Advances in  
Central Asian Studies)***

Presenting a study of regime transition, political transformation, and the challenges that faced the post-Communist republics of Central Asia on independence, this book focuses on the process of transition in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, and the obstacles that these newly-independent states are facing in the post-Communist period.

The book analyses how in the early stages of their independence, the governments of Central Asia declared that they would build democratic states, but that in practice, they demonstrated that they are more inclined towards authoritarianism. With the declaration of independence, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, like many other former Soviet national republics, were faced with the issues of nationalism, ethnicity, identity and territorial delimitation. This book looks at how the discourse of patrimonial nationalism in post-Communist Tajikistan and Uzbekistan has been the elites' strategy to address all these issues: to maintain the stateness of their respective countries; to preserve the unity of their nation; to fill the ideological void of post-Communism; to prevent the rise of Islam; and to legitimize their authoritarian practice.

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Arguing against the claim that the Central Asian states have undergone divergent paths of transition, the book discusses how they are in fact all authoritarian, although exhibiting different degrees of authoritarianism. This book provides a useful contribution to studies on Central Asian Politics and International Relations.