



Rent from the Land
A Political Ecology of Postsocialist Rural Transformation
Johannes Stahl

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Description

***Rent from the Land* examines the effects of the massive political and economic changes of postsocialism on rural society and environment in Albania.**

'This is a pioneering book.' —*Thomas Sikor, School of International Development, University of East Anglia*

'A compelling glimpse into the unusual pathway from socialism to capitalism in Albania, and the tragic yet predictable effects of the sudden changes on rural land use.' —*Nancy Peluso, author of Rich Forests, Poor People: Resource Control and Resistance in Java*

'The strengths of the book are its ethnographically informed material on rural Albanian life, as well as its effort to operationalize political ecology by suggesting a focus on rent as an analytical lens or tool.' —*Barbara Cellarius, author of In the Land of Orpheus: Rural Livelihoods and Nature Conservation in Postsocialist Bulgaria*

'Destined to enter the canons of both political ecology and postsocialist transition studies.' —*Rod Neumann, author of Imposing Wilderness: Struggles over Livelihood and Nature Preservation in Africa*

***Rent from the Land* examines the effects of the massive political and economic changes of postsocialism on rural society and environment in Albania. Stahl argues that the area's postsocialist transformations led to changes in the creation and distribution of resource rent, which shifted land users' incentives and productive decision-making and ultimately led to environmental change. Stahl brings together five years of research on Albanian transformation, and breaks new ground by discussing postsocialist transformation from a political ecology perspective.**

Readership: Anthropologists, geographers, rural sociologists, environmental scientists, and regional specialists.

Contents

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms; Acknowledgements; Chapter 1: Introduction; Chapter 2: Albanian Socialism; Chapter 3: Patterns of Land Use Change; Chapter 4: Unmaking Socialist Agriculture: The Dissolution of Collective Structures; Chapter 5: Unraveling the Socialist Countryside: Differentiation among Villages and Its Effects on Land Use; Chapter 6: The Crisis of Capital and Labor: Effects on Land Use within Villages; Chapter 7: The Fate of the Postsocialist Forest; Chapter 8: Rent from the Land; Glossary

About the Author

Johannes Stahl works on natural resource governance and institutions in agriculture and forestry. He was a Ciriacy-Wantrup Post-Doctoral Fellow in Natural Resource Economics and Political Economy at the University of California at Berkeley and holds PhD and MA degrees in Agriculture and Social Anthropology.

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