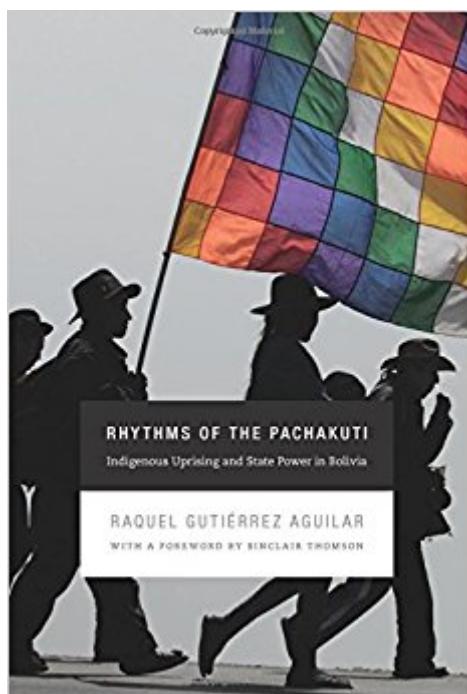


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# Rhythms Of The Pachakuti: Indigenous Uprising And State Power In Bolivia (New Ecologies For The Twenty-First Century)



## Synopsis

In the indigenous Andean language of Aymara, pachakuti refers to the subversion and transformation of social relations. Between 2000 and 2005, Bolivia was radically transformed by a series of popular indigenous uprisings against the country's neoliberal and antidemocratic policies. In *Rhythms of the Pachakuti*, Raquel Gutiérrez Aguilar documents these mass collective actions, tracing the internal dynamics of such disruptions to consider how motivation and execution incite political change. "In *Rhythms of the Pachakuti* we can sense the reverberations of an extraordinary historical process that took place in Bolivia at the start of the twenty-first century. The book is the product of Raquel Gutiérrez Aguilar's political engagement in that historical process. . . . Though of Mexican nationality, [she] was intimately involved in Bolivian politics for many years and acquired a quasi-legendary status there as an intense, brilliant activist and radical intellectual. . . . [Her account is] . . . itself a revolutionary document. . . . *Rhythms of the Pachakuti* deserves to stand as a key text in the international literature of radicalism and emancipatory politics in the new century." —Sinclair Thomson, from the foreword

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This wonderful book is both a detailed historical account of the 2000–2005 uprisings in Bolivia and a significant theoretical intervention into central contemporary questions about political action and revolution. In particular, Raquel Gutiérrez Aguilar emphasizes the profound significance of indigenous social organization and worldviews for the contemporary political

struggles in Bolivia and elsewhere." (Michael Hardt, coauthor of *Empire*, *Multitude*, *Commonwealth*, and *Declaration* 2014-03-12)"Raquel Gutiérrez Aguilar provides a gripping account of the multifaceted movements in Bolivia which, between 2000 and 2005, overwhelmed the neoliberal regime and brought Evo Morales to power. She makes an exceptionally compelling case for the fruits of 'militant reflection' as research method; and her analysis leads us to think long and hard about the sharp distinction between 'social emancipation' and state-centered, productivist currents of the leftist tradition." (Charles R. Hale, Director, Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, University of Texas at Austin) "A detailed examination of diverse political and social movements that between 2000 and 2005 challenged the neoliberal status quo, and in the course of a bitter electoral conflict brought the Indigenous leader Evo Morales to power. The author delves deeply into the history of Peru. Highly recommended." (O. Pi-Sunyer Choice) "[T]his book as political memoir and social analysis offers an intriguing inside view of the kinds of issues that drove debate among a few members of the intellectual vanguard during Bolivia's most recent cycle of popular unrest." (Brooke Larson Hispanic American Historical Review 2015-08-01)"Rhythms of the Pachakuti is a well-researched, well-argued and productive text for scholars interested in understanding social movements. It gives rich accounts of the Bolivian uprisings it studies, making it a useful text for scholars of the region, and provides scholars with useful tools for thinking about the practices of these uprisings as meaning-making practices." (Lauren E. Deal Social Anthropology 2015-05-01)"[T]his book has tremendous value for graduate students and general readers interested in following the contemporary Latin American left. The book, published originally in Spanish in 2008, also represents an excellent resource for those interested in solid Marxist theory and sociological analysis. For this reason, it will be an excellent addition to graduate courses in Latin American Revolutions and social change." (Waskar T. Ari-Chachak American Historical Review 2015-12-01)"Historians will long rely on this to better understand not only Bolivia's early twenty-first century revolts, but also the post-statist ideas fueling recent anti-capitalist movements from Madrid to New York City." (Thomas C. Field Jr. Canadian Journal of History 2016-11-10)"One of the most valuable aspects of this analytically sophisticated book, which could be assigned to graduate students and upper-level undergraduates, is that it defies encapsulating Bolivia's popular uprisings under one single variable. In contrast to similar works that focus only on the ethnic dimensions, the book captures how multiple forces—indigenous people, migrants, peasants, and workers—together overthrew the Bolivian political system. This

more complex picture better positions the reader to understand the challenges of post-insurrection Bolivia." (Carmen Soliz History: Reviews of New Books 2016-03-17)"In presenting authentic grassroots forces of emancipation, Gutiérrez Aguilar has given us a rich and representative volume, with some important and challenging ideas. . . . This book serves as a critical foundation for the larger questions of social transformation and radical discourse." (Yuliana Kenfield Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies 2015-05-18)"The work is an outstanding contribution to the political anthropology of Latin America. . . . It offers a decolonizing entrée into Bolivian political thought and practice that counters the often paternalistic and detached style of Northern writers." (Bret Gustafson Journal of Anthropological Research 2016-09-01)"Of the many studies of Bolivia's popular uprisings of 2000-2005, Raquel Gutiérrez Aguilar's participatory-observer account stands out. In addition to furnishing an innovative framework for understanding the 'rhythms' of social struggle during those years, the book grapples with some of the tensions and dilemmas common to diverse emancipatory struggles." (Kevin A. Young Ethnohistory 2017-04-10)"Gutiérrez-Aguilar provides a unique and valuable perspective on Bolivian politics." (Hans Buechler American Ethnologist 2017-05-01)

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