

Deimperialization, Civic Activism, and National Identity

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**About the Book** 

War, defeat, and the collapse of empire in 1945 touched every aspect of postwar Japanese society, profoundly shaping how the Japanese would reconstruct national identity and reengage with the peoples of Asia. While "America" offered a vision of re-genesis after cataclysmic ruin, "Asia" exposed the traumata of perpetration and the torment of ethnic responsibility. Obscured in the shadows of a resurgent postwar Japan lurked a postimperial specter whose haunting presence both complicated and confounded the spiritual rehabilitation of the nation.-Asia Center, Harvard University-



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