Recent years religion has received a good deal of attention in the discussion on globalization. Christianity, in its Pentecostal-charismatic, evangelical-fundamentalist forms, seems to have thrived in the globalizing world. It will be clearly shown in detailed country case studies from the Pacific that there is overwhelming evidence that Pentecostal-charismatic, evangelical-fundamentalist and other new religious groups have flourished and experienced rapid growth in this region, as they have worldwide. This has contributed to an ongoing re-shaping of the religious landscape in the different island nations. The changes in religious affiliation have also led to an increased diversity of Christian denominations in the region.

The information presented in this book is based on research carried out over the past four years in thirteen island nations of the region and attempts to provide a detailed account of changes in religious affiliation in the Pacific over the past 50 years. The authors examine the reasons for the growth and proliferation of a variety of Pentecostal-charismatic-evangelical-fundamentalist and other new religious groups in the region.

This is the most systematic account available of contemporary developments in Christianity in the Pacific Islands. The book will be of interest not only to students and academics, but also to policy-makers, and all those concerned with the profound effects of modernization processes on individual societies in the Pacific Islands.

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