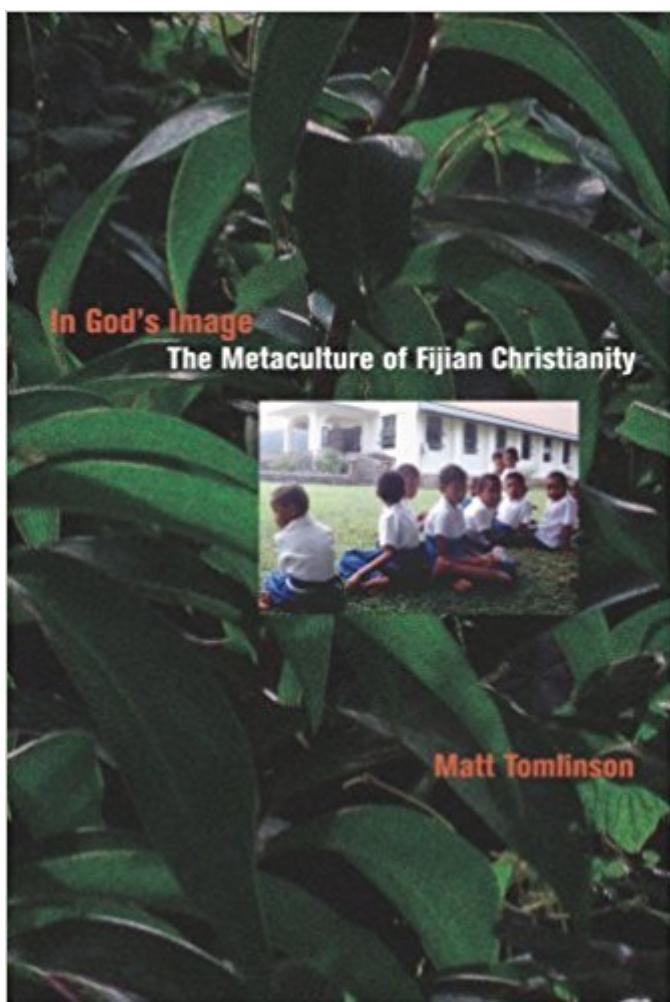


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# In God's Image: The Metaculture Of Fijian Christianity (The Anthropology Of Christianity)



## Synopsis

Today, most indigenous Fijians are Christians, and the Methodist Church is the foundation of their social and political lives. Yet, as this thought-provoking study of life on rural Kadavu Island finds, Fijians also believe that their ancestors possessed an inherent strength that is lacking in the present day. Looking in particular at the interaction between the church and the traditional chiefly system, Matt Tomlinson finds that this belief about the superiority of the past provokes great anxiety, and that Fijians seek ways of recovering this strength through ritual and political action; Christianity itself simultaneously generates a sense of loss and the means of recuperation. To unravel the cultural dynamics of Christianity in Fiji, Tomlinson explores how this loss is expressed through everyday language and practices.

## Book Information

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Ã¢ "In GodÃ¢ "s Image raises numerous vital questions for anyone interested in Oceania. . . . This important book will help missiologists as they grapple with these questions.Ã¢ " (Kenneth Nehrbass Missiology 2009-09-11)Ã¢ " Offers valuable insights, confirming the relevance of solid academic work to critical social problems.Ã¢ " (Language In Society 2011-03-15)Ã¢ " An innovative and compelling book . . . a stimulating addition to both the anthropology of Christianity and the ethnographic literature on Fiji.Ã¢ " (Susanna Trnka Journal Of Pacific History 2010-06-09)Ã¢ " A valuable addition to the burgeoning literature on the

subject. (Garry Trompf Oceania 2010-07-02) "A thought-provoking contribution to the anthropology of Christianity and to our understanding of Fiji." (Karen J. Brison Journal Of Anthropological Research 2011-06-30)

Matt Tomlinson is Lecturer in Anthropology at Monash University in Australia and coeditor of *The Limits of Meaning: Case Studies in the Anthropology of Christianity*.

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