

*Nationalist Myths  
and Ethnic Identities*

*Indigenous Intellectuals and the Mexican State*

---

NATIVIDAD GUTIÉRREZ

---

*University of Nebraska Press  
Lincoln and London*

© 1999 by the University of Nebraska Press  
All rights reserved  
Manufactured in the United States of America



Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data  
Gutiérrez, Natividad, 1959–

Nationalist myths and ethnic identities:  
indigenous intellectuals and the Mexican  
state / Natividad Gutiérrez.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-8032-2177-0 (cl.: alk. paper). —

ISBN 0-8032-7078-X (pbk.: alk. paper)

1. Indians of Mexico — Intellectual life.
2. Indians of Mexico — Ethnic identity.
3. Indians of Mexico — Government relations.
4. Ethnicity — Mexico. 5. Nationalism — Mexico.
6. Mexico — Ethnic relations. 7. Mexico —  
Politics and government. I. Title.

F1219.3.I56G87 1999

305.8'007'2 — dc21 99-10550

CIP

*To Albertina and Rose*

Conclusion 217  
Notes 207  
Bibliography 211  
Index 221

---

## *Contents*

List of Maps and Tables	ix
Preface	xi
Acknowledgments	xiii
List of Abbreviations	xv
Introduction	i
1. Theories of Nationalism Revisited	9
2. The Composition of the Educated Indigenous Elite	25
3. The Historical Transformation of Indian Identity	33
4. The Nation Made by the Educational System	56
5. Textbooks and National Identity	72
6. Mexicanization or the Plurality of Mexico	90
7. The Emergence of Indigenous Intellectuals and Their Responses to National Identity	113
8. National Myths as Seen by Indians	137
9. Civic Heroes of Liberalism	161
10. Indian Women Writers	182
11. Indian Intellectuals after the Chiapas Conflict	195
Conclusion	202
Notes	207
Bibliography	213
Index	233