

"In this age of globally resurgent nationalism, Goossen delivers a timely reminder of the malleability and ever-shifting nature of such ideological collectives. His brilliant analysis takes us through two hundred years of Mennonite history and to a vast array of places—from Kazakhstan to Paraguay, from Germany to Canada—to show how religious and national identities emerge, intersect, and shift, often with lightning speed. This book is an important contribution to the thriving field of global history and to the politics of our times."

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"What is so impressive about *Chosen Nation* is how it demonstrates that the history of a small, very unusual, and rather marginal religious group, the Mennonites, illuminates crucial themes in the development of Germany, Europe, and the modern world."

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"*Chosen Nation* is a tour de force. In crystalline prose, Goossen argues that Mennonite and German identities were never stable, but created over time and deployed in specific historical circumstances, with the Mennonite articles of faith in tension with yet often supporting the modern nation-state—even during the Nazi period. This is an eye-opening guide to the vexed history of German Mennonites in the modern era."

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"This is a fascinating, deeply researched account of a transnational religious group's encounter with modern German nationalism and the group's ongoing reinvention as an ethnicity, nation, race, and confession. Presenting a new unflinching scholarly voice from within the Mennonite community, *Chosen Nation* explains and reflects on the origins and consequences of the disastrous mid-twentieth-century Mennonite attraction to German nationalism, acceptance of Nazi racial ideology, and, in some cases, participation in genocide."

—TERRY MARTIN, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

"Developing a historical narrative of German Mennonites that runs through the age of high nationalism and into the present, *Chosen Nation* shows how some Mennonites found ways of accommodating the antagonistic positions of religious allegiance and loyalty to country. This is an important book."

—H. GLENN PENNY, UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

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