

## ABSTRACT

### FAITHLESS IN THE LAND OF GODS – A NOVEL

This novel is based loosely on real events of communal riots that occurred in the city of Bombay, India in December 1992 and left 500 people dead and thousands injured. The story follows approximately three weeks in the life of Dr. Ambika Mehra, a clinical psychologist at Prakriti Mental Hospital. Although the events used in the novel are real, certain liberties have been taken with names, places, people, and times to explore the themes of memory and forgetting and to question commonly held notions of sanity. This novel is an inquiry into the difference between acts of faith and terror. The work borrows heavily from history but the account must not be construed as factual; all characters are fictional and the work of the author's imagination.

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