

# Contents

*List of Illustrations* ix  
*Preface* xi  
*Acknowledgments* xiii  
*Notes on Transliteration* xvii

Introduction 1

1. Pūjā Origins and Elite Politics 11
2. The Goddess in Colonial and Postcolonial History 39
3. Durgā the Daughter: Folk and Familial Traditions 76
4. The Artistry of Durgā and Jagaddhātrī 103
5. Durgā on the *Titanic*: Politics and Religion in the Pūjā 130

6. The “Orientalist” Kālī: A Tantric Icon Comes Alive	161
7. Approaches to Kālī Pūjā in Bengal	183
8. Controversies and the Goddess	197
9. Devī in the Diaspora	224
Conclusion	241
<i>Appendix: An Overview of the Press in Bengal up to 1947</i>	251
<i>Notes</i>	255
<i>Bibliography</i>	329
<i>Index</i>	353