Abstract: The political consequences of civil war are among the most important but least understood of all war impacts. In 2015, after a decade-long conflict and nine years of negotiation, Nepal abolished its 240-year-old monarchy and declared itself a federal republic. In 2017, local elections ushered more than 30,000 politicians into office with erstwhile politically excluded ethnic groups more likely to gain representation in conflict-hit wards. Using a census of 3.68 million Nepalis across eleven districts, party nomination lists, and data on the universe of candidates and elected politicians, we comprehensively document patterns of political selection. Post-conflict Nepal, appears to have transitioned to an identity-based, but meritocratic, democracy. Specifically, politicians are better educated and richer than the populations they represent, but belong to representative family backgrounds. The Maoist party – which led the armed conflict – created the broadest ethnic base of potential candidates and the party most likely to select candidates from excluded castes. Finally, using close elections in 2017 and data on the receipt of earthquake housing transfers we show that political representation enables policy inclusion.