

Buddhism (Special Times)

Demonstrates how tantra opens up the world of sensory experiences, covering the foundations of Vajrayana, the role of the tantric mentor, and the practice of retreat.

Offers an introduction to Buddhism, covering origins, the religion's spread across Asia, theological beliefs, sacred persons, rituals, death and the afterlife, and Buddhism's role in society.

This is the first book to examine the British discovery of Buddhism during the Victorian period. It was only during the nineteenth century that Buddhism became, in the western mind, a religious tradition separate from Hinduism. As a result, Buddha emerge from a realm of myth and was addressed as a historical figure. Almond's exploration of British interpretations of Buddhism--of its founder, its doctrines, its ethics, its social practices, its truth and value--illuminates more than the various aspects of Buddhist culture: it sheds light on the Victorian society making these judgements.

"A millennium and a half ago some remarkable women cast aside the concerns of the world to devote their lives to Buddhism. Lives of the Nuns, a translation of the Pi-ch'iu-ni chuan, was compiled by Shih Pao-ch'ang in or about A.D. 516 and covers exactly that period when Buddhist monasticism for women was first being established in China. Originally written to demonstrate the efficacy of Buddhist scripture in the lives of female monastics, the sixty-five biographies are now regarded as the best source of information about women's participation in Buddhist monastic practice in premodern China." "Among the stories of the Buddhist life well lived are entertaining tales that reveal the wit and intelligence of these women in the face of unsavory officials, highway robbers, even fawning barbarians. When Ching-ch'eng and a fellow nun, renowned for their piety and strict asceticism, are taken to "the capital of the northern barbarians" and plied with delicacies, the women "besmirch their own reputation" by gobbling down the food shamelessly. Appalled by their lack of manners, the disillusioned barbarians release the nuns, who return happily to their convent." "Lives of the Nuns gives readers a glimpse into a world long vanished yet peopled with women and men who express the same aspirations and longing for spiritual enlightenment found at all times and in all places." "Buddhologists, sinologists, historians, and those interested in religious studies and women's studies will welcome this volume, which includes annotations for readers new to the field of Chinese Buddhist history as well as for the specialist."--BOOK JACKET.Title

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An Introduction to the Esoteric Buddhism of Tibet

Buddhism in the Life and Writings of Su Shih

Buddhism and Postmodern Imaginings in Thailand

Buddhism For Dummies

The Noble Eightfold Path

The Buddhist Pilgrimage

The Buddha Within

"This book clearly outlines and discusses the methods for transforming both body and mind through the highest forms of tantric practice. Highest Yoga Tantra is the pinnacle of tantric systems found in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition. Remarkable for its definitive clarity, this exposition of the stages of Highest Yoga Tantra is the first of its kind in the English language and a must for anyone interested in these highest tantras."--BOOK JACKET.

Special Times: BuddhismA&C Black

This study examines the place of relic veneration in the history of South Asian Buddhism.

This Work Serves As A Useful Companion For The Scholars And Researchers Who Are Seriously Interested In The History Of Buddhist Literature; Who Wish To Probe Into Buddhist Textual Studies And Who Desire To Have A Lucid Understanding Of The Philosophy Of The Two Major Buddhist Traditions Of Theravada And Mahayana.

Land of Beautiful Vision

Turning the Wheel

The Historical Buddha

The Religiosity of Urban Space

The British Discovery of Buddhism

Early Kamakura Buddhism

The Historical Evolution of the Buddha Legend

Michael Carrithers guides us through the complex and sometimes conflicting information that Buddhist texts give about the life and teaching of the Buddha. He discusses the social and political background of India in the Buddha's time, and traces the development of his thought. He also assesses the rapid and widespread assimilation of Buddhism and its contemporary relevance. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

This book unravels some of the complex factors that allowed or hampered the presence of (certain aspects of) Buddhism in the regions to the north and the east of India, such as Central Asia, China, Tibet, Mongolia, or Korea.

Japanese historians have dealt with Kamakura Buddhism in terms of the major sectarian developments of the time, tending to ignore the fact that the ancient sects continued to exist and exert influence on the development of the tradition. Prof. Morrell has provided "a minority report," a study of these smaller but nonetheless important groups within Buddhism during the Kamakura period. This is a much needed addition to the works dealing with the history and religions of Japan. It will be of interest not only to Buddhist scholars but to all those who deal with the culture of Japan."... This book is an exciting, important

collection, well worth the time to read and suitable for libraries..."--Choice

Tathagatagarbha -- Buddha Nature -- is a central concept of Mahayana Buddhism crucial to all the living practice traditions of Tibetan and Zen Buddhism. Its relationship to the concept of emptiness has been a subject of controversy for seven hundred years. Dr. Hookam's work investigates the divergent interpretations of these concepts and the way the Tibetan tradition is resolving them. In particular she does this with reference to the only surviving Indian commentary on the Tathagatagarbha doctrine, the Ratnagotravibhaga. This text addresses itself directly to the issue of how to relate the doctrine of emptiness (the illusory nature of the world) to that of the truly existing, changeless Absolute (the Buddha Nature). This is the first work by a Western writer to present an analysis of the Shentong tradition based on previously untranslated sources. The Shentong view rests on meditative experience that is inaccessible to the conceptualizing mind. It is deeply rooted in the sutra tradition of Indian Buddhism and is central to an understanding of the Mahamudra and Dzogchen traditions and Tantric practice among Kagyupas and Hyingmapas.

Buddha Nature

Literary Culture and Religious Community in Tamil-speaking South India

Tibetan Buddhism And Its Role In Society And State

The Times, Life, and Teachings of the Founder of Buddhism

My time with the Tibetan community, Los Angeles, California, June 2001

Buddhism and Society in Southeast Asia

Origins, Beliefs, Practices, Holy Texts, Sacred Place

Mithuna signifies as a couple- a male and female. It symbolises the procreative duality. All the creation emanates from the union of this couple, be it any being. Mithuna figures distinctly appear in the buddhist art from the 2nd C. B.C. onwards at a number of buddhist sites. In Andhra, Mithunas predominantly appear in Amravati, Goli and Nagarjunakonda site sculptured panels. Though some effort was made to unravel the significance of Mithuna art by historians, proper analysis was not made and hence the inadequacy. This endeavour Nagarjunakonda and Amravati art has the richest depiction of the Mithuna art. The Andhra art was studied as a whole by several scholars but emphasis was not given for studying the Mithuna art.

In this dynamic series of lectures recorded in 1965 and 1969, Alan Watts joyfully takes us on an exploration of Buddhism, from its roots in India over 2,500 years ago to the explosion of interest in Zen and the Tibetan tradition in the West. These lectures have been transcribed and edited by the author's son, Mark Watts, who also provides an introduction that sets them in their historical context. This book then begins with Journey From India, which presents a brief explanation of the Indian worldview and cosmology followed by a discussion of the important differences between Hinduism and Buddhism. The Middle Way offers an insight into the radical methods of the Mahayana, or "great vehicle," and reviews the basic Buddhist terms and teaching, including the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path. Alan Watts then turns his attention to Zen and Tibetan Buddhism in the remaining four chapters. In Religion of No-Religion he discusses how the Buddha taught the method of awakening through the experience of no-self, no-concept, and no-religion. This technique of short-circuiting the mind is seen today in the method of instruction centered upon Zen koans. In contrast to the intellectual methods of Zen, the Tibetan, or Vajrayana school, retained much more of the original Indian flavor of Mahayana Buddhism, and in Wisdom of the Mountains Watts provides an introduction to Tibetan Buddhism by explaining its unique practices. In the final chapter, Transcending Duality, Alan Watts explores the male and female symbolism of Tantric yoga and explores the unity of polar opposites as a form of resonance.

The second part of a trilogy of books by Niharranjan Ray on religion in Burma, this text offers an examination of the influence and development of Mahayana Buddhism, from its Sarvastivadin roots to Tantrayana. This monograph explores the influence of Mahayana, Tantric, and other northern Buddhist schools on early Burmese Buddhist traditions. In completing this important study, distinguished Indian scholar Niharranjan Ray draws not only on Sanskrit literary sources but also on a wide range of archaeological evidence, epigraphical remains, sculptures, and

Examines the influence of American Buddhist women on Buddhist spiritual practice and discusses current issues involving politics and family life

Encounter with Buddhism

With Special Reference to Amravati & Nagarjunakonda

The Classification of Buddhism

Early Buddhism

A Study of the Evolution of Buddhist Thought

Buddhism, the Religion of No-religion

Secret of the Vajra World

Land of Beautiful Vision is the first book-length ethnography to address the role of material culture in contemporary adaptations of Buddhism

and the first to focus on convert Buddhists in New Zealand. Sally McAra takes as her subject a fascinating instance of an ongoing creative process whereby a global religion is made locally meaningful through the construction of a Buddhist sacred place. She uses an in-depth case study of a small religious structure, a stupa, in rural New Zealand to explore larger issues related to the contemporary surge in interest in Buddhism and religious globalization. Her research extends beyond the level of public discourse on Buddhism to investigate narratives of members of the Friends of the Western Buddhist Order (FWBO) about their relationship with the land, analyzing these and the FWBO's transformative project through a thematic focus on key symbolic landmarks at their site, Sudarshanaloka. In considering cross-cultural interactions resulting in syncretism or indigenization of alien religions, many anthropological studies concentrate on the unequal power relations between colonizing and colonized peoples. McAra extrapolates from this literature to look at a situation where the underlying power relations are quite different. She focuses on individuals in an organization whose members seek to appropriate knowledge from an "Eastern" tradition to remake their own society—one shaped by its unresolved colonizing past.

An introduction to Tibetan Buddhism covers the history, philosophy, and meditation practices of the religion.

Derived from a Buddhist funerary text, this famous volume's timeless wisdom includes instructions for attaining enlightenment, preparing for the process of dying, and moving through the various stages of rebirth.

No man has had a greater influence on the spiritual development of his people than Siddhartha Gautama. Born in India in the sixth century BC into a nation hungry for spiritual experience, he developed a religious and moral teaching that, to this day, brings comfort and peace to all who practise it. This comprehensive biography examines the social, religious and political conditions that gave rise to Buddhism as we now know it.

Buddhism in Kashmir

American Women Creating the New Buddhism

Special Times: Buddhism

Biographies of Chinese Buddhist Nuns from the Fourth to Sixth Centuries

The Way to the End of Suffering

His Holiness, The Dalai Lama

The Living Spirituality of Tibetan Buddhism

Your hands-on guide to this widely practiced and ancient religion Buddhism, one of the world's most widely practiced religions, is a fascinating yet complex eastern religion that is rapidly spreading throughout western civilization. What does it mean to be a Buddhist? What are the fundamental beliefs and history behind this religion? Buddhism For Dummies explores these questions and more in this updated guide to Buddhist culture. You'll gain an understanding of the origins of this ancient practice and how they're currently applied to everyday life. Whether you're a searcher of truth, a student of religions, or just curious about what makes Buddhism such a widely practiced religion, this guide is for you. In plain English, it defines the important terms, explains the key concepts, and explores in-depth a wide range of fascinating topics. New and expanded coverage on all the schools of Buddhism, including Theravada, Tibetan, and Mahayana The continuing relevance of the Dalai Lama Updated coverage on daily observances, celebrations, styles, practices, meditation, and more Continuing the Dummies tradition of making the world's religions engaging and accessible to everyone, Buddhism For Dummies is your essential guide to this fascinating religion. Buddhism For Dummies (9781119643265) was previously published as Buddhism For Dummies (9781118023792). While this version features a new Dummies cover and design, the content is the same as the prior release and should not be considered a new or updated product. Buddhists have played a significant role in shaping the religious history of Tamil-speaking South India, yet there are few remnants of Tamil-speaking Buddhist culture. Focusing on the two complete Buddhist texts in Tamil, Monius sheds light on the role of literary culture in the formation and evolution of the region's religious identity and community.

This title is comprehensive and descriptive analysis of Buddhist religious Philosophical tradition from its origin to downfall and revival. The celestial Valley was one of the most important and popular lands in the history of the spread and development of Buddhism in Asia but it is not generally known.

New interpretations of the central teachings of early Buddhism, mainly the relationship between identity and perception in early Buddhism.

A Minority Report
Mount Lu Revisited

Rule By Incarnation
Imagining a Place for Buddhism
Making a Buddhist Sacred Place in New Zealand
Mithuna in Buddhist Art

This volume presents the first book-length study in English of the concept of Buddha nature as discussed in the Buddha Nature Treatise (Fo Xing Lun), attributed to Vasubandhu and translated into Chinese by Paramartha in the sixth century. The author provides a detailed discussion of one of the most important concepts in East Asian Buddhism, a topic little addressed in Western studies of Buddhism until now, and places the Buddha nature concept in the context of Buddhist intellectual history. King then carefully explains the traditional Buddhist language in the text, and embeds Buddha nature in a family of concepts and values which as a group are foundational to the development of the major indigenous schools of Chinese Buddhism. In addition, she refutes the accusations that the idea of Buddha nature introduces a crypto-Atman into Buddhist thought, and that it represents a form of monism akin to the Brahmanism of the Upanisads. In doing this, King defends Buddha nature in terms of purely Buddhist philosophical principles. Finally, the author engages the Buddha nature concept in dialogue with Western philosophy by asking what it teaches us about what a human being, or person, is.

Women describe their lives and how they try to spread the teachings of Buddhism

This book presents a rethink on the significance of Thai Buddhism in an increasingly complex and changing post-modern urban context, especially following the financial crisis of 1997. Defining the cultural nature of Thai 'urbanity'; the implications for local/global flows, interactions and emergent social formations, James Taylor opens up new possibilities in understanding the specificities of everyday urban life as this relates to perceptions, conceptions and lived experiences of religiosity. Changes in the centre are also reverberating in the remaining forests and the monastic tradition of forest-dwelling which has sourced most of the nation's modern saints. The text is based on ethnography taking into account the rich variety of everyday practices in a mélange of the religious. In Thailand, Buddhism is so intimately interconnected with national identity and social, economic and ethno-political concerns as to be inseparable. Taylor argues here that in recent years there has been a marked reformulation of important conventional cosmologies through new and challenging Buddhist ideas and practices. These influences and changes are as much located outside as inside the Buddhist temples/monasteries.

The Buddha's teachings center around two basic principles. One is the Four Noble Truths, in which the Buddha diagnoses the problem of suffering and indicates the treatment necessary to remedy this problem. The other is the Noble Eightfold Path, the practical discipline he prescribes to uproot and eliminate the deep underlying causes of suffering. The present book offers, in simple and clear language, a concise yet thorough explanation of the Eightfold Path. Basing himself solidly upon the Buddha's own words, the author examines each factor of the path to determine exactly what it implies in the way of practical training. Finally, in the concluding chapter, he shows how all eight factors of the path function in unison to bring about the realization of the Buddhist goal: enlightenment and liberation.

Rematerializing the Sri Lankan Theravada Tradition

Discourses in Buddhist Classics

The Exploitation of America's Most Vulnerable Citizens

Indestructible Truth

Sanskrit Buddhism in Burma

Meetings with Remarkable Women

Religious Celebrations: An Encyclopedia of Holidays, Festivals, Solemn Observances, and Spiritual Commemorations [2 volumes]

Merging Buddhist mindfulness practices with the Twelve Step program, this updated edition of the bestselling recovery guide One Breath at a Time will inspire and enlighten you to live a better, healthier life. Many in recovery turn to the Twelve Steps to overcome their addictions, but struggle with the spiritual program. But what they might not realize is that Buddhist teachings are intrinsically intertwined with the lessons of the Twelve Steps, and offer time-tested methods for addressing the challenges of sobriety. In what is considered the cornerstone of the most significant recovery movement of the 21st century, Kevin Griffin shares his own extraordinary journey to sobriety and how he integrated the Twelve Steps of recovery with Buddhist mindfulness practices. With a new foreword by William Alexander, the author of Ordinary Recovery, One Breath at a Time takes you on a journey through the Steps, examining critical ideas like Powerlessness, Higher Power, and Moral Inventory through the lens of the core concepts of Buddhism—the Four Noble Truths, the

Eightfold Path, mindfulness, loving-kindness, and more. The result is a book that presents techniques and meditations for finding clarity and awareness in your life, just as it has for thousands of addicts and alcoholics.

I spent a very special week with the Tibetan community in Los Angeles, in June 2001. It was an extraordinary week because I met committed Buddhists, both American and Tibetan, who were present to hear His Holiness, the Dalai Lama present a week of teachings. I spent months preparing for that week, studying Buddhist texts to gain insight into this special community and its teaching. Tibetan Buddhism is Mahayana, meaning Greater Vehicle, where the path to enlightenment is extended to many reincarnated lives. But even after achieving enlightenment, Mahayana Buddhists take a Vow of the Bodhisatva, that even after meriting enlightenment, they will return to assist others in their path of life. They no longer need to do so, but do it nonetheless because of their love and regard for others. This is the core and essence of their compassion. My week with the Tibetan community offered me the opportunity to meet with the Sangha, the men, and women who wear Buddhist robes indicating their commitment to live by the teachings of the Buddha and bring compassion to the world. During that week, I heard His Holiness present in-depth reviews of the path to enlightenment. The highlight of the week took place on Friday, the last teaching day when His Holiness asked all to join him in the Vow of the Bodhisatva, as part of a partnership to bring compassion and good deeds to this world. I share that experience in this volume, which reflects my time and great opportunity to spend time with these special people.

The shocking truth about how state governments and their private industry partners are profiting from the social programs meant to support disadvantaged Americans Government aid doesn't always go where it's supposed to. Foster care agencies team up with companies to take disability and survivor benefits from abused and neglected children. States and their revenue consultants use illusory schemes to siphon Medicaid funds intended for children and the poor into general state coffers. Child support payments for foster children and families on public assistance are converted into government revenue. And the poverty industry keeps expanding, leaving us with nursing homes and juvenile detention centers that sedate residents to reduce costs and maximize profit, local governments buying nursing homes to take the facilities' federal aid while the elderly languish with poor care, and counties hiring companies to mine the poor for additional funds in modern day debtor's prisons. In The Poverty Industry, Daniel L. Hatcher shows us how state governments and their private industry partners are profiting from the social safety net, turning America's most vulnerable populations into sources of revenue. The poverty industry is stealing billions in federal aid and other funds from impoverished families, abused and neglected children, and the disabled and elderly poor. As policy experts across the political spectrum debate how to best structure government assistance programs, a massive siphoning of the safety net is occurring behind the scenes. In the face of these abuses of power, Hatcher offers a road map for reforms to realign the practices of human service agencies with their intended purpose and to prevent the misuse of public taxpayer dollars. With more Americans than ever before seeking unemployment benefits, it is essential to remedy the nefarious practices that will impede them from receiving the full government support they are due. The Poverty Industry shows us the path to rectify this systemic inequality to ensure that government aid truly gets to those in need.

A contemporary and diverse picture of the journey through life in each world religion.

Relics, Ritual, and Representation in Buddhism

Buddha: A Very Short Introduction

Tibetan Book of the Dead

An Encyclopedia of Holidays, Festivals, Solemn Observances, and Spiritual Commemorations

Lives of the Nuns

Buddhism

The Poverty Industry

"Su Shih (1037-1101) is regarded as one of the greatest Chinese literary and intellectual figures not only of the Northern Sung but of all time. He has been the subject of many studies but, until now, none have attempted to address fully the vital question of Buddhism in his work. Beata Grant has uncovered among Su Shih's voluminous writings an extraordinarily wide range of Buddhist-related poems, hymns, essays, and other writings that attest to Buddhism's importance in the literary culture of this period. In Mount Lu Revisited, Grant significantly alters current perceptions of both Su Shih and of high Sung culture by showing the deep and pervasive influence of Buddhist language, imagery, and ideas on Su's work." "The study opens with a concise overview of the complex and multifaceted but little-studied world of eleventh-century Chinese Buddhism and Su's role within it. This is followed by a detailed study of the ways in which the nature of this great poet's engagement with Buddhism was shaped by the constantly changing circumstances of his life and how these changes are reflected in his art. What emerges is a vivid portrait of Su's struggle to resolve creatively the psychological, intellectual, and spiritual tensions in his life, including the classic tension between a world-centered Confucianism and Buddhism's promise of personal liberation. Because many of these struggles reflect larger ones taking place in eleventh-century China as a whole, the light thus shed on Su Shih's life and art also illumines the relation between religious and literary culture during this time. This original and comprehensive work will be of interest not only to students of Su Shih and Sung literature but to all those broadly interested in this important period of Chinese medieval history."--BOOK JACKET. Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

This book deals with the unique religio-political system of Tibet.

Following the story of the historical Buddha's life on earth, to each of the eight places of traditional pilgrimage, which are hallowed by the Buddha's Birth, Enlightenment, Decease and other significant events. Other sites, which are important in the story of Gautama Buddha and have been rediscovered in recent years, are also described, and the author suggests where a search should be made for those that still remain hidden. He also discusses the problems that arose when attempts were made, little more than a hundred years ago, to identify these places in the light of the descriptions by Chinese pilgrims that have come down to us. He reveals the errors of that time, which have been rectified in the light of more recent evidence. This is a personal journey by a well-known travel-writer, whose lifelong interest in Buddhism leads him to present his own picture of the origin and development of the faith and to propose answers to questions that are still unresolved. The author has also provided an original plan for each of the sites visited as well as a full description of the place, and the book is illustrated by the author's own photographs.

Description: The main purpose of writing this book is not only to explain, but also to interpret, the three phases of development of Buddhist thought in India, and how and in what manner it spread out to countries as far away from the land of its origin as Japan. Though the subject may be vast, a conscious effort has been made of explaining the complexity of Buddhist philosophical thought in as concise terms as possible. The first five hundred years, which constitute the initial phase of development, is that of consolidation. The form of Buddhism that developed during this phase is at present known as Theravada, and is prevalent in countries that lie to the south of India. On

account of this geographical location of Theravada countries, it is also known as the Southern Buddhism. The second phase of Buddhism is characterised by the emergence of Mahayana. All those religious features were brought into Buddhism with the inception of Mahayana that are constitutive of folk religiosity. One of the important religious elements that crept into the Buddhist fold was the doctrine of Bodhisattva. Henceforward it would be the Bodhisattva ideal that would catch the imagination of a Buddhist believer. At the philosophical level two most important schools were established, namely, the Madhyamika and the Yogacara-Vijnanavada. Great strides, in the realm of art, were also made, particularly in architecture, sculpture and painting. The final phase of development is represented by the emergence of Tantricism. At this phase of development archaic religious elements, in the shape of magic, became part and parcel of Buddhist practice. Thus begins the process of degeneration of the ideals that the Buddha had enunciated at the time of his Enlightenment. This story of rise and fall, of development and degeneration, tells its own story, which needs to be told in terms that are understandable.

Essays on Time in Buddhism

Buddhism and the Twelve Steps

The Edited Transcripts

Highest Yoga Tantra

A New Approach : the I of the Beholder

The Tantric Buddhism of Tibet

Tathagatagarbha Doctrine According to the Shentong Interpretation of the Ratnagotravibhaga

This two-volume work presents a comprehensive survey of all the ways people celebrate religious life around the globe. • More than 800 A-Z entries on religious holidays and calen

Photographs of people celebrating various holidays around the world • A bibliography with each entry that offers sources for further research

One Breath at a Time

The Spread of Buddhism

Buddhist Teachers in America