Roots of Wisdom, Branches of Devotion
Plant Life in South Asian Traditions
edited by Fabrizio M. Ferrari and Thomas Dähnhardt
This volume reflects on plant life in South Asian traditions. It explores the way in which various religious traditions, including Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism, have represented and reflected upon the botanical environment—the sacred nature of trees and flora, the significance of plants as food and medicine, agriculture and the use of plants in ritual and myth. The volume is multidisciplinary in its approach and includes studies ranging from anthropology, history, religious studies, medicine and medical humanities to folklore, literature, hermeneutics and philosophy. 256p, 48 b/w illus (Equinox Publishing, June 2016) paperback, 9781781791202, $29.95. Special Offer $24.00 hardcover, 9781781791196, $100.00. Special Offer $80.00

Soulless Matter, Seats of Energy
Metals, Gems and Minerals in South Asian Religions and Culture
edited by Fabrizio M. Ferrari and Thomas Dähnhardt
Soulless Matter, Seats of Energy is the natural continuation of the two previous edited collections on animals and plants in South Asian religions. This volume reflects on the mineral world in South Asian traditions. It explores the way in which various religious traditions, including Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism, have represented and reflected upon the environment—in this case: minerals, gems, metals but also geological formations such as mountains and the earth itself. The volume is multidisciplinary in its approach and includes studies ranging from anthropology, history, religious studies, medicine and medical humanities to folklore, literature, hermeneutics and philosophy. 256p, 11 b/w illus (Equinox Publishing, September 2016) paperback, 9781781791288, $29.95. Special Offer $24.00 hardcover, 9781781791295, $100.00. Special Offer $80.00

Also available:

Charming Beauties and Frightful Beasts
Non-Human Animals in South Asian Myth, Ritual, and Folklore
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Buddhist Monks and the Politics of Lanka’s Civil War
by Suren Rāghavan
The war in Sri Lanka was violent and costly in human and material terms. This was one of the longest wars in modern South Asia. Often referred to as an ‘ethnic’ conflict between the majority Sinhalas and the minority Tamils, the war had a profound religious dimension. Taking the lives of three key Saṅgha activists as the modern framework of a Sinhala Buddhist worldview, this book examines the limitations of Western theories of peacebuilding and such solutions as federalism and multinationalism. It analyzes Sinhala Buddhist ethnoreligious nationalism and argues for the urgent need to engage Buddhist politics—in Lanka and elsewhere—with approaches and mechanisms that accommodate the Saṅgha as key actors in political reform.
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Entering the Stream to Enlightenment
Experiences of the Stages of the Buddhist Path in Contemporary Sri Lanka
by Yuki Sirimane
The study presents a definition for the ‘supramundane fruit’ of the path and an alternate framework to discuss and evaluate Theravada Buddhist religious experiences. It uses this framework to address some long-standing debates around the Theravada path and its fruits, bringing experience back to the center stage of these debates.
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by Juten Oda
This study of a scripture translated into Old Turkic from the apocryphal Chinese Bayangjing contains the reconstruction of the Old Turkic text and a comparison of the reconstructed text with the extant original Chinese text, as well as the Tibetan and Mongolian translations. The reconstructed text is provided in a critical edition, and the volume contains variae lectiones, an English translation, the text of the Chinese original (with English translation), together with notes on Buddhist terminology and Old Turkic terms.
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by Klaus-Dieter Mathes
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by Kurt Tropper

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by Anna Filigenzi
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Interaction in the Himalayas and Central Asia
Processes of Transfer, Translation and Transformation in Art, Archaeology, Religion and Polity
edited by Eva Allinger, Frantz Grenet, Christian Jahoda, Maria-Katharina Lang and Anne Vergati
This volume presents the proceedings of the Third International SEECHAC Colloquium, held in Vienna in 2013. Divided into three parts—I. Transfer and Interaction in Central Asia and Tibet; II. Translation and Adoption of Art and Architecture in the Western Himalayas; III. Patterns of Transformation in Tibet, Nepal, Mongolia and Central Asia—and preceded by an introduction by Christian Jahoda, past and current transformation processes of social, religious and material culture are addressed in 19 original contributions by experts from various fields of knowledge and disciplines including archaeology, architecture, art history and social anthropology as well as Central Asian, Mongolian and Tibetan Studies.
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Commentary
by Matteo de Chiara

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by Stephen L. Field
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The Taoism of Clarified Tenuity
Content and Intention
by Florian C. Reiter
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A Little Primer of Chinese Oracle-Bone Inscriptions with Some Exercises
by Ken-ichi Takashima
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by Jens W. Borgland
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Aspects of Creativity in South Asian Cultural History
edited by Elisa Freschi and Philipp A. Maas

The theoretical framework of “Adaptive reuse” is here applied to a wide spectrum of cultural activities, from the composition of new texts on the basis of earlier ones to the re-creation of concepts and rituals. Studies deal with the adaptive reuse of Sanskrit philosophical and grammatical texts, analyze the motif of the chariot in various religious contexts, and focus on the adaptive reuse of sources that are no longer available. 372p (Harrassowitz Verlag, January 2017, Abhandlungen für die Kunde des Morgenlandes 101) paperback, 9783447107075, $87.00. Special Offer $70.00

Daoist Perspectives on Knowing the Future
Selections from the Scripture on Great Peace (Taiping jing)
by Barbara Hendrischke

In China, in the first centuries of the Common Era, prognostication was a widely used tool of political decision making, of cultural and ideological expression and, increasingly, also of popular resistance. The Scripture on Great Peace contains warnings of a universal cataclysm and suggests a radical social and religious reorientation as means of salvation. The present volume documents the Scripture’s doctrinal and stylistic diversity. 300p (Harrassowitz Verlag, June 2017, Abhandlungen für die Kunde des Morgenlandes 110) paperback, 9783447108041, $79.00. Special Offer $64.00

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edited by Angela Schottenhammer

This bilingual volume with English and Spanish essays investigates networks of unofficial, private or illegal commercial exchange activities and knowledge transfer, including the trafficking of people as well as human interaction that took place behind the official curtain of tribute and trade. The geographical focus definitely lies on East Asia, and almost every contribution at least relates to this macro-region. But it also introduces comparative examples from the Indian Ocean, the Asia-Pacific and the Atlantic and adjacent countries. 364p (Harrassowitz Verlag, March 2015, East Asian Maritime History 12) hardcover, 9783447102384, $106.00. Special Offer $85.00

The Earliest Extant Bird List of Hainan
An Annotated Translation of the Avian Section in Qiongtai zhi
by Roderich Ptak and Baozhu Hu

One major aim of the present book is to identify traditional bird names in the light of modern taxonomy. Furthermore, in the comment to each entry the translators also seek to throw light on the cultural dimensions associated with the avian fauna of Hainan. This concerns religious, literary, ecological and other aspects. 154p (Harrassowitz Verlag, January 2015, Maritime Asia 28) hardcover, 9783447103152, $65.00. Special Offer $52.00

Northern Thai Stone Inscriptions (14th–17th Centuries)
Grammar
by Marek Buchmann

This volume is intended to give a preliminary grammatical overview of epigraphic Lanna Thai in Fak Kham script. The grammar serves as an aid to better understand the vocabulary in its inscriptive context. It consists of three main parts: phonology and orthography, syntax, and lexicon. The appendix offers detailed lists of grammatical terms and additional tables. 85p (Harrassowitz Verlag, March 2015, Abhandlungen für die Kunde des Morgenlandes 73.3) paperback, 9783447103671, $52.00. Special Offer $42.00

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Approaches to the Shiji as an Early Work of Historiography
edited by Hans van Ess, Olga Lomová and Dorothee Schaab-Hanke

This volume is the joint effort of established scholars of the field to approach the Shiji, the “Records of the Scribes” or perhaps “Historical Records,” authored by the two Western Han historians, Sima Tan and his son Sima Qian, an early masterpiece of both historiography and literature with some refreshingly new questions and working hypotheses. 296p (Harrassowitz Verlag, October 2015, Lun Wen – Studien zur Geistesgeschichte und Literatur in China 20) paperback, 9783447104760, $79.00. Special Offer $64.00

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