Recent Religion - December 2020

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Transmutations: Rejuvenation, Longevity, and Immortality Practices in South and Inner Asia / Dagmar Wujastyk, Suzanne Newcombe and Christele Barois

Dev Publisher and Distributors, New Delhi 2020

xxx,333p.;24cm. 9789387496408 \$ 40.00 / HB 750 gm.

Wild and diverse outcomes are associated with transmutational practices: the prolongation of life, the recovery of youth, the cure of diseases, invincibility, immortality, enlightenment, liberation from the cycle of rebirths, and unending bliss. This range of outcomes is linked to specific practices taught in separate traditions and lineages in medical, alchemical, yogic and tantric milieus across South and Inner Asia. In this edited volume, transmutational practices and their underlying concepts are examined in the wider context of South and Inner Asian culture. This volume draws together a wide scope of research into this area of enquiry. In addition to the examination of these concepts and practices in Sanskritic South Asian traditions, it features ground-breaking research on the related practices and concepts of kāyakarpam, bcud len and mendrup, developed in the Tamil Siddha medico-alchemical tradition and in Tibetan Buddhist and Bonpo contexts, respectively. The volume also offers an exploration of Islamic yogic longevity practices that emerged in Sufi milieus of the Roshang kingdom between the fifteenth and eighteenth centuries.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=713752

The Greatest Ode to Lord Ram : Tulsidas's Ramcharitmanas Selections & Commentaries / Pavan K. Varma

Westland Publications Private Limited, Chennai 2020

349p, hb, 24cm, 600gm

9789389152371

\$ 23.00 / HB

600 gm.

The Ramcharitmanas is undoubtedly one of the greatest lyrical compositions in Hindi literature. Writing in the sixteenth century, Tulsidas chose to pen verses in Awadhi rather than Sanskrit, thus breaking with literary tradition and, importantly, making Lord Ram more relatable to the lay person. Pavan K. Varma, author of the best-selling Adi Shankaracharya: Hinduism's Greatest Thinker, has selected some of the most evocative stanzas—offering a succinct commentary for each—that capture the very core of the original.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=730280

Sanskrit Parsing: Based on the Theories of Sabdabodha / Amba Kulkarni

Indian Institute of Advanced study, Shimla 2019

xxiii, 180 p.; 25 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788124609880

\$ 23.00 / HB

540 gm.

India has a rich grammatical tradition, still extant in the form of Panini's grammar as well as the theories of verbal cognition. These two together provide a formal theory of language communication. The formal nature of the theory makes it directly relevant to the new technology called Natural Language Processing. This book, first presents the key concepts from the Indian Grammatical Tradition (IGT) that are necessary for understanding the information flow in a language string and its dynamics. A fresh look at these concepts from the perspective of Natural Language Processing is provided. This is then followed by a concrete application of building a parser for Sanskrit using the framework of Indian Grammatical Tradition. This book not only documents the salient pieces of work carried out over the last quarter century under Computational Paninian Grammar, but provides the first comprehensive exposition of the ideas involved. It fills a gap for students of Computational Linguistics/Natural Language Processing who are working on Indian languages using Paninian Grammatical Framework for developing their computational models and do not have direct access to the texts in Sanskrit. Similarly for the Sanskrit scholars and the students it provides an example of concrete application of the Indian theories to solve a contemporary problem.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681346

Yoga in Transformation: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives / Karl Baier (ed)

Dev Publishers & Distributors, New Delhi 2020

630 p.; 24 cm. 9789387496309 \$ 50.00 / HB 1100 qm.

The volume explores aspects of yoga over a period of about 2500 years. In its first part, it investigates facets of the South Asian and Tibetan traditions of yoga, such as the evolution of posture practice, the relationship between yoga and sex, yoga in the theistic context, the influence of Buddhism on early Yoga, and the encounter of Islam with classical Yoga.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681296

Structuring Advaita Dialectic: A Study of Sriharsa's Khandanakhandakhadyam and Naisadhiyacaritam / Francis A.P

Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla 2019

xxiii, 374 p.; 23 cm. Bibliography Includes Index. 9789382396697 \$ 16.00 / HB 700 gm.

Structuring Advaita Dialectic: A study based on sriharsa's Khandanakhandakhadyam(KKK) and Naisadhiyacaritam(NC) is a scholarly attempt in the field of studies to restrusture the Advbaita dialectics aganist the background of the ideal set forth by triumvairate of Advaita dialectic viz. srihasrsa Citsukha and Madhusudana saravati. it is a study of Sriharsa's two text:Khandanakhandakhadyam and Naisadhiyacaritam. The first is a philosophical text and the second is a Mahakavya, a piece of literary art. Both these texts are known, in the tradition, as highly intellectual compositions. Starting from the identity and philosophical lineage of Srihasra, the study proceeds through the structuring of Advaita at the hands of Srihasra, taking into account the philosophical, methodological and aesthetic demensions intertwined very well.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681280

Tripunithura Grandhavari: A Study / P. Narayanan Indian Institute of Advanced study, Shimla 2019 145 p.: 23 cm.

145 p.; 23 cm. Includes Bibliography 9789382396659 \$ 16.00 / HB 400 gm.

A cruise through the 334 page Tripunithura Grandhavari reveals that the medieval Tripunithura temple was a gigantic institution embracing a wide range of spiritual and mundane matters and thus was sine quo non to all, whether theists or atheists. It had a patriarchal role as a rich land lord, employer consumer, organizer of entertainments, patron of ancient scriptures, and also as custodian of the traditional system of law and economy, besides providing spiritual solace to the people.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681282

Exclusion of Sudras from Brahmajijnasa: Re-Reading apasudradhikaranam of Brahmasutra Sankara Bhasya / Jaison Vadakkan

Motilal Banarsidass Publications, New Delhi 2019

xviii, 385 p.; 22 cm. Bibliography Includes Index.

9788194011149

\$ 15.00 / null

470 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681284

A Critical study in the Schism in Early Buddhist Monastic Tradition: Dasavatthu and Pancavatthu / Lokananda C. Bhikkhu

Motilal Banarsidass Publications, New Delhi 2019

165p.; 22 cm. Bibliography 9788194011132 \$ 12.00 / null 220 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681283

Buddhism in Southeast Asia / Sonia Jasrotia Shubhi publications, Haryana 2018

452 p.; 25 cm.

9788182904842

\$ 50.00 / HB

880 gm.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681275

Understanding Hinduism / Dayanand Bharati

Munsiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi 2019

xix, 439 p.; 22 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788121511421

\$ 32.00 / HB

Comprehensive new study of Hinduism. Insider perspective, attempts to bridge the chasm between scholarship and Hindu practice. a most interesting argument, balanced, and very details. Addresses rituals, key ideas, major doctrines, and contemporary issues confronting Hindus in India and in the diaspora

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681274

Epics, Khilas, and Puranas: Continuities and Ruptures (Proceedings of the Third Dubrovnik International Conference on the Sanskrit Epics and Puranas, September 2002) / Petteri Koskikallio

Dev Publishers & Distributors, New Delhi 2020 xxviii, 660p.; 24 cm. Includes Index. 9789381406939 \$ 57.00 / HB 1160 gm.

The Third Dubrovnik International Conference on the Sanskrit epics and purāas continued the work and exchange of ideas of a growing group of scholars from all over the world on the topics connected with the Sanskrit epic and purāic subjects. This time the Harivaśa was selected as one of its focuses, and therefore these proceedings contain six contributions on the Harivaśa, eight on the purāas, and nine on the Sanskrit epics, which can be considered a rather balanced result. the papers address the questions about continuities and ruptures between the Vedas and the epics, between different layers of the Sanskrit epics, between the Mahābhārata and the Harivaśa, between the epics, their khilas and the purāas, and between different stages of the purāic tradition. The contributions are written by prominent scholars working on Vedic, Sanskrit epic and purāic projects, and display a select, but representative, image of the state of the art, of important new results and of challenging open questions, in these crucial fields of Sanskrit scholarship.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681279

Parallels and Comparisons: Proceedings of the fourth Dubrovnik International conference on the Sanskrit Epics and Puranas / Petteri Koskikalio

Dev Publishers & Distributors, New Delhi 2020

xxiii, 531 p.; 24 cm. Includes Index. 9789381406922 \$ 50.00 / HB 1000 gm.

The first nine articles look for parallels and comparisons between Sanskrit epic texts and Vedic or Upaniadic texts, or even the Greek epic tradition, or between different layers and passages of the Sanskrit epics. They explore individual expressions and concepts, particular themes, text passages in context, text history or literary history. The next group of five articles look for parallels and comparisons in different Purāic and epic texts, within the framework of an interrelated tradition of Purāic texts, again sometimes even reaching beyond the boundaries of the Indian tradition. The last six articles discuss parallels between the Purāic and Tantric texts, between Hindu and Buddhist texts, between Hindu and Jaina texts, and finally between Sanskrit literary themes and modern themes in vernacular languages. The first nine articles in this volume are concerned with epic texts.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681291

Stages and Transitions: Temporal and Historical Frameworks in Epic and Puranic Literature / Mary Brockington

Dev Publishers & Distributors, New Delhi 2020

xvii, 396 p.; 24 cm. Includes Index. 9789381406946 \$ 42.00 / HB

The proceedings of the Second Dubrovnik International Conference on the Sanskrit Epics and Puranas under the title Stages and Transitions: temporal and historical frameworks in epic and Puranic literature are a collection of outstanding research papers written by eminent authors or promising young scholars whose results of research presented here as well as their further implications should certainly provoke a keen interest of all those who work in the field. It should also attract the attention of a broader public interested in oral and written literature, history of culture and history of religions because the study of Sanskrit Epics and Puranas provides us with invaluable information for all these areas of research.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681293

On The Interpretation of some Doubtful Words in the Atharvaveda and others essays / Tarapada Chowdhury

Monohar Publishers & Distributors, New Delhi 2020

200 p.; 24 cm. 9789388540926 \$ 24.00 / HB 380 gm.

Counted among the foremost vedic scholars and philologists of his time, Tarapada Chowdhury taught Sanskrit at Patna University for close to a quarter of a century. This volume presents his landmark treatise On the Interpretation of Some Doubtful Words in the Atharvaveda, first published in 1931, along with six other classic essays on the Vedas, Ramayana, Linguistics of Bengali and the poetics of Kalidasa: 'Theism in Āyurveda' (1934); 'The Vedas' and 'Ramayana' first published in History of Philosophy: Eastern and Western edited by S. Radhakrishnan (1952); 'The Unādisūtras: A Review' (1936); 'Some Phonetic Peculiarities of the Bengali Dialect of Manbhum' (1951) and 'LinguisticAberrationsinKālidāsa'sWritings'(1951). The volume will be of immense interest to scholars of Sanskrit, Vediclinguistics, KalidasaandHinduphilosophy." Preface At the time of his untimely demise, around the middle of the twentieth century, Tarapada Chowdhury was rated among the foremost scholars of Vedic philosophy and philology in India, by scholars as diverse as R.R. Diwakar, Nalin Vilochan Sharma and Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681286

On the Growth and Composition of the Sanskrit Epics and Puranas: Relationship to Kavya. Social and Economic Context / Ivan Andrijanic, Sven Sellmer

Dev Publishers & Distributors, New Delhi 2020

xxxvi, 520 p.; 24 cm. 9789381406915

\$ 50.00 / HB

1000 gm.

Out of the nineteen articles received from the contributors and positively assessed by an international assessors' team to be published in this volume, four are concerned with the growth of the Sanskrit epic literature (A. Hiltebeitel, O. Hellwig, M. Ježić, H. Brinkhaus), the first deals with the both Sanskrit epics, the next two with the Rāmāyaa, and the last one with the transition from the epic to Purāic cosmogony; six papers explore some aspects of the social and economic context of the epics, especially the Mahābhārata (J. Bronkhorst, G. Bailey, Y. Vassilkov, T. Pontillo, P. Szczurek, D. Feller); three papers are concerned with the composition and narrative strategies in the Purāas (R. Söhnen-Thieme, M. Taylor, K. Valpey); four are dedicated to the relationship between the Sanskrit epics and kāvya (P. Olivelle, K. Gönc Moačanin, L. Sudyka, A. Bonisoli); and two articles are philological studies of the meaning of particular words in epic contexts (S. Sellmer, L. Kulikov).

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681289

Kama Katha: Ribald and Sensuous in Classical Literature / M.L. Varadpande

Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi 2019

lx, 172 pages ; 25 cm 9788121513234 \$ 40.00 / HB 640 gm.

This book is unique Anthology of classical ribald and sensuous stories.

Indian Classical Literature, since ancient times, is vast and varied. It is rich in fictional content.

Kama means desire, wish, longing, pleasure, love, sensuality. As a Vedic god his cult flourished in India. Kama in literature is known as Sringara Rasa, the sentiment of love in all its various forms. Rati means amorous enjoyment, is it's source.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=619022

A Library of Clouds : The Scripture of the Immaculate Numen and the Rewriting of Daoist Texts / J.E.E. Petit and Chao-Jan Chang

The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press, Hong Kong 2020

xx, 356p.

Includes Index; Bibliography

9789882371811 \$ 72.00 / HB 800 gm.

From early times, Daoist writers claimed to receive scriptures via revelation from heavenly beings. In numerous cases, these writings were composed over the course of many nights and by different mediums. New revelations were often hastily appended, and the resulting unevenness gave rise to the impression that Daoist texts often appear slapdash and contain contradictions. A Library of Clouds focuses on the re-writing of Daoist scriptures in the Upper Clarity (Shangqing) lineage in fourth- and fifth-century China. Scholarship on Upper Clarity Daoism has been dominated by attempts to uncover "original" or "authentic" texts, which has resulted in the neglect of later scriptures—including the work fully translated and annotated here, the Scripture of the Immaculate Numen, one of the Three Wonders (sanqi) and among the most prized Daoist texts in medieval China. The scripture's lack of a coherent structure and its different authorial voices have led many to see it not as a unified work but the creation of different editors who shaped and reshaped it over time.

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A Library of Clouds constructs new ways of understanding the complex authorship of texts like the Scripture of the Immaculate Numen and their place in early medieval Daoism. It stresses their significance in understanding the ways in which manuscripts were written, received, and distributed in early medieval China. By situating the scripture within its immediate hagiographic and ritual contexts, it suggests that this kind of revelatory literature is best understood as a pastiche of ideas, a process of weaving together previously circulating notions and beliefs into a new scriptural fabric.

https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=743095

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