Shotoku: Ethnicity, Ritual, and Violence in the Japanese Buddhist Tradition

Prince Shotoku (573?-622?), the purported founder of Japanese Buddhism, is widely referred to as Japan's first national hero. The cult that grew up around his memory is recognized as one of the most important phenomena in early Japanese religion. This book examines the creation and evolution of the Shotoku cult over the roughly 200 years following his death—a period that saw a series of revolutionary developments in the history of Japanese religion. Michael Como highlights the activities of a cluster of kinship groups who claimed descent from ancestors from the Korean kingdom of Silla. He skilfully places these groups in their socio-cultural context and convincingly demonstrates their pivotal role in bringing continental influences to almost every aspect of government and community ideology in Japan. He argues that these immigrant kinship groups were not only responsible for the construction of the Shotoku cult, but were also associated with the introduction of the continental systems of writing, ritual, and governance. By comparing the ancestral legends of these groups to the Shotoku legend corpus and Imperial chronicles, Como shows that these kinship groups not only played a major role in the formation of the Japanese Buddhist tradition, they also to a large degree shaped the paradigms in terms of which the Japanese Imperial cult and the nation of Japan were conceptualized and created. Offering a radically new picture of the Asuko and Nara period (551-794), this innovative work will stimulate new approaches to the study of early Japanese religion focusing on the complex interactions among ideas of ethnicity, lineage, textuality, and ritual.

DOWNLOAD FILE HERE: http://relevantin.org/6dX9lb6.pdf


Weaving and Binding. 306 pages. History. Michael Como. 2009. Immigrant Gods and Female Immortals in Ancient Japan. ISBN:9780824829575. Among the most exciting developments in the study of Japanese religion over the past two decades has been the discovery of tens of thousands of ritual vessels, implements, and


The Religions of Tibet. The first comprehensive account of Tibetan Buddhism to be published in English since Waddell’s Buddhism of Tibet appeared in 1894, this translation is certain to become the. 1988. ISBN:0520063481. Giuseppe Tucci, Geoffrey Samuel. 340 pages. History


Secret Visions of the Fifth Dalai Lama. Samten Gyaltsen Karmay. 1998. ISBN:9780906026472. 142 pages. Art. A comprehensive history of West Tibet from the 10th to the 15th century, a period covered by a long-lost manuscript (mNga`.ris rgyal.rabs, by Gu.ge mkhan chan Ngag.dbang grags


Miraculous Stories from the Japanese Buddhist Tradition. ISBN:0700704493. Religion. 322 pages. This is the first collection of Buddhist legends in Japan, and these stories form the repertoire of miraculous events and moral examples that later Buddhist priests used for. Keikai, Kyoko Motomochi Nakamura. The Nihon Ryiki of the Monk Kykai. 1997


Courtesans and Tantric Consorts. 2004. Sexualities in Buddhist Narrative, Iconography and Ritual. Serinity Young. The wisest teachings of Buddhism say that, like all oppositions, one must move beyond gender. But as Serinity Young shows in this enlightening work, the rhetoric of Buddhist. 256 pages. ISBN:0415914833. History