Alms and Vagabonds

BUDDHIST TEMPLES AND POPULAR PATRONAGE IN MEDIEVAL JAPAN



Janet R. Goodwin

Alms And Vagabonds Buddhist Temples And Popular Patronage In Medieval Japan

Richard K. Payne, Taigen Dan Leighton

Alms And Vagabonds Buddhist Temples And Popular Patronage In Medieval Japan:

Alms and Vagabonds Janet R. Goodwin, 1994-01-01 **Confluences of Medicine in Medieval Japan** Andrew Edmond Goble, 2011-09-30 Confluences of Medicine is the first book length exploration in English of issues of medicine and society in premodern Japan This multifaceted study weaves a rich tapestry of Buddhist healing practices Chinese medical knowledge Asian pharmaceuticals and Islamic formulas as it elucidates their appropriation and integration into medieval Japanese medicine It expands the parameters of the study of medicine in East Asia which to date has focused on the subject in individual countries and introduces the dynamics of interaction and exchange that coursed through the East Asian macro culture The book explores these themes primarily through the two extant works of the Buddhist priest and clinical physician Kajiwara Shozen 1265 1337 who was active at the medical facility housed at Gokurakuji temple in Kamakura the capital of Japan's first warrior government With access to large numbers of printed Song medical texts and a wide range of materia medica from as far away as the Middle East Shozen was a beneficiary of the efflorescence of trade and exchange across the East China Sea that typifies this era His break with the restrictions of Japanese medicine is revealed in Ton isho Book of the simple physician and Man apo Myriad relief formulas Both of these texts are landmarks the former being the first work written in Japanese for a popular audience the latter the most extensive Japanese medical work prior to the seventeenth century Confluences of Medicine brings to the fore the range of factors networks of Buddhist priests institutional support availability of materials relevance of overseas knowledge to local conditions of domestic strife and serendipity that influenced the Japanese acquisition of Chinese medical information It offers the first substantive portrait of the impact of the Song printing revolution in medieval Japan and provides a rare glimpse of Chinese medicine as it was understood outside of China It is further distinguished by its attention to materia medica and medicinal formulas and to the challenges of technical translation and technological transfer in the reception and incorporation of a new pharmaceutical regime Discourse and Ideology in Medieval Japanese Buddhism Richard K. Payne, Taigen Dan Leighton, 2006-04-18 The medieval period of Japanese religious history is commonly known as one in which there was a radical transformation of the religious culture This book suggests an alternate approach to understanding the dynamics of that transformation One main topic of analysis focuses on what Buddhism its practices and doctrines its traditions and institutions meant for medieval Japanese peoples themselves This is achieved by using the notions of discourse and ideology and juxtaposing various topics on shared linguistic practices and discursive worlds of medieval Japanese Buddhism Collating contributions from outstanding scholars in the field of Buddhist Studies the editors have created an important work that builds on preliminary work on rethinking the importance and meaning of Kamakura Buddhism published recently in English and adds greatly to the debate Handbook of Medieval Studies Albrecht Classen, 2010-11-29 This interdisciplinary handbook provides extensive information about research in medieval studies and its most important results over the last decades The handbook is a reference work which enables the

readers to quickly and purposely gain insight into the important research discussions and to inform themselves about the current status of research in the field The handbook consists of four parts The first large section offers articles on all of the main disciplines and discussions of the field The second section presents articles on the key concepts of modern medieval studies and the debates therein The third section is a lexicon of the most important text genres of the Middle Ages The fourth section provides an international bio bibliographical lexicon of the most prominent medievalists in all disciplines A comprehensive bibliography rounds off the compendium The result is a reference work which exhaustively documents the current status of research in medieval studies and brings the disciplines and experts of the field together Monasticism in East Asia James A. Benn, Lori Meeks, James Robson, 2009-09-10 The area of Buddhist monasticism has long attracted the interest of Buddhist studies scholars and historians but the interpretation of the nature and function of monasteries across diverse cultures and vast historical periods remains a focus for debate This book provides a multifaceted discussion of religious social cultural artistic and political functions of Buddhist monasteries in medieval China and Japan With contributions from leading scholars in the field this volume explores the multiplicity of the institutions that make up the Buddhist monastery Drawing on new research and on previous studies hitherto not widely available in English the chapters cover key issues such as the relationship between monastics and lay society the meaning of monastic vows how specific institutions functioned and the differences between urban and regional monasteries Collectively the book demonstrates that medieval monasteries in East Asia were much more than merely residences for monks who cut off from the dust and din of society and all its entrapments collectively pursued an ideal cenobitic lifestyle Buddhist Monasticism in East Asia is a timely contribution to the ongoing attempts to understand a central facet of Buddhist religious practice and will be a significant work for academics and students in the fields of Buddhist Studies Asian Studies and East Asian Religions The Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Buddhism Michael K. Jerryson, 2017 The Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Buddhism offers a comprehensive collection of work by leading scholars in the field They examine the historical development of Buddhist traditions throughout the world from traditional settings like India Japan and Tibet to the less well known regions of Latin America Africa and Oceania Miracles of Book and Body Charlotte Eubanks, 2011-01-01 Miracles of Book and Body is the first book to explore the intersection of two key genres of sacred literature in medieval Japan sutras or sacred Buddhist texts and setsuwa or explanatory tales used in sermons and collected in written compilations For most of East Asia Buddhist sutras were written in classical Chinese and inaccessible to many devotees How then did such devotees access these texts Charlotte D Eubanks argues that the medieval genre of explanatory tales illuminates the link between human body devotee and sacred text sutra Her highly original approach to understanding Buddhist textuality focuses on the sensual aspects of religious experience and also looks beyond Japan to explore pre modern book history practices of preaching miracles of reading and the Mahayana Buddhist cult of the book **Buddhist Studies from India to America** Damien

Keown, 2006-01-16 Charles Prebish is Professor of Buddhism Pennsylvania State University US a leading international scholar and co founder of what is now the Buddhism section of the American Academy of Religion and served an additional term on the steering committee Prebish is well known in N America and this book should attract readers in the region The author of the book Damien Keown and Charles Prebish are editors of the Critical Studies in Buddhism series published by Routledge Contributors are well known international scholars whose participation guarantees that the academic quality of the work is high and the standard even throughout Faith in Mount Fuji Janine Anderson Sawada, 2021-12-31 Even a fleeting glimpse of Mount Fuji s snow capped peak emerging from the clouds in the distance evokes the reverence it has commanded in Japan from ancient times Long considered sacred during the medieval era the mountain evolved from a venue for solitary ascetics into a well regulated pilgrimage site With the onset of the Tokugawa period the nature of devotion to Mount Fuji underwent a dramatic change Working people from nearby Edo now Tokyo began climbing the mountain in increasing numbers and worshipping its deity on their own terms leading to a widespread network of devotional associations known as Fujik In Faith in Mount Fuji Janine Sawada asserts that the rise of the Fuji movement epitomizes a broad transformation in popular religion that took place in early modern Japan Drawing on existing practices and values artisans and merchants generated new forms of religious life outside the confines of the sectarian establishment Sawada highlights the importance of independent thinking in these grassroots phenomena making a compelling case that the new Fuji devotees carved out enclaves for subtle opposition to the status quo within the restrictive parameters of the Tokugawa order The founding members effectively reinterpreted materials such as pilgrimage maps talismans and prayer formulae laying the groundwork for the articulation of a set of remarkable teachings by Jikigy Miroku 1671 1733 an oil peddler who became one of the group's leading ascetic practitioners His writings fostered a vision of Mount Fuji as a compassionate parental deity who mandated a new world of economic justice and fairness in social and gender relations The book concludes with a thought provoking assessment of Jikigy's suicide on the mountain as an act of commitment to world salvation that drew on established ascetic practice even as it conveyed political dissent Faith in Mount Fuji is a pioneering work that contains a wealth of in depth analysis and original interpretation It will open up new avenues of discussion among students of Japanese religions and intellectual history and supply rich food for thought to readers interested in global perspectives on issues of religion and society ritual culture new religions and asceticism The Gates of Power Mikael S. Adolphson, 2000-07-01 The political influence of temples in premodern Japan most clearly manifested in divine demonstrations where rowdy monks and shrine servants brought holy symbols to the capital to exert pressure on courtiers has traditionally been condemned and is poorly understood In an impressive examination of this intriguing aspect of medieval Japan the author employs a wide range of previously neglected sources to argue that religious protest was a symptom of political factionalism in the capital rather than its cause It is his contention that religious violence can be traced primarily to attempts by secular leaders to rearrange

religious and political hierarchies to their own advantage thereby leaving disfavored religious institutions to fend for their accustomed rights and status In this context divine demonstrations became the preferred negotiating tool for monastic complexes For almost three centuries such strategies allowed a handful of elite temples to maintain enough of an equilibrium to sustain and defend the old style of rulership even against the efforts of the Ashikaga Shogunate in the mid fourteenth century By acknowledging temples and monks as legitimate co rulers The Gates of Power provides a new synthesis of Japanese rulership from the late Heian 794 1185 to the early Muromachi 1336 1573 eras offering a unique and comprehensive analysis that brings together the spheres of art religion ideas and politics in medieval Japan Readings on Pure Land Buddhism in Japan Galen Amstutz, 2020-06-08 Pure Land was one of the main fields of mythopoesis and discourse among the Asian Buddhist traditions and in Japan of central cultural importance from the Heian period right up to the present However its range inconsistency variability and complexity have tended to be misevaluated The pieces reproduced in this set organized both chronologically and thematically have been chosen as linchpin works accentuating the diversity of what evolved under this heading of Buddhism Special attention is given to the traps into which Western observers may fall the role of the large True Pure Land I doshinsh school and the richness of Tokugawa and twentieth century developments These selections of previously published articles will serve as an essential starting point for anyone interested in this perhaps underestimated area of Buddhist studies The Category of 'Religion' in Contemporary Japan Mitsutoshi Horii, 2018-04-17 This book critically examines the term religion sh ky as a social category within the sociological context of contemporary Japan Whereas the nineteenth century construction of sh ky has been critically studied by many the same critical approach has not been extended to the contemporary context of the Japanese language discourse on sh ky and Temple Buddhism This work aims to unveil the norms and imperatives which govern the utilization of the term sh ky in the specific context of modern day Japan with a particular focus upon Temple Buddhism The author draws on a number of popular publications in Japanese many of which have been written by Buddhist priests In addition the book offers rich interview material from conversations with Buddhist priests Readers will gain insights into the critical deconstruction the historicization and the study of social classification system of religion in terms of its cross cultural application to the contemporary Japanese context The book will be of interest to students and scholars across a range of disciplines including Japanese Studies Buddhology Religious Studies Social Anthropology and Sociology Japanese Singers of Tales: Ten Centuries of Performed Narrative Alison McQueen Tokita, 2017-03-02 Alison McQueen Tokita presents a series of case studies that demonstrate the persistence of Japanese sung narratives in a multiplicity of genres over ten centuries including the way they flourished and declined together with factors contributing to development and change in narrative performance Performed narratives are examples of a shared cultural heritage which in the past have given people a sense of belonging to a community Narratives that were continually re told and recycled in different versions and formats over a long period of

time served to build people s sense of a common identity over space the geographical extent of Japan and time the enduring power of many specific narratives such as The Tale of the Heike Much scholarly attention has focused on Japanese pre modern literature and drama but the tradition of oral narrative has barely been touched Tokita argues that it is possible to identify a continuous tradition of performed narrative in Japan from the tenth to the twentieth centuries The elements of variation and change relate to the move away from oral narrative to text based performance and from a simple narrative situation with one performer to complex theatrical narratives with dancers singers and other musicians The resulting complexity led to the pre eminence of the musical aspects in some cases and of dramatic or dance aspects in others Tokita includes substantial musical analysis and exploration of theoretical issues as well as documentation of important performance traditions all of which are extant **Authorizing the Shogunate** Vyjavanthi R. Selinger, 2013-07-11 The Genpei War of 1180 1185 signaled a crucial shift in Japanese history because it gave birth to the shogunate or government run by warriors How was the emergence of this new polity following a contentious civil war explained in literary texts This book argues that political authority is made visible in the variant texts of the Heike monogatari corpus through rituals that map the ideal social cosmic order overwriting untidy historical realities Artifacts of material culture likewise provide the social and political codes to authenticate warrior power and manage its violence Through its focus on ritual and material practices this book offers a new perspective on how texts from fourteenth century Japan harnessed symbolic understandings of authority to evoke order and contain rupture Equally significant is its analysis of the Genpei j suiki a Heike monogatari variant that played a critical role in the retrospection of medieval Japan through the early modern period A Companion to Asian Art and Architecture Rebecca M. Brown, Deborah S. Hutton, 2015-06-22 A Companion to Asian Art and Architecture presents a collection of 26 original essays from top scholars in the field that explore and critically examine various aspects of Asian art and architectural history Brings together top international scholars of Asian art and architecture Represents the current state of the field while highlighting the wide range of scholarly approaches to Asian Art Features work on Korea and Southeast Asia two regions often overlooked in a field that is often defined as India China Japan Explores the influences on Asian art of global and colonial interactions and of the diasporic communities in the US and UK Showcases a wide range of topics including imperial commissions ancient tombs gardens monastic spaces performances and pilgrimages The Postwar Development of Japanese Studies in the United States Helen Hardacre, 2023-07-17 The present volume documents the postwar history of United States scholarship on Japan A careful selection of North American scholars under the general editorship of Helen Hardacre Reischauer Institute Professor of Japanese Religions and Society at Harvard University shows that a range of factors have directed Japanese studies in the United States since 1945 Among these factors are social and political change in Japan and the United States shifts in dominant scholarly concerns about Japan and changing evaluations of area studies The work consists of twelve essays in a wide variety of fields history art religion

literature anthropology political science and law Each essay chronicles postwar scholarship in its particular discipline and provides a useful bibliography to serve further reference The general aim of the volume is to put current debates in historical perspective and to help assess the field s achievements It identifies areas requiring more work and charts directions for the Modern Passings Andrew Bernstein, 2006-01-31 What to do with the dead In Imperial Japan as elsewhere in the modernizing world answering this perennial question meant relying on age old solutions Funerals burials and other mortuary rites had developed over the centuries with the aim of building continuity in the face of loss As Japanese coped with the economic political and social changes that radically remade their lives in the decades after the Meiji Restoration 1868 they clung to local customs and Buddhist rituals such as sutra readings and incense offerings that for generations had given meaning to death Yet death as this highly original study shows was not impervious to nationalism capitalism and the other isms that constituted and still constitute modernity As Japan changed so did its handling of the inevitable Following an overview of the early development of funerary rituals in Japan Andrew Bernstein demonstrates how diverse premodern practices from different regions and social strata were homogenized with those generated by middle class city dwellers to create the form of funerary practice dominant today He describes the controversy over cremation explaining how and why it became the accepted manner of disposing of the dead He also explores the conflict filled process of remaking burial practices which gave rise in part to the suburban soul parks now prevalent throughout Japan the largely failed attempt by nativists to replace Buddhist death rites with Shinto ones and the rise and fall of the funeral procession In the process Bernstein shows how today s traditional funeral is in fact an early twentieth century invention and traces the social and political factors that led to this development These include a government wanting to separate itself from religion even while propagating State Shinto the appearance of a new middle class and new forms of transportation As these and other developments created new contexts for old rituals Japanese faced the problem of how to fit them all together What to do with the dead is thus a question tied to a still broader one that haunts all societies experiencing rapid change What to do with the past Modern Passings is an impressive and far reaching exploration of Japan's efforts to solve this puzzle one that is at the heart of the modern experience Buddhism and Iconoclasm in East Asia Fabio Rambelli, Eric Reinders, 2014-03-27 This is a cross cultural study of the multifaceted relations between Buddhism its materiality and instances of religious violence and destruction in East Asia which remains a vast and still largely unexplored field of inquiry Material objects are extremely important not just for Buddhist practice but also for the conceptualization of Buddhist doctrines yet Buddhism developed ambivalent attitudes towards such need for objects and an awareness that even the most sacred objects could be destroyed After outlining Buddhist attitudes towards materiality and its vulnerability the authors propose a different and more inclusive definition of iconoclasm a notion that is normally not employed in discussions of East Asian religions Case studies of religious destruction in East Asia are presented together with a new theoretical framework drawn from semiotics and cultural studies to address

more general issues related to cultural value sacredness and destruction in an attempt to understand instances in which the status and the meaning of the sacred in any given culture is questioned contested and ultimately denied and how religious institutions react to those challenges Selling Songs and Smiles Janet R. Goodwin, 2006-12-31 Selling Songs and Smiles explores female sexual entertainment songs and smiles during Japan s Heian and Kamakura periods examining the gradual construction of a transgressive identity prostitute for women engaged in the sex trade Over some four hundred years the character and public image of sexual entertainment was shaped by growing restrictions on female sexual activity and increasingly negative views of the female body themselves the result of socioeconomic change in society at large Although it is possible to paint a picture of the general decline in the status of women in the sex trade there were also ambiguities in how they were regarded by society in the very oldest extant references to them in historical sources Using essays diaries legal documents stories and illustrated works this original and distinctive study unravels social attitudes toward female sexual entertainers and examines changes in their trade and the treatment they received at the hands of the court the bakufu and religious institutions Compellingly argued and stylishly written Selling Songs and Smiles challenges several prevailing interpretations most notably the organic connection posed by scholars between shamans and sexual entertainers Based on her exhaustive research into multiple types of primary sources Janet Goodwin views women involved in the sex trade neither as entirely social marginals nor artisans situated within normal societal bounds What emerges from her study is the complex and often contradictory nature of the Heian and Kamakura discourse on sexual entertainment Emplacing a Pilgrimage Barbara Ambros, 2020-03-23 Towering over the Kanto Plain the sacred mountain yama literally Big Mountain has loomed large over the religious landscape of early modern Japan By the Edo period 1600 1868 the revered peak had undergone a transformation from secluded spiritual retreat to popular pilgrimage destination Its status as a regional landmark among its devotees was boosted by its proximity to the shogunal capital and the wide appeal of its amalgamation of Buddhism Shinto mountain asceticism and folk beliefs The influence of the yama cult the intersecting beliefs practices and infrastructure associated with the sacred site was not lost on the ruling Tokugawa shogunate which saw in the pilgrimage an opportunity to reinforce the communal ideals and social structures that the authorities espoused Barbara Ambros provides a detailed narrative history of the mountain and its place in contemporary society and popular religion by focusing on the development of the yama cult and its religious political and socioeconomic contexts Richly illustrated and carefully researched this study emphasizes the importance of site or region in considering the multifaceted nature and complex history of religious practice in Tokugawa Japan

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