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# Buddhist Divinities

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The Gods of Northern Buddhism

Buddhist Goddesses of India

Encyclopedia of Asian Philosophy

The Indian Buddhist Iconography Mainly Based on the Sādhnamālā and Other Cognate Tāntric Texts of Rituals

Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics: Picts-Sacraments

An Encyclopaedia of Buddhist Deities, Demigods, Godlings, Saints, and Demons with Special Focus on Iconographic Attributes

Genesis and Development of Tantra

Emperor Wu Zhao and Her Pantheon of Devis, Divinities, and Dynastic Mothers

Asian Mythologies

Behold the Buddha

Buddhas and Kami in Japan

Buddhist Goddesses of India

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Mudrās in Buddhist and Hindu Practices

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Esoteric Buddhism and the Tantras in East Asia

Dictionary of Gods and Goddesses

Amazing Land Ladakh

Engaging Transculturality

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The gods of northern Buddhism  
Hindu Divinities in Japanese Buddhist Pantheon  
The Gods of Northern Buddhism  
The Gods of Northern Buddhism  
Thailand's Theory of Monarchy  
India and Japan, a Study in Interaction During 5th Cent.-14th Cent. A.D.  
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Faces of Compassion  
Christianity in Early Modern Japan

*Buddhist Divinities*

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## **JAIDYN CHRISTINE**

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The Gods of Northern Buddhism State  
University of New York Press

Presents brief entries describing the gods  
and goddesses from the mythology and  
religion of a wide variety of cultures  
throughout history.

Buddhist Goddesses of India University of  
Hawaii Press

An extraordinary encyclopedia of Buddhist  
icons. Illustrating the Rin 'byung brgya  
rtsa, the Nar thang brgya rtsa, and the

Vajravali, the book is based on a collection  
of over five hundred images of Tibetan  
deities. The images, presented in the book  
at full scale, were originally created by a  
master artist in the early nineteenth  
century to serve as initiation cards (tsakli).  
The original tsakli were woodblock prints,  
hand colored at the request of a Ch'ing  
Dynasty nobleman who had received the  
initiations. Such cards are used in  
ceremonies to introduce the practitioner to  
the deity and his or her practice. The  
paintings are housed in the Ethnographic  
Museum of the University of Zurich.  
Deities of Tibetan Buddhism is also an

indispensable reference tool for  
Tibetologists, students of Mahayana  
Buddhism, and museum curators. Its  
extensive supplementary materials  
include English translations of the basic  
invocation texts; the associated  
visualization with descriptions of the  
deities' postures, attributes, and colors;  
and the dharanis and mantras used in  
their invocation. Co-editor Martin Willson  
spent more than a decade translating and  
documenting this work. He has provided  
detailed explanations of technical terms,  
enlightening explanatory notes, and  
glossaries documenting the discrepancies

in the depictions. The extensive pictorial index, featuring drawings and text by Robert Beer, explains the symbolic meaning behind the deities' implements and adornments. The cross-referenced indices for Tibetan, Sanskrit, Mongolian, and English names and terms provide quick access to vast amounts of information. Co-editor Martin Brauen and the technical staff of the Ethnographic Museum of the University of Zurich have documented the relationship between this and other sets of initiation cards that exist elsewhere, as well as detailing the construction materials and methods involved in producing this set. Deities of Tibetan Buddhism is a reference book without peer, essential for any serious student of Tibetan and East Asian art and religion.

*Encyclopedia of Asian Philosophy* Vedams eBooks (P) Ltd

This 1988 book is a multidisciplinary and cross-cultural study of the legend that has evolved around the figure of Maitreya.

*The Indian Buddhist Iconography Mainly Based on the Sāadhanamālā and Other Cognate Tāntric Texts of Rituals* CUP Archive

Excerpt from *The Gods of Northern Buddhism: Their History, Iconography and Progressive, Evolution Through the Northern Buddhist Countries* It is difficult for those who are unacquainted with the iconography of the gods of the Mahayana Pantheon to realize the degree of interest that may be attached to even a crude representation of a Northern Buddhist divinity. To the uninitiated the images of these deities are only of value as works of art, or as grotesque curios, with their various heads and many arms; but to the initiated, apart from their artistic merit, they furnish an almost inexhaustible fund for study and research. The most accurate source of information in regard to the Northern Buddhist divinities has been found in the sadhana, or texts of invocations of the gods, in which they are described with much detail. Unfortunately, sadhana of all the gods of the Mahayana Pantheon have not as yet been discovered, and there remain a number of deities about whom very little is known. At any moment, however, a flood of light may be thrown on these obscure divinities, for, among others, Mr. Ekai Kawaguchi (a Japanese Buddhist priest who spent three

years in Tibet disguised as a Chinese monk) is translating some valuable manuscripts which he succeeded in carrying out of Tibet. The study of the iconography of the Northern Buddhist deities is therefore in its infancy. With the exception of a few erudite books, little has been written on the subject, and it is only by persistent research, and by a comparative study of the examples in the museums of Europe, India, and Japan, as well as in the temples of the Northern Buddhist countries, that one can arrive at a comprehensive knowledge of these gods and of their evolution during the process of transmission from India via Chinese Turkestan (and later, through Tibet) to China, Mongolia, and Japan. The Tibetan and Mongolian lamas, from whom one would expect to get much valuable information, are, unfortunately, with few exceptions, more versed in the tenets of their religion than in the iconography of their gods: and as Tibet is still 'a forbidden land', intercourse with the Tibetan lamas in their own country is practically impossible. Among the Japanese Buddhist priests, however, there are some very learned men. Through the kindness of the

late Professor Arthur Lloyd, whose death has recently deprived Japan of one of its greatest authorities on Japanese Buddhism, I was put into communication with Mr. S. Tachibana, Buddhist priest and Sanskrit scholar, who has kindly made many researches for me. I have also to thank Sramana Kawaguchi of Benares, Sramana Jeshu Oda, Rector of the Chomoji Monastery at Nagoya, and Mr. Hanazono of Tokyo, for their help in making certain researches possible. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at [www.forgottenbooks.com](http://www.forgottenbooks.com) This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

**Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics:**

**Picts-Sacraments** Psychology Press  
Incorporating cultural and religious contexts, this unique Encyclopedia provides a vital guide to the main concepts and thinkers in Asian philosophy - starting with Abhidharma and ending with Zurvan. The main philosophical trends and thinkers in each geographical area are featured, with an emphasis on endtemporary developments and movements. The A-Z structured encyclopedia emphasizes that Asian philosophy is not merely an ancient form of thought but that it is a living philosophy, with roots in the past, and also a potent and animate presence today. This translates into the reciprocal exchange of theories between Eastern and Western thinking, for example of new schools of thought such as orientalism. Requiring no prior knowledge of philosophy, religion or Asian cultures, this book is essential reading for students, teachers and the interested individual who wishes to gain an understanding of the philosophical basis to Asian cultural systems.  
*An Encyclopaedia of Buddhist Deities, Demigods, Godlings, Saints, and Demons with Special Focus on Iconographic*

*Attributes* Simon and Schuster

This volume provides a new history of Christianity in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Japan by depicting the world of ordinary Japanese Christians. It examines their religious expressions, as well as textual expositions given to them, within the context of Japanese religious culture.

**Genesis and Development of Tantra**

Metropolitan Museum of Art

Helen Hardacre offers for the first time in any language a sweeping, comprehensive history of Shinto, the tradition that is practiced by some 80% of the Japanese people and underlies the institution of the Emperor.

**Emperor Wu Zhao and Her Pantheon of Devis, Divinities, and Dynastic Mothers**

Infobase Publishing

Faces of Compassion introduces us to enlightened beings, the bodhisattvas of Buddhist lore. They're not otherworldly gods with superhuman qualities but shining examples of our own highest potential. Archetypes of wisdom and compassion, the bodhisattvas of Buddhism are powerful and compelling images of awakening. Scholar and Zen teacher Taigen Dan Leighton engagingly explores

the imagery and lore of the seven most important of these archetypal figures, bringing them alive as psychological and spiritual wellsprings. Emphasizing the universality of spiritual ideas, Leighton finds aspects of bodhisattvas expressed in a variety of familiar modern personages - from Muhammad Ali to Mahatma Gandhi, from Bob Dylan to Henry Thoreau, and from Gertrude Stein to Mother Teresa. This edition contains a revised and expanded introduction that frames the book as a exciting and broad-scoped view of Mahayana Buddhism. It's updated throughout to make it of more use to scholars and a perfect companion to survey courses of world religions or a 200-level course on Buddhism.

*Asian Mythologies* Columbia University Press

"The Indian Buddhist world abounds with goddesses--voluptuous tree spirits, maternal nurturers, potent healers and protectors, transcendent wisdom figures, cosmic mothers of liberation, and dancing female Buddhas. Despite their importance in Buddhist thought and practice, these female deities have received relatively little scholarly attention, and no

comprehensive study of the female pantheon has been available. *Buddhist Goddesses of India* is the essential and definitive guide to divinities that, as Miranda Shaw writes, "operate from transcendent planes of bliss and awareness for as long as their presence may benefit living beings." Beautifully illustrated, the book chronicles the histories, legends, and artistic portrayals of nineteen goddesses and several related human figures and texts. Drawing on a sweeping range of material, from devotional poetry and meditation manuals to rituals and artistic images, Shaw reveals the character, powers, and practice traditions of the female divinities. Interpretations of intriguing traits such as body color, stance, hairstyle, clothing, jewelry, hand gestures, and handheld objects lend deep insight into the symbolism and roles of each goddess. In addition to being a comprehensive reference, this book traces the fascinating history of these goddesses as they evolved through the early, Mahayana, and Tantric movements in India and found a place in the pantheons of Tibet and Nepal."--Publisher's website.

*Behold the Buddha* Gyan Publishing House  
 Illustrations: Numerous B/w and Colour  
 Illustrations Description: The Indian Buddhist world abounds with goddesses--voluptuous tree spirits, maternal nurturers, potent healers and protectors, transcendent wisdom figures, cosmic mothers of liberation, and dancing female Buddhas. Despite their importance in Buddhist thought and practice, these female deities have received relatively little scholarly attention, and no comprehensive study of the female pantheon has been available. *Buddhist Goddesses of India* is the essential and definitive guide to divinities that, as Miranda Show writes, operate from transcendent planes of bliss and awareness for as long as their presence may benefit living beings. Beautifully illustrated, the book chronicles the histories, legends, and artistic portrayals of nineteen goddesses and several related human figures and texts. Drawing on a sweeping range of material, from devotional poetry and meditation manuals to rituals and artistic images, Shaw reveals the character, powers, and practice traditions of the female divinities.

Interpretations of intriguing traits such as body color, stance, hairstyle, clothing, jewelry, hand gestures, and handheld objects lend deep insight into the symbolism and roles of each goddess. In addition to being a comprehensive reference, this book traces the fascinating history of these goddesses as they evolved through the early, Mahayana, and Tantric movements in India and found a place in the pantheons of Tibet and Nepal. *Buddhas and Kami in Japan* Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Scope: theology, philosophy, ethics of various religions and ethical systems and relevant portions of anthropology, mythology, folklore, biology, psychology, economics and sociology.

Buddhist Goddesses of India Princeton University Press

Invaluable reference covers names, attributes, symbolism, representations of deities in Mahayana pantheon of China, Japan, Tibet, etc. 185 illus.

*Library of Congress Subject Headings*  
BRILL

Mudras occupy an important place in Buddhist and Hindu religious practices as these signify special meanings, associated

with specific divinities and rites, which cannot be represented any other way. This book is a dictionary of mudras in Hindu and Buddhist religious practices that lists the various mudras - deity-centred, rite-centred, yogic-centred, and so on - illustrating each with a simple drawing drawn generally from the perspective of one holding the mudra. It contains detailed notes that give numerous references to literary and other sources that reveal a lot about the mudras - their descriptions in the texts, rites associated with the mudras in the texts as well as the varied interpretations of a number of mudras in the different texts. The book also has an introduction on Hindu and Buddhist mudras that goes into iconographic features associated with deities along with the technical descriptions and the subcategories and further divisions into which mudras are arranged. It scrutinises the work done by a number of scholars on the subject to throw further light on the subject. The volume will prove indispensable to all students and scholars who are engaged in study of Hindu and Buddhist religious traditions and practices.

*Buddhist Divinities* Routledge

Cultural interaction between India and Japan in the fields of religion, language and literature, and art; a study.

*Mudrās in Buddhist and Hindu Practices*  
Indus Publishing

Images of the Buddha are everywhere—not just in temples but also in museums and homes and online—but what these images mean largely depends on the background and circumstance of those viewing them. In *Behold the Buddha*, James Dobbins invites readers to imagine how premodern Japanese Buddhists understood and experienced icons in temple settings long before the advent of museums and the internet. Although widely portrayed in the last century as visual emblems of great religious truths or as exquisite works of Asian art, Buddhist images were traditionally treated as the very embodiment of the Buddha, his palpable presence among people. Hence, Buddhists approached them as living entities in their own right—that is, as awakened icons with whom they could interact religiously. Dobbins begins by reflecting on art museums, where many non-Buddhists first encounter images of

the Buddha, before outlining the complex Western response to them in previous centuries. He next elucidates images as visual representations of the story of the Buddha's life followed by an overview of the physical attributes and symbolic gestures found in Buddhist iconography. A variety of Buddhas, Bodhisattvas, and other divinities commonly depicted in Japanese Buddhism is introduced, and their "living" quality discussed in the context of traditional temples and Buddhist rituals. Finally, other religious objects in Japanese Buddhism—relics, scriptures, inscriptions, portraits of masters, and sacred sites—are explained using the Buddhist icon as a model. Dobbins concludes by contemplating art museums further as potential sites for discerning the religious character of Buddhist images. Those interested in Buddhism generally who would like to learn more about its rich iconography—whether encountered in temples or museums—will find much in this concise, well-illustrated volume to help them "behold the Buddha."  
*The Origins of Himalayan Studies*  
 University of Chicago Press

Buddhist Divinities  
*Esoteric Buddhism and the Tantras in East Asia*  
 Northern Book Centre  
 Engaging Transculturality is an extensive and comprehensive survey of the rapidly developing field of transcultural studies. In this volume, the reflections of a large and interdisciplinary array of scholars have been brought together to provide an extensive source of regional and trans-regional competencies, and a systematic and critical discussion of the field's central methodological concepts and terms. Based on a wide range of case studies, the book is divided into twenty-seven chapters across which cultural, social, and political issues relating to transculturality from Antiquity to today and within both Asian and European regions are explored. Key terms related to the field of transculturality are also discussed within each chapter, and the rich variety of approaches provided by the contributing authors offer the reader an expansive look into the field of transculturality. Offering a wealth of expertise, and equipped with a selection of illustrations, this book will be of interest to scholars and students from a variety of fields within the Humanities and

Social Sciences.  
**Dictionary of Gods and Goddesses**  
 Oxford University Press  
 Illustrations: Numerous B/w Illustrations  
 Description: Buddhist Divinities is a thoughtful contribution to the history of Buddhism comprising both history of religion and art. It presents a systematic account of many renowned scholars of Buddhist religion, philosophy and literature who worked and studied in the monastic universities of Bengal and Bihar. These scholars contributed most to the history of Buddhist religion and for this they received respect above god for their learning and character. Besides these deified historical personages a detailed list is made of Buddhist gods and goddesses (on the basis of images discovered), both major and minor with their symbols, attributes, characteristics and iconographical details, in the hope that it may help to give a broad and general idea of the peculiarities of Buddhism which were developing in some of its later phases. The book is a comprehensive treatment of these subjects which are vital from the point of view of history of Buddhism, both history of religion and art:

but which are least understood and studied in systematic manner.

*Amazing Land Ladakh* D.K. Print World Limited

This volume offers a multidisciplinary approach to the combinatory tradition that dominated premodern and early modern Japanese religion, known as honji suijaku (originals and their traces). It questions received, simplified accounts of the interactions between Shinto and Japanese

Buddhism, and presents a more dynamic and variegated religious world, one in which the deities' Buddhist originals and local traces did not constitute one-to-one associations, but complex combinations of multiple deities based on semiotic operations, doctrines, myths, and legends. The book's essays, all based on specific case studies, discuss the honji suijaku paradigm from a number of different perspectives, always integrating historical and doctrinal analysis with interpretive

insights.

**Engaging Transculturality** Univ of California Press

These 130 articles Aisan mythologies and cover such topics as Buddhist and Hindu symbolic systems, myth in pre-Islamic Iran, Chinese cosmology and demons, and the Japanese conceptions of the afterlife and the "vital spirit". Also includes myths from Turkey, Korea, Tibet, and Mongolia. Illustrations.

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