

Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma

Pattana Kitiarsa

Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma:

Religion and Legitimation of Power in Thailand, Laos, and Burma Bardwell L. Smith, 1978 **Human Rights in Thailand** Don Selby, 2018-05 By placing greater emphasis on human rights as an anthropological concern Don F Selby concludes that they are a matter of negotiation within everyday forms of sociality morality and politics Theory of Monarchy Patrick Jory, 2016-05-09 2016 CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title Since the 2006 coup d tat Thailand has been riven by two opposing political visions one which aspires to a modern democracy and the rule of law and another which holds to the traditional conception of a kingdom ruled by an exemplary Buddhist monarch Thailand has one of the world's largest populations of observant Buddhists and one of its last politically active monarchies This book examines the Theravada Buddhist foundations of Thailand's longstanding institution of monarchy Patrick Jory states that the storehouse of monarchical ideology is to be found in the popular literary genre known as the J takas tales of the Buddha s past lives The best known of these the Vessantara J taka disseminated an ideal of an infinitely generous prince as a bodhisatta or future Buddha an ideal which remains influential in Thailand today Using primary and secondary source materials largely unknown in Western scholarship Jory traces the history of the Vessantara J taka and its political cultural importance from the ancient to the modern period Although pressures from European colonial powers and Buddhist reformers led eventually to a revised political conception of the monarchy the older Buddhist ideal of kingship has yet endured **Buddhism and Violence** Vladimir Tikhonov, Torkel Brekke, 2012-09-10 It is generally accepted in the West that Buddhism is a peaceful religion The Western public tends to assume that the doctrinal rejection of violence in Buddhism would make Buddhist pacifists and often expects Buddhist societies or individual Asian Buddhists to conform to the modern Western standards of peaceful behavior This stereotype which may well be termed positive Orientalism since it is based on assumption that an Oriental religion would be more faithful to its original non violent teachings than Western Christianity has been periodically challenged by enthusiastic acquiescence by monastic Buddhism to the most brutal sorts of warfare This volume demolishes this stereotype and produces instead a coherent nuanced account on the modern Buddhist attitudes towards violence and warfare which take into consideration both doctrinal logic of Buddhism and the socio political situation in Asian Buddhist societies The chapters in this book offer a deeper analysis of Buddhist militarism and Buddhist attitudes towards violence than previous volumes grounded in an awareness of Buddhist doctrines and the recent history of nationalism as well as the role Buddhism plays in constructions of national identity The international team of contributors includes scholars from Thailand Japan and Religions and Societies, Asia and the Middle East Carlo Caldarola, 1982 The series Religion and Society RS Korea contributes to the exploration of religions as social systems both in Western and non Western societies in particular it examines religions in their differentiation from and intersection with other cultural systems such as art economy law and politics Due attention is given to paradigmatic case or comparative studies that exhibit a clear theoretical orientation with

the empirical and historical data of religion and such aspects of religion as ritual the religious imagination constructions of tradition iconography or media In addition the formation of religious communities their construction of identity and their relation to society and the wider public are key issues of this series **Cultural Politics and Asian Values** Michael D. Barr, 2004 This book surveys the political history and pre history of the Asian values debate Barr explores the histories and conceptual essences of the world religions involved in or affected by the debate Mediums, Monks, and Amulets Pattana Kitiarsa, 2012-08-15 Mediums Monks and Amulets is a sophisticated yet accessible study of the state of popular Buddhist beliefs as they are practiced in Thailand today Using a combination of focused case studies and analysis Pattana Kitiarsa explores the nature and evolution of popular Buddhism over the past three decades by focusing on those individuals who practice popularize and profit from it The case studies profiled in this book include prominent spirit mediums and magic monks the lottery fever surrounding the posthumous cult of folk singer Phumphuang Duangchan the Chatukham Rammathep amulet craze and the cult of wealth attributed to preeminent monk Luang Pho Khun It also explores the history of both popular and official opinion surrounding supernatural Buddhism and its clashes with the rationalist modernizing policies of Thailand's monarchy and government Mediums Monks and Amulets contests the viewpoint that supernatural elements within popular Buddhism are a symptom of the decline of the religion Instead it argues that this hybridity between traditional Buddhist beliefs and elements from other religions is in fact a symptom of the health and wealth of Buddhism as it negotiates large scale commercialization and global modernity What others are saying Pattana Kitiarsa's ability to weave his personal experiences in with sophisticated anthropological methods makes this book a fascinating and moving read It is a welcome addition to the field and should be read by everyone interested in religion and modernity in Southeast Asia and beyond Justin McDaniel author of Gathering Leaves and Lifting Words 2008 and The Lovelorn Ghost and Magical Monk 2011 Medium Monks and Amulets sheds light on the changing landscape of contemporary Thai religion that is increasingly influenced by prosperity cults from both inside and outside the Buddhist establishment This book helps us to make sense of the religious universe where magic monks spirit mediums amulets deities and other religious commodities of different sorts keep appearing endlessly Phra Paisal Visalo Highlights Focused case studies on individual cult practices including magic monks spirit mediums amulet cults and other prosperity cults Written by the perspective of an anthropologist who is also a follower of popular Buddhism Discusses not only the interaction of popular Buddhist practices with modern day lawmakers but also of nineteenth century royal interaction with supernatural cults Anthropology of Precious Minerals Elizabeth Ferry, Annabel Vallard, Andrew Walsh, 2020 Based on a Wenner Gren international workshop held at the Royal Ontario Museum this book addresses the complexity of human mineral engagements through ethnographic case studies and anthropological reflections on different people and the minerals they deem precious The Buddhist World of Southeast Asia Donald K. Swearer, 2012-02-01 An unparalleled portrait Donald K Swearer's Buddhist World of Southeast Asia has been a key source for all those interested in the Theravada homelands since the work s publication in 1995 Expanded and updated the second edition offers this wide ranging account for readers at the beginning of the twenty first century Swearer shows Theravada Buddhism in Southeast Asia to be a dynamic complex system of thought and practice embedded in the cultures societies and histories of Thailand Myanmar Burma Laos Cambodia and Sri Lanka The work focuses on three distinct yet interrelated aspects of this milieu The first is the popular tradition of life models personified in myths and legends rites of passage festival celebrations and ritual occasions The second deals with Buddhism and the state illustrating how King Asoka serves as the paradigmatic Buddhist monarch discussing the relationship of cosmology and kingship and detailing the rise of charismatic Buddhist political leaders in the postcolonial period The third is the modern transformation of Buddhism the changing roles of monks and laity modern reform movements the role of women and Buddhism in the West Buddhism, Modernity, and the State in Asia P. Kitiarsa, J. Whalen-Bridge, 2013-07-31 Leading scholars working on Buddhism and politics in South and Southeast Asia add to current discussions regarding Engaged Buddhism and the recent work on protests The writers have mostly established themselves in their fields offering a diverse approach and country by country coverage

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Table of Contents Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma

- 1. Understanding the eBook Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
 - The Rise of Digital Reading Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
 - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
- 2. Identifying Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
 - Exploring Different Genres
 - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
 - Determining Your Reading Goals
- 3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
 - Popular eBook Platforms
 - Features to Look for in an Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
 - User-Friendly Interface
- 4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma

- Personalized Recommendations
- Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma User Reviews and Ratings
- Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma and Bestseller Lists
- 5. Accessing Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma Free and Paid eBooks
 - Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma Public Domain eBooks
 - Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma eBook Subscription Services
 - Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma Budget-Friendly Options
- 6. Navigating Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma eBook Formats
 - o ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
 - Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma Compatibility with Devices
 - Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma Enhanced eBook Features
- 7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
 - o Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
 - Highlighting and Note-Taking Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
 - o Interactive Elements Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
- 8. Staying Engaged with Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
 - o Joining Online Reading Communities
 - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
 - Following Authors and Publishers Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
- 9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
 - Benefits of a Digital Library
 - o Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
- 10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
 - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
 - Minimizing Distractions
 - Managing Screen Time
- 11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
 - Setting Reading Goals Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
 - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
- 12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma

- Fact-Checking eBook Content of Religion And Legitimation Of Power In Thailand Laos And Burma
- Distinguishing Credible Sources
- 13. Promoting Lifelong Learning
 - Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
 - Exploring Educational eBooks
- 14. Embracing eBook Trends
 - Integration of Multimedia Elements
 - Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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