

RELIGIONS OF  
CHINA  
IN PRACTICE

*Edited by Donald S. Lopez, Jr.*



PRINCETON READINGS IN RELIGIONS

# Religions Of China In Practice

**Daniel L. Overmyer**



## **Religions Of China In Practice:**

**Religions of China in Practice** Seth Xavier, 2022-09-20 Many Chinese citizens practice some kind of Chinese folk religion even though the country officially espouses state atheism The Chinese civilization has hosted a variety of religious and philosophical traditions Confucianism Taoism and Buddhism have played a huge role in shaping Chinese culture There are no clear boundaries between these intertwined religious systems Buddhism Taoism Catholicism Protestantism and Islam are the religions formally recognized by the Chinese government There has been increasing official recognition of Confucianism and Chinese folk religion as part of China's cultural inheritance Folk or popular religion is the most widespread system of beliefs and practices This book provides comprehensive insights into the different aspects of religions in China It is compiled in such a manner that it will provide in depth knowledge about the theories and practices of Chinese religions Those with an interest in this field would find this book helpful

**Religions of China in Practice** Donald S. Lopez, 1996-04-07 This third volume of Princeton Readings in Religions demonstrates that the three religions of China Confucianism Daoism and Buddhism with a fourth folk religion sometimes added are not mutually exclusive they overlap and interact with each other in a rich variety of ways The volume also illustrates some of the many interactions between Han culture and the cultures designated by the current government as minorities Selections from minority cultures here for instance are the folktale of Ny Dan the Manchu Shamaness and a funeral chant of the Yi nationality collected by local researchers in the early 1980s Each of the forty unusual selections from ancient oracle bones to stirring accounts of mystic visions is preceded by a substantial introduction As with the other volumes most of the selections here have never been translated before Stephen Teiser provides a general introduction in which the major themes and categories of the religions of China are analyzed The book represents an attempt to move from one conception of the Chinese spirit to a picture of many spirits including a Laozi who acquires magical powers and eventually ascends to heaven in broad daylight the white robed Guanyin one of the most beloved Buddhist deities in China and the burning mouth hungry ghost The book concludes with a section on earthly conduct

*Religion and Chinese Society: Ancient and medieval China* John Lagerwey, 2004 These volumes contain a selection of twenty one essays presented in a conference convened jointly by the Ecole française d'Extrême Orient and the Centre for the Study of Religion and Chinese Society of the Chinese University of Hong Kong on Religion and Chinese Society The Transformation of a Field and Its Implications for the Study of Chinese Culture The collection provides as wide a coverage as possible of recent research in the history of Chinese religion and seeks to draw some tentative conclusions about the implications for the study of Chinese religion and society in general

**Asian Religions in Practice** Donald S. Lopez, Jr., 2020-06-30 Princeton Readings in Religions is a new series of anthologies on the religions of the world representing the significant advances that have been made in the study of religions in the last thirty years This volume brings together the introductions to the first five volumes of this acclaimed series Religions of India in Practice 1995 Buddhism in

Practice 1995 Religions of China in Practice 1996 Religions of Tibet in Practice 1997 and Religions of Japan in Practice 1999 The introductions to these volumes have been widely praised for their accessible clear and concise overviews of the religions of Asia providing both historical context and insightful analysis of Hinduism Jainism Sikhism Islam Buddhism Confucianism Taoism Shinto and Bon as well as many local traditions The authors of the chapters are leading scholars of Asian religions Richard Davis India Stephen Teiser China George Tanabe Japan and Donald Lopez Buddhism and Tibet They bring together the best and most current research on their topics while series editor Donald Lopez provides an introduction to the volume as a whole In addition to providing a wealth of detail on the history doctrine and practice of the religions of Asia the five chapters offer an opportunity for sustained discussions of the category of religion

**Religions of China** Daniel E. Overmyer, 1998-03-10 The guiding themes of Chinese religion as it is actually lived This short work explains basic ideas and practices of Chinese religions in direct and simple language with many examples and analogies for increased understanding Its basic assumption is that religion is best understood as an aspect of everyday life as something that makes sense to those who practice it even if outsiders might be puzzled at first While Overmyer's treatment focuses on traditional China before the twentieth century many of the beliefs and practices described are still alive at least in some Chinese communities While the basic concern of this book is first to understand Chinese religions in their own right it takes the additional step of exploring what modern students might learn from them

**Religion in China Today** Donald E. MacInnis, 1989 *Religions of China* Daniel L. Overmyer, 1986 *Religious Diversity and Public Religion in China* Zhibin Xie, 2006 This book addresses the issue of public religion and its implications in Chinese society Zhibin Xie explores various normative considerations concerning the appropriate role of religion in public political life in a democratic culture Besides drawing on the theoretical discourse on religion in the public sphere from Western academics it holds that the issue of religion in Chinese politics should be addressed by paying attention to characteristics of religious diversity and its political context in China This leads to a position of liberal constrained public religion in China which encourages religious contribution to the public sphere as a substantial component of religious liberty in China on the one hand and proposes some constraints both upon government and religions for regulating religious political discourse on the other

Handbook of the History of Religions in China I Zhongjian Zhan, Jian Mu, 2020-10-27 This book is part of an initiative in cooperation with renowned Chinese publishers to make fundamental formative and influential Chinese thinkers available to a western readership providing absorbing insights into Chinese reflections of late and offering a chance to grasp today's China In their influential book *Handbook of the History of Religions in China* Zhongjian Mou and Jian Zhang present a panorama of the religions existing in China through time In their fascinating *History* they delineate the emergence and development of Daoism Buddhism Confucianism Islam and Christianity and explore the roles they played in Chinese society and the interrelations between them In China also due to the encompassing Confucian idea of living together harmoniously while maintaining differences religions including newly arrived

ones came closer together than anywhere else in the world and reached a unique level of peaceful societal coexistence. Despite many frictions and conflicts, communication and reconciliation were indisputably predominant in China throughout history. Buddhism was peacefully introduced into China and later on a harmonious symbiotic syncretism of Confucianism, Buddhism, and Daoism developed an exemplary process of how a diverse set of different religions can complement each other and contribute to a better life.

**The Religions of China** James Legge, 1880      **Oriental studies. Course 1. The philosophies and religions of China** John Fryer, 1900      *Religion in China Today* Daniel L. Overmyer, 2003-07-17 Table of contents      *Religion and Society in T'ang and Sung China* Patricia Buckley Ebrey, Peter N. Gregory, 1993-08-01 The T'ang 618-907 and Sung 960-1279 dynasties were times of great change in China. The economy flourished, the population doubled, printing led to a great increase in the availability of books. Buddhism became a fully sinicized religion penetrating deeply into ordinary life. This volume represents a collaborative effort of nine scholars of Chinese religion history and thought to begin addressing the question of how changes in the religions of the Chinese people were implicated in the momentous social and cultural changes of this period.      *Social Scientific Studies of Religion in China* Fenggang Yang, Graeme Lang, 2011-01-27 This book provides a sampling of recent field studies of religions in China along with theoretical reflections by sociologists, anthropologists, and religious studies scholars both inside and outside China on the revival of the social scientific study of religion in Chinese societies.      Contemporary Religions in China Shawn Arthur, 2019-01-30 Folk and popular religion is a very significant part of Chinese religious life, especially in rural areas. *Contemporary Religions in China* focuses on the religious activities of the lay people of contemporary China and their ideas of what it means to be religious and to practice religion. Throughout the discussion is illustrated with case studies, textboxes, images, thought questions, and further reading which help to capture what religion is like, how and why it is practiced, and what religion means for everyday people across China in the twenty-first century. *Contemporary Religions in China* is an ideal introduction to religion in China for undergraduate students of religion, Chinese studies, and anthropology.      **The Three Religions of China** William Edward Soothill, 1929      Religions of the lower culture. Section II. Religions of China and Japan. Section III. Religions of the Egyptians. Section IV. Religions of the Semites, 1908      *Religion in China* Joseph Edkins, 1893      *Religion Under Socialism in China* Zhufeng Luo, 1991 A study of religion in contemporary China based on field research by Chinese social scientists. Written by a group of scholars at the Religion Research Institute of the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, it responds to the designation of religion as one of the twelve key topics for special study by the Sixth Five Year Plan for Economic Development, an astonishing reversal of the cultural revolution goal of the eradication of religion completely and forever.

**Chinese Religions** J. Ching, 2016-07-27 This is a comprehensive work on the religions of China. As such, it includes an introduction giving an overview of the subject and the special themes treated in the book, as well as detailed chapters on ancient religions: Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism, Chinese Islam, Christianity in China, as well as popular religion. Throughout

the book care is taken to present both the philosophical teachings as well as the religious practices of the religious traditions and reflections are offered regarding their present situation and future prospects Comparisons are offered with other religions especially Christianity

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