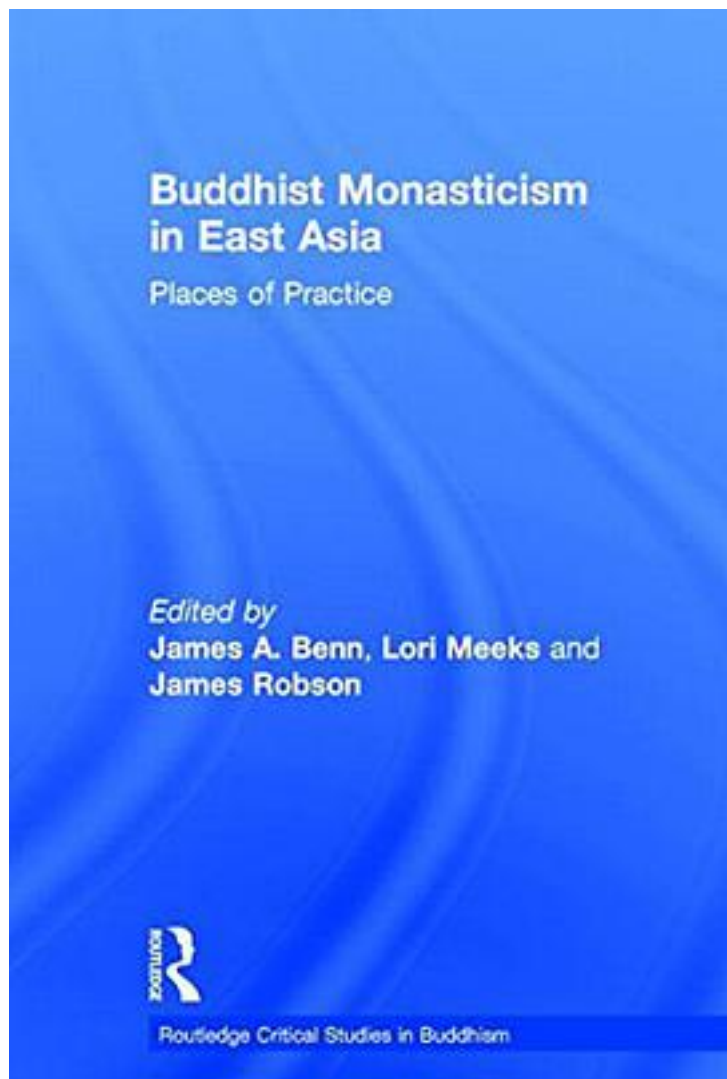


# Buddhist Monasticism in East Asia



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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.

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目录: Introduction: Neither Too Far, Nor Too Near: The Historical and Cultural Contexts of Buddhist Monasteries in Medieval China and Japan James Robson 1. Taking a Meal at a Lay Supporter's Residence: The Evolution of the Practice in Chinese Vinaya Commentaries Koichi Shinohara 2. Monastic Spaces and Sacred Traces: Facets of Chinese Buddhist Monastic Records James Robson 3. Pictorial Program in the Making of Monastic Space: From Jing'ai of Luoyang to Cave 217 at Dunhuang Eugene Wang 4. The Monastery Cat in Cross-cultural Perspective: Cat Poems of the Zen Masters T.H. Barrett 5. The Monastic Institution in Medieval Japan: The Insider's View William Bodiford 6. Vows for the Masses: Eison and the Popular Expansion of Precept-Conferral Ceremonies in Premodern Japan Lori Meeks 7. Koen and the "Consecrated Ordination" Within Japanese Tendai Paul Groner  
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