

In Search Of Japans Hidden Christians A Story Of Suppression Secrecy And Survival

Japan's Hidden Christians, 1549-1999 In Search of Japan's Hidden Christians The Beginning of Heaven and Earth Japan's Hidden Christians The Kakure Kirishitan of Japan Kakure Kirishitan: The Hidden Christians of Japan Japan's Hidden Christians, 1549-1999 Otaiya: Japan's Hidden Christians Hidden Christians in Japan Japan's hidden christians, 1549-1999 Japan's hidden Christians : 1549 - 1999. 2. Secret Christianity in Japan : 1640 - 1999 Handbook of Christianity in Japan Christianity and Japan Handbook of Christianity in Japan Just as Ordinary as Everyone Else Japan and Christianity Japanese Christians and Symbolic Forms A History of Christianity in Asia Christianity Made in Japan Rediscovering Japan, Reintroducing Christendom Stephen R. Turnbull John Dougill Christal Whelan Ann Harrington Stephen Turnbull Vincent Froom Stephen R. Turnbull Christal Whelan Kirk Sandvig Stephen R. Turnbull Mark Mullins Stuart D. B. Picken Mark Mullins Kirk Christian Sandvig John Breen Takeshi Shiraishi Samuel H. Moffett Mark Mullins Samuel Lee

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this volume is by the author of the kakure kirishitan of japan a study of their development beliefs and rituals to the present day widely seen as the landmark study on this subject stephen turnbull here brings together in two volumes the most significant scholarly writings on japan s hidden christians published in recent times encompassing a span of some 450 years of the christian tradition in japan remarkably in many respects the inheritors of this tradition continue to remain hidden at the dawn of the new millennium the author contributes a full introduction in which he reviews the key elements of the collected writings and at the same time takes the opportunity to bring his own study up to date

in search of japan s hidden christians is a remarkable story of suppression secrecy and survival in the face of

human cruelty and god's apparent silence part history part travelogue it explores and seeks to explain a clash of civilizations of east and west that resonates to this day for seven generations japan's hidden christians preserved a faith that was forbidden on pain of death just as remarkably descendants of the hidden christians continue to practise their beliefs today refusing to rejoin the catholic church why and what is it about japanese culture that makes it so resistant to western christianity

in 1865 a french priest was visited by a small group of japanese at his newly built church in nagasaki they were descendants of japan's first christians the survivors of brutal religious persecution under the tokugawa government the kakure kirishitan or hidden christians had practiced their religion in secret for several hundred years sometime after their visit the priest received a copy of the kakure bible the tenchi hajimari no koto beginning of heaven and earth an intriguing amalgam of bible stories japanese fables and roman catholic doctrine whelan offers a complete translation of this unique work accompanied by an illuminating commentary that provides the first theory of origin and evolution of the tenchi today the few kakure kirishitan communities still in existence view the tenchi as strange and flawed expressing a distorted form of christianity it is however the only text produced by the kakure kirishitan that depicts their highly syncretistic tradition and provides a colorful window through which to examine the dynamics of religious acculturation

first major study in english of the japanese hidden christians the kakure kirishitan who chose to remain separate from the catholic church when religious toleration was granted in 1873 and the development of the faith and rituals from the 16th century to the present day

for over two centuries the kakure kirishitan the hidden christians of japan kept their faith alive in secret defying the tokugawa shogunate's brutal persecution of christianity in this compelling and meticulously researched book vincent fromm uncovers the remarkable story of resilience adaptation and devotion that defined these hidden communities a journey through history blending rich historical analysis with cultural insights hidden faith takes readers on a journey through the kakure kirishitan's clandestine practices innovative rituals and unwavering faith from their covert worship in hidden altars to their ingenious blending of christian and japanese traditions these communities found ways to preserve their identity under the constant threat of discovery and death key topics explored the historical context christianity's introduction to japan its rapid spread and the violent suppression that followed under the tokugawa shogunate survival strategies how the kakure kirishitan maintained their beliefs through secret symbols encoded prayers and oral traditions syncretism and adaptation the unique fusion of christian teachings with japanese cultural and spiritual elements to evade detection the end of persecution the meiji restoration and its impact on the re-emergence of christianity in japan modern day kakure kirishitan the legacy of these hidden communities in contemporary japan and their contributions to global religious history a story of resilience and faith through vivid storytelling and insightful analysis fromm not only brings the kakure kirishitan's story to life but also reflects on the broader implications of religious persecution cultural adaptation and the enduring power of faith who should read this book hidden faith is a must read for

anyone interested in religious history japanese culture or the resilience of human belief it is a powerful testament to the lengths people will go to preserve their faith and identity in the face of oppression discover the hidden history of japan s kakure kirishitan and be inspired by their extraordinary journey of faith and survival

in the sixteenth century portuguese catholic missionaries introduced christianity to japan the religion flourished for about fifty years but by 1614 the tokugawa government issued an edict that outlawed christianity and expelled the missionaries from japan about 150 000 believers went underground and continued to practice their religion in secret

hidden christians in japan breaking the silence examines the contemporary issues facing hidden christian communities in japan looking at how these issues have resulted in the discontinuation of hidden christian practices and how these communities adapt to their changing communities for those who have disbanded or are deciding to disband this book examines the ways these groups deal with keeping both the traditions and rituals of the hidden christians alive and how it affects their communal identity as a whole the way these communities choose to either leave their practices behind as a forgotten legacy of their ancestors or publicly preserve their artifacts and traditions through various means can have a dramatic impact on how the world is able to finally understand their views but more importantly how hidden christian communities cope with the loss for these familial traditions

this volume provides researchers and students of religion with an indispensable reference work on the history cultural impact and reshaping of christianity in japan divided into three parts part i focuses on christianity in japanese history and includes studies of the roman catholic mission in pre modern japan the hidden christian tradition protestant missions in the modern period bible translations and theology in japan part ii examines the complex relationship between christianity and various dimensions of japanese society such as literature politics social welfare education for women and interaction with other religious traditions part iii focuses on resources for the study of christianity in japan and provides a guide to archival collections research institutes and bibliographies based on both japanese and western scholarship readers will find this volume to be a fascinating and important guide

christianity and asian civilization religion and society in japan nagasaki the sea and the cross persecution and the hidden christians christian missions mainstream churches

an indispensable reference work on the history cultural impact and reshaping of christianity in japan based on the latest japanese and western scholarship this handbook includes a guide to archival collections research institutes and extensive bibliographies

much has been written of the success of the early missions to japan during the decades immediately following the arrival of the first jesuits in 1549 the subsequent failure of the faith to put down roots strong enough to survive this initial wave of enthusiasm is discussed with equal alacrity the papers in this volume

born of a conference marking the centenary of the japan society of london represent an attempt to reassess the contact between christianity and japan in terms of a symbiotic relationship a dialogue in which the impact of japan on the imported religion is viewed alongside the more frequently cited influence of christianity on japanese society here is a dynamic cultural encounter examined by the papers in this volume from a series of political literary and historical perspectives

a stunning scholarly achievement moffett s history of christianity in asia reveals how christianity took roots in asia against incredible odds

for centuries the accommodation between japan and christianity has been an uneasy one compared with other asian countries the churches in japan have never counted more than a small number of believers resigned to a pattern of ritual and belief transplanted from the west

in rediscovering japan reintroducing christendom japan s unvoiced christian history and cultural roots are examined from an alternative perspective it is commonly believed that christianity was introduced to japan by the spanish and portuguese missionaries during the 1500s however samuel lee draws on various forms of cultural religious and linguistic evidence to argue that christianity was introduced to japan through the lost tribes of israel who were converted to christianity through the missionary efforts of the assyrian church of the east around a d 500 much of the evidence he discusses has become submerged into many japanese folkloric songs festivals and is to be found in temples there are for example approximately 300 words in japanese and hebrew aramaic that are similar further dr lee outlines the history of catholicism in japan during the 1500s the systematic persecution of christians from 1600s to the 1800s and the rise of protestant church in japan the historical portion of the book ends with an analysis and discussion of 21st century japanese society lastly in rediscovering japan reintroducing christendom samuel lee questions the missiological methods of western christianity and advocates an approach based in dialogue between christianity and other cultures

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