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Japan Science Review *National Library of Medicine (U.S.) National Library of Medicine (U.S.) Levi McLaughlin Josei Toda Phillip E. Hammond Shigeru Nakayama Gavin D. R. Bridson National Library of Medicine (U.S.) Japan. Daigaku Gakujutsukyoku*

first multi year cumulation covers six years 1965 70

soka gakkai is japan s largest and most influential new religious organization it claims more than 8 million japanese households and close to 2 million members in 192 countries and territories the religion is best known for its affiliated political party komeito the clean government party which comprises part of the ruling coalition in japan s national diet and it exerts considerable influence in education media finance and other key areas levi mclaughlin s comprehensive account of soka gakkai draws on nearly two decades of archival research and non member fieldwork to account for its institutional development beyond buddhism and suggest how we should understand the activities and dispositions of its adherents mclaughlin explores the group s nichiren buddhist origins and turns to insights from religion political science anthropology and cultural studies to characterize soka gakkai as mimetic of the nation state ethnographic vignettes combine with historical evidence to demonstrate ways soka gakkai s twin buddhist and modern humanist legacies inform the organization s mimesis of the modern japan in which the group took shape to make this argument mclaughlin analyzes gakkai sources heretofore untreated in english language scholarship provides a close reading of the serial novel the human revolution which serves the gakkai as both history and de facto scripture identifies ways episodes from members lives form new chapters in its growing canon and contributes to discussions of religion and gender as he chronicles the lives of members who simultaneously reaffirm generational transmission of gakkai devotion as they pose challenges for the organization s future readers looking for analyses of the nation state and strategies for understanding new religions and modern buddhism will find soka gakkai s human revolution to be an especially thought

provoking study that offers widely applicable theoretical models

this is the first ever in depth study of the soka gakkai buddhists in the united states of america sgi usa drawing on unprecedented access to the organization through surveys and interviews it provides a definitive and revealing picture of one of the fastest growing religions in the world the authors shed light on contemporary american society and show how many members of sgi usa are drawn from a growing transmodern subculture in america in addition the book traces the development of the organization in the usa examining how it adapted to the peculiar circumstances of america s cultural life and showing how sgi usa became a very american phenomenon

this title is the second volume of a comprehensive four volume survey which documents the miraculous growth of japanese science and technology from postwar devastation to its attaining a leading global status the team of more than fifty japanese experts labored for ten years in assembling the unique materials into a monumental work of careful scholarship the study won the prestigious mainichi publications award in 1997

with over 5 300 added references this revised and updated edition is an essential source of information for scientists researchers and enthusiastic amateurs the history of natural history is one of those key works that should be kept in easy reach of anyone interested in the study of natural history in all its branches

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