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introducing hinduism 2nd edition is the ideal sourcebook for those seeking a comprehensive overview of the hindu tradition this second edition includes substantial treatments of tantra south india and women as well as expanded discussions of yoga vedanta and contemporary configurations of hinduism in the west its lively presentation features case studies photographs and scenarios that invite the reader into the lived world of hinduism introductory summaries key points discussion questions and recommended reading lists at the end of each chapter narrative summaries of the great epics and other renowned hindu myths and lucid explanations of complex indian philosophical teachings including sankhya and kashmir saivism and a glossary timeline and pronunciation guide for an enhanced learning experience this

volume is an invaluable resource for students in need of an introduction to the key tenets and diverse practice of hinduism past and present

the book contains essays on current issues in arts and humanities in which peoples and cultures compete as well as collaborate in globalizing the world while maintaining their uniqueness as viewed from cross and interdisciplinary perspectives the book covers areas such as literature cultural studies archaeology philosophy history language studies information and literacy studies and area studies asia and the pacific are the particular regions that the conference focuses on as they have become new centers of knowledge production in arts and humanities and in the future seem to be able to grow significantly as a major contributor of culture science and arts to the globalized world the book will help shed light on what arts and humanities scholars in asia and the pacific have done in terms of research and knowledge development as well as the new frontiers of research that have been explored and opening up which can connect the two regions with the rest of the globe

this edited volume programmatically reconsiders the creative contribution of the littoral and insular regions of maritime asia to shaping new paradigms in the buddhist and hindu art and architecture of the mediaeval asian world far from being a mere southern conduit for the maritime circulation of indic religions in the period from ca the 7th to the 14th century those regions transformed across mainland and island polities the rituals icons and architecture that embodied these religious insights with a dynamism that often eclipsed the established cultural centres in northern india central asia and mainland china this collective body of work brings together new research aiming to recalibrate the importance of these innovations in art and architecture thereby highlighting the cultural creativity of the monsoon influenced southern rim of the asian landmass although maritime asia in mediaeval times was not as densely populated as the agrarian hinterland asia s coasts were highly urbanized the region from southern india to south china was a heterogeneous blend of cultures leavened with a strong interest in trade this cosmopolitan society afforded plentiful opportunities for artists to find patrons and develop individual styles and aesthetic sensibilities in the bustling ports of asia s south coast rulers sought to embellish their prestige and attract foreign merchants by sponsoring the development of monumental complexes and centres of learning and debate these educational institutions attracted teachers from all over asia and in their cloisters they developed new intellectual frameworks which were reflected in works of art and architecture scholars moved frequently by sea influencing and being influenced by other foreigners such as japanese and central asians who were also attracted to these places this very variety has hindered scholarly research in the past this volume contributes to the endeavour to show how maritime asia was not an incoherent jumble of misunderstood influences from better known civilizations there was a pattern to this creativity which the authors in this collection clarify for us the maritime world of asia may have lain on the margins of the land but it provided a physical and intellectual medium through which artistic ideas from east and west flowed freely maritime asia also made significant original contributions which hold their own with those of the hinterland of the asian continent unconstrained by the burden of static hierarchical courts the peoples of maritime asia built on the inspiration provided

by a hybrid society to demonstrate a high degree of artistic originality while testing but not breaking the link with conventional iconography professor john miksic department of southeast asian studies faculty of arts and social sciences national university of singapore nus the collective objective of this two volume work is to give substance to the oft cited mantra that mediaeval maritime southeast asia was as much an innovative contributor to as a recipient in the cultural conversations that took place across the bay of bengal and south china sea in bracketing these studies between the 7th and 14th centuries the editors have drawn into focus two key traditions that are explicated in texts ritual art and architecture and religious landscapes of this period tantric buddhism and esoteric shaivism a great strength of these studies is this focus for which the editors are to be commended the chapters contain much that represents significant milestones in building new understanding in the field including overdue recognition of the importance of southeast asian esoteric buddhist practice in shaping chinese buddhism nowhere did the architects of the religious landscape of early southeast asia think of themselves as being on the periphery or as outsiders looking in rather they knowingly imbued their tirthas and sacred centres with the same authority as those in india and created religious edifices that were on occasions beyond india s experience i highly commend this publication to anyone with an interest in bringing a wider lens to the study of indian esoteric religious practices and to understanding the relationship of early hindu buddhist southeast asia to the wider asian world john guy senior curator of south and southeast asian art the metropolitan museum of art new york the creative south is a rich compendium of scholarship concerning the religious art of southeast asia and its ties to india in the period beginning in the 8th century it was a time when merchants were crisscrossing the seas from india to china and when advocates of innovative doctrines and rituals were finding ready support among the rulers of the varied kingdoms from the identification of images embraced by the seafarers to the mysteries of the fire shrines in cambodian temples from the funerary beliefs of odisha to the unique character of the javanese ramayana these eighteen studies provide fresh understandings of the patterns of reception and innovation hiram woodward mr and mrs thomas quincy scott curator of asian art emeritus the walters art museum

for more than 40 years computerworld has been the leading source of technology news and information for it influencers worldwide computerworld s award winning site computerworld com twice monthly publication focused conference series and custom research form the hub of the world s largest global it media network

combines a survey of world art with maps showing the associations and dissemination of culture across the globe

intelligent autonomous systems are beginning to enter our daily life in ambient intelligence applications these systems can directly sense and act in their own environment without demanding detailed supervision form humans many new challenges are emerging to create systems that can operate and interact in human inhabited environments the goal of ias 8 is to exchange and stimulate research ideas about how to bring active intelligent systems into our daily lives this publications contains an excellent selection of papers that shows the research of autonomous systems today subjects discussed are the designing of autonomous agents artificial emotional creatures and multi robot coordination in highly

dynamic environments

this book documents the exhibition on the nalanda trail buddhism in india china and southeast asia organised by the asian civilisations museum it highlights some of the significant landmarks in buddhist history through the travel records of the monks faxian xuan zang and yijing the book also explores the spread of buddhism and buddhist art at centres such as nalanda in eastern india these centres were visited by many pilgrims and scholars from all over the asian world illustrated here in this catalogue are rare examples of tang sutras sculptures and silk paintings from dunhuang mathura nalanda and sarnath in india and from sri lanka and votive tablets and bronzes from srivijaya in southeast asia some for the first time

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