

Special Issue

Ritualizing Materials and Materializing Rituals in Medieval Chinese Buddhism

Message from the Guest Editor

In medieval China, manuscripts and materials with inscriptions were often produced from the ritual performance or served in the ritual performance. Therefore, scholars now increasingly approach these materials from diverse perspectives and contextualize them in medieval Chinese Buddhist history. This Special Issue aims to bring together a group of scholars who work on the frontiers of medieval Chinese Buddhist history by focusing on manuscripts and material culture to explore the intermingled relations between rituals and materials in the broad context of medieval China. How did rituals contribute to the rise of some specific genres of texts? Did the clergies and laypeople play different roles in inventing new material culture and rituals?... In this Special Issue, research areas may include (but are not limited to) the following: Buddhist rituals, Buddhist material culture, Buddhist sculptures, Buddhist inscriptions, Buddhist literature, manuscripts from Dunhuang and Central Asia, and Buddhist history. I look forward to receiving your contributions.

Guest Editor

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Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

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