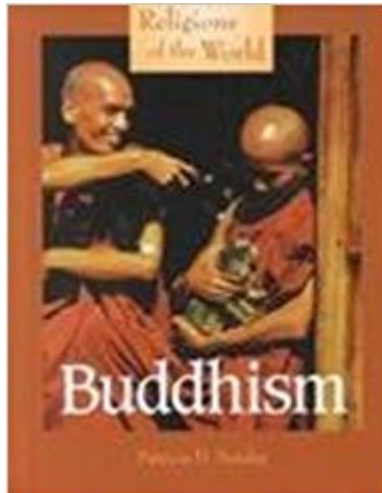


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# Religions Of The World - Buddhism



## Synopsis

This book not only offers historical and biographical information related to the development of Buddhism as an important world religion but also provides details regarding how modern Buddhists practice their faith.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Grade 5-10 Because Buddhism, like Christianity, flourishes in a wide variety of forms, a succinct overview of the religion's history and practice is difficult to achieve and must necessarily focus on the broad outlines. Netzley does an admirable job of conveying both the origin and spread of Buddhism as well as the prominent divisions within it, including Mahayana, Theravada, Vajrayana, Tibetan, and Zen. She provides a lengthy introduction to the historical Buddha, his path to enlightenment, and the core teachings that grew out of his experience. Likewise handled very well is her consideration of the centuries after Buddha's death, in which his oral teachings began to be written down, divisions appeared among his followers, and councils were held to address controversial issues. After establishing a solid grounding in the history of the religion, the author describes its spread northward and eastward into China, Japan, Southeast Asia, and eventually the western hemisphere, documenting the ways in which it grew in new environments with the influx of new thoughts. This narrative and descriptive approach renders a more lucid account than the somewhat scattershot method used in Anita Ganeri's *Buddhism* (2001) and *What Do We Know about Buddhism?* (1997, both Peter Bedrick) for younger readers. Likewise notable is the fluid

working into the main text of numerous quotations from Buddhist writers of various traditions. The notes, index, and list for further reading are extensive, and the black-and-white photographs complement the text. -Coop Renner, Moreno Elementary School, El Paso, TX Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"Interest in world religions has been heightened in light of recent tragic events. Each volume covers the origins of the faith, the teachings of its major prophet, the development of that religion in its home country, its spread, and today's practice of that faith. Forms of worship, holy places, sacred texts, the relationship of art and religion, and common themes among religions are some of the topics in these up-to-date texts. The volume on Islam discusses events of September 11, how Islam and terrorism became synonymous on that date and how that association may be clarified. The series gives a history of each religion and the way that religion shaped the culture from which it came...These are excellent sources for social studies and history classes that compare culture and religion. Recommended." -- Book Report (September 2002) (Book Report 20020901)"Students wanting to know more about Islam, the religion so much in the news, will find a solid introduction in this entry in the Religions of the World series. Notes, a glossary, a further reading list, and bibliography are appended." -- Booklist (August 2002) (Booklist 20020801)"Notable is the fluid working into the main text of numerous quotations...The notes, index, and list for further reading are extensive, and the black-and-white photographs complement the text." -- School Library Journal (July 2002) (School Library Journal 20020701)"(It) has more narrative and explication, giving it more heft and greater informational value. (The) book is much more complete and thoughtful than many of the comparable titles currently available to students." -- School Library Journal (July 2002) (School Library Journal 20020701)"Because Buddhism, like Christianity, flourishes in a wide variety of forms, a succinct overview of the religion's history and practice is difficult to achieve and must necessarily focus on the broad outlines. Netzey does an admirable job of conveying both the origin and spread of Buddhism as well as the prominent divisions within it...This narrative and descriptive approach renders a more lucid account than the somewhat scattershot method used in Anita Ganeri's Buddhism (2001) and What do we know about Buddhism? (1997, both Peter Bedrick) for younger readers. Likewise notable is the fluid working into the main text of numerous quotations from Buddhist writers of various traditions. The notes, index, and list for further reading are extensive, and the black-and-white photographs complement the text." -- School Library Journal (July 2002) (School Library Journal 20020701)"Interest in world religions has been heightened in light of recent tragic events. Each volume covers the origins of the faith, the teachings of its major

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