

# Readings In Ritual Studies

The Palgrave Handbook of Anthropological Ritual Studies  
Beginnings in Ritual Studies  
Readings in Ritual Studies  
Discourse in Ritual Studies  
Ritual Theory, Ritual Practice  
Ritual: Key Concepts in Religion  
Ritual Criticism  
The Dynamics of Changing Rituals  
Research in Ritual Studies  
Discourse in Ritual Studies  
The ^AProblem of Ritual Efficacy  
Rituals and Practices in World Religions  
Ritual: A Very Short Introduction  
The Hidden Powers of Ritual  
Vedic Practice, Ritual Studies and Jaimini's *Mīmāṃsāsūtras*  
Theorizing Rituals  
The Craft of Ritual Studies  
Handbook of Rituals in Contemporary Studies of Religion  
Elements of Ritual and Violence  
Understanding Religious Ritual Pamela J. Stewart Ronald L. Grimes  
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Jens Kreinath Ronald L. Grimes Hans Schilderman William Sax David Bryce  
Yaden Barry Stephenson Bradd Shore Samuel G. Ngaihte Jens Kreinath Ronald L. Grimes  
Margo Kitts John Hoffmann  
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ritual studies have achieved prominence since the 1980s when interest in ritual as an object of inquiry was established bridging over a number of humanities and social science disciplines both connected with religious studies and independent of it overlapping with social and cultural anthropology but also with history related to science and health practices and ranging across the life course to education ritual studies has come to encompass studies of change and dynamism in social life rituals are determinate in form but not static they enunciate distinctive social values within specific contexts that frame them and they relate to the wider concerns and issues of their practitioners due to this broad and wide ranging scope it is often difficult to find a single resource on ritual studies and even more so to find one which moves beyond the beginnings of anthropological theorizing to grapple with the present day contexts of ritual bringing together recent ethnographies of ritual practice and ritualization from across the globe this handbook provides case study of ritual in the light of emotion and cognition identity religious power performance and literature ecology and ecological disaster media and other topics while each chapter provides a deep ethnography of a specific society ritual or ritualized practice each also engages with current theoretical and substantive approaches to the relevant topic the scholars collected here provide original synoptic and indicative pieces as guideposts and pathways through the complex varied and cross disciplinary and vast landscape of scholarship that constitutes ritual studies today and points to developments in the future

an updated primer for the burgeoning field of ritual studies

this is the most comprehensive collection of articles on ritual ever assembled the book includes selections by internationally known scholars such as victor turner and clifford geertz as well as innovative piece s that illustrate the extraordinary interdisciplinary range of contemporary ritual studies grimes has drawn readings from the entire range of ritual encompassing its secular political and dramatic

expressions as well as its religious ones

discourse in ritual studies offers an introduction into the study of public worship from the perspective of ritual studies the contributing authors confront an action oriented and empirical approach of ritual studies with perennial and normative questions that characterize the study of liturgy

ritual studies today figures as a central element of religious discourse for many scholars around the world ritual theory ritual practice catherine bell s sweeping and seminal work on the subject helped legitimize the field in this volume bell re examines the issues methods and ramifications of our interest in ritual by concentrating on anthropology sociology and the history of religions now with a new foreword by diane jonte pace bell s work is a must read for understanding the evolution of the field of ritual studies and its current state

ritual has emerged as a major focus of academic interest as a concept the idea of ritual integrates the study of behavior both within and beyond the domain of religion ritual can be both secular and religious in character there is renewed interest in questions such as why do rituals exist at all what has been and continues to be their place in society how do they change over time such questions exist against a backdrop of assumptions about development modernization and disenchantment of the world written with the specific needs of students of religious studies in mind ritual key concepts in religion surveys the field of ritual studies looking at it both historically within anthropology and in terms of its contemporary relevance to world events

most ritual participants claim that their rituals have been the same since time immemorial citing recent research in ritual studies this book illustrates how on the contrary rituals are often subject to dynamic changes when do rituals change when is the change accidental and when is it on purpose are certain kinds of rituals more stable or unstable than others which elements of rituals are liable to change and which are relatively stable who has the power to change

rituals who decides to accept a change or not the dynamics of changing rituals attempts to address these questions within this new field of ritual studies

discourse in ritual studies invites you to enter a conversation on the topic of liturgy from the perspective of ritual studies since liturgical topics are not among the most frequently addressed issues in ritual studies this volume supplies a need for studies of public worship that take into account the multidisciplinary and innovative research in ritual studies while dealing with basic issues of religious studies and theology the contributing authors share an action oriented and empirical interest in ritual studies while not losing sight of perennial and normative questions that characterize the study of liturgy thus a valuable discourse unfolds that opens up new opportunities for worship research in ritual studies contributers are johannes van der ven ronald grimes chris hermans jacques janssen jean pierre wils georg essen aad de jong thomas quartier remco robinson lieve gommers irene houwer and hans schilderman

this collection of 10 contributed essays is the first to explicitly address the question of ritual efficacy the authors do not aspire to answer the question how do rituals work in a simplistic fashion but rather to show how complex the question is while some contributors do indeed advance a particular theory of ritual efficacy others ask whether the question makes any sense at all and most show how complex it is by referring to the sociocultural environment in which it is posed since the answer depends on who is asking the question and what criteria they use to evaluate the efficacy of ritual

this book codifies describes and contextualizes group rituals and individual practices from world religious traditions at the interface of religious studies psychology and medicine it elucidates the cultural richness of practices and rituals from numerous world religions the book begins by discussing the role that religious rituals and practices may play in the well being of humans and the multi dimensional cultural and psychological complexity of religious rituals and practices it then discusses rituals and practices within a number of religions

including christian islamic jewish buddhist taoist sikh hindu confucian and other traditions there is a need for a more inclusive collection of religious rituals and practices as some practices are making headlines in contemporary society mindfulness is one of the fastest growing psychological interventions in healthcare and yoga is now practiced by tens of millions of people in the u s a these practices have been examined in thousands of academic publications spanning neuroscience psychology medicine sociology and religious studies while mindfulness and yoga have recently received widespread scientific and cultural attention many rituals and practices from world religious traditions have remained underexplored in scholarly scientific and clinical contexts this book brings more diverse rituals and practices into this academic discourse while providing a reference guide for clinicians and students of the topic

ritual is part of what it means to be human like sports music and drama ritual defines and enriches culture putting those who practice it in touch with sources of value and meaning larger than themselves ritual is unavoidable yet it holds a place in modern life that is decidedly ambiguous what is ritual what does it do is it useful what are the various kinds of ritual is ritual tradition bound and conservative or innovative and transformational alongside description of a number of specific rites this very short introduction explores ritual from both theoretical and historical perspectives barry stephenson focuses on the places where ritual touches everyday life in politics and power moments of transformation in the life cycle as performance and embodiment he also discusses the boundaries of ritual and how and why certain behaviors have been studied as ritual while others have not stephenson shows how ritual is an important vehicle for group and identity formation how it generates and transmits beliefs and values how it can be used to exploit and oppress and how it has served as a touchstone for thinking about cultural origins and historical change encompassing the breadth and depth of modern ritual studies barry stephenson s very short introduction also develops a narrative of ritual s place in social and cultural life about the series the very short introductions series from

oxford university press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area these pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

an illuminating overview of the development benefits and importance of ritual in everyday life written by a leading cognitive anthropologist the hidden powers of ritual is an engaging introduction to ritual studies that presents ritual as an evolved form of human behavior of almost unimaginable significance to our species every day across the globe people gather to share meals brew caffeinated beverages or honor their ancestors in this book bradd shore a respected anthropologist reaches beyond familiar big r rituals to present life s humbler overshadowed moments exploring everything from the balinese pelebon to baseball to family zoom sessions in the age of covid to the sobering reenactment rituals surrounding the moore s ford lynchings in each ritual shore shows how our capacity to ritualize behavior is a remarkable part of the human story encompassing both the commonly unlabeled interaction rituals studied by sociologists and the symbolically elaborated sacred rituals of religious studies shore organizes his conception around detailed case studies drawn from international research and personal experience weaving scholarship with a memoir of a life encompassed by ritual a probing exploration that matches breadth with accessibility the hidden powers of ritual is a provocative contribution to ritual theory that will appeal to a wide range of readers curious about why these unique repetitive acts matter in our lives

drawing on insights from indian intellectual tradition this book examines the conception of dharma by jaimini in his *mīmāṃsāsūtras* assessing its contemporary relevance particularly within ritual scholarship presenting a hermeneutical re reading of the text it investigates the theme of the relationship between subjectivity and tradition in the discussion of dharma bringing it into conversation with contemporary discourses on ritual the primary argument

offered is that jaimini's conception of dharma can be read as a philosophy of vedic practice centred on the enjoinder of the subject whose stages of transformation possess the structure of a hermeneutic tradition offering both substantive and methodological insights into the contentions within the contemporary study of ritual this book will be of interest to researchers in the fields of hindu studies ritual studies asian religion and south asian studies

theorizing rituals underlines the importance of theory for ritual studies it focuses on theoretical problems involved and has the ambition to illustrate the state of the art as well as to strengthen some new perspectives in this field of research

readership students and scholars of ritual studies religious studies anthropology

this book brings together leading international scholars with the aim of exploring ritual perspectives in the study of contemporary religions it combines significant theoretical and methodological reflections and applies it to four main fields relevant to the study of contemporary religions indigeneity new spiritualities and ecology lived religion with islam and africa as case studies and finally religion and embodiment the structure and content of the book takes its point of departure from the research topics and collegial network of the internationally acclaimed scholar of ritual studies professor anne christine hornborg the book is dedicated to her

ritualized violence is by definition not haphazard or random but seemingly intentional and often ceremonial it has a long history in religious practice as attested in texts and artifacts from the earliest civilizations it is equally evident in the behaviors of some contemporary religious activists and within initiatory practices ongoing in many regions of the world given its longevity and cultural expanse ritualized violence presumably exerts a pull deeply into the sociology psychology anthropology theology perhaps even ontology of its practitioners but this is not transparent this short volume will sketch the subject of ritualized violence that is it will summarize some established theories about ritual and

about violence and will ponder a handful of striking instantiations of their link although numerous studies of religious rituals have been conducted by religious studies scholars anthropologists sociologists and psychologists it is rare to find a work that brings scholars from different disciplines together to discuss the similarities and differences in their research this book represents contributions by leading scholars from several disciplines that show the diversity of approaches to religious rituals while also providing cross disciplinary perspectives on this topic the goals of the chapters are to consider where the field currently stands in understanding religious rituals and what novel ideas can improve our knowledge about these practices and furnish innovative applications of theory by discussing particular examples which are drawn from the authors fieldwork the chapters cover christian buddhist jewish and islamic rituals thus providing a view of how ritual practices vary across the globe but also how they share some important characteristics

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