

Zen At War

Zen at War Zen War Stories Zen War Stories Zen at War Asia after Versailles Zen Terror in Prewar Japan Critical Buddhism The Circle of the Way The Universal Instructor, Or, Self-culture for All. [With Illustrations and Maps.] Zen Terror in Prewar Japan Reports from the Zen Wars Motor Japan Quarterly Human rights and the world's major religions The Japanese Art of War Achilles Imperial-Way Zen Japan's Hidden Face The Other Japan Tricycle Brian Daizen Victoria Brian Victoria Daizen Victoria Daizen Victoria Urs Matthias Zachmann Brian Daizen Victoria James Mark Shields Barbara O'Brien Ward, Lock and co, Ltd Brian Daizen Victoria Steve Antinoff Robert E. Florida Thomas F. Cleary Max Bruch Christopher Ives Toshihiko Abe E. Patricia Tsurumi

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a compelling history of the contradictory often militaristic role of zen buddhism this book meticulously documents the close and previously unknown support of a supposedly peaceful religion for japanese militarism throughout world war ii drawing on the writings and speeches of leading zen masters and scholars brian victoria shows that zen served as a powerful foundation for the fanatical and suicidal spirit displayed by the imperial japanese military at the same time the author recounts the dramatic and tragic stories of the handful of buddhist organizations and individuals that dared to oppose japan s march to war he follows this history up through recent apologies by

several zen sects for their support of the war and the way support for militarism was transformed into corporate zen in postwar japan the second edition includes a substantive new chapter on the roots of zen militarism and an epilogue that explores the potentially volatile mix of religion and war with the increasing interest in buddhism in the west this book is as timely as it is certain to be controversial

following the critically acclaimed zen at war 1997 brian victoria explores the intimate relationship between japanese institutional buddhism and militarism during the second world war victoria reveals for the first time through examination of the wartime writings of the japanese military itself that the zen school s view of life and death was deliberately incorporated into the military s programme of spiritual education in order to develop a fanatical military spirit in both soldiers and civilians furthermore that d t suzuki the most famous exponent of zen in the west is shown to have been a wartime proponent of this zen inspired viewpoint which enabled japanese soldiers to leave for the battlefield already resigned to death victoria takes us onto the naval battlefield in the company of warrior monk and rinzai zen master nakajima genjô we view the war in china through the eyes of a buddhist military chaplain the book also examines the relationship to buddhism of japan s seven class a war criminals who were hung by the tokyo war crimes tribunal in 1948 a highly controversial study this book will be of interest first and foremost to students of zen as well as all those studying the history of this period not to mention anyone concerned with the perennial question of the proper relationship between religion and the state

in a challenge to romanticized visions of zen a western zen priest exposes the seamy underside of buddhism as a state religion in japan between the meiji restoration and the end of world war ii included are quotations by well known exponents of zen including the young d t suzuki glorifying emperor worship and imperial conquest annotation copyrighted by book news inc portland or

asia after versailles addresses an important but neglected watershed for asian nations the response to the paris peace conference of 1919 the conference marked the end of a conflict which although intrinsically european had globalized the world on many levels politically as well as economically culturally and socially it also stood at the beginning of a new order that saw the power centre shift towards the us and asia asian countries and people

played a significant but so far largely neglected role in this momentous development bringing together an international range of experts in the history of china japan india and the ottoman empire turkey this pioneering volume demonstrates the importance of asia in the multifaceted global transformations that revolved around the paris peace conference and its aftermath traditional historical analysis focuses almost exclusively on us and european responses to the paris peace conference and the interwar order and often fails to take into account non western particularly asian voices this is the first book to demonstrate the far reaching asian dimensions of the impact of versailles in an unprecedented way making this an invaluable and interdisciplinary resource for academics and researchers in the fields of politics international relations area studies and history

written by a zen priest this book explodes the myth of zen buddhism as a peaceful religion can buddhism widely regarded as a religion of peace also contribute to acts of terrorism through an insider s view of right wing ultranationalism in prewar japan this powerful book follows a band of zen buddhist trained adherents who ardently believed so brian victoria himself a zen priest tells the story of a group of terrorists who were responsible for the assassination of three leading political and economic figures in 1932 victoria provides a detailed introduction to the religious as well as political significance of the group s terrorist beliefs and acts focusing especially on the life and times of the band s leader inoue nissho a deeply troubled youth inoue became a spy in manchuria for the japanese army in 1909 where he encountered zen for the first time when he returned to japan in 1921 he determined to resolve his deep spiritual discontent through meditation practice which culminated in an enlightenment experience that resolved his long term doubts after engaging in post enlightenment training under the guidance of rinzai zen master yamamoto gempo inoue began a program of training the patriotic youth who formed the nucleus of his terrorist band after the assassinations inoue and his band were sentenced to life imprisonment only to be released just a few years later in 1940 almost unbelievably inoue then became the live in confidant of prime minister konoe fumimaro a position he held through the end of wwii in the postwar era inoue reinvented himself again as the founder and head of yet another band of ultranationalists known as the national protection corps his eventful life came to an end in 1967 victoria concludes with an assessment of the profound impact of the assassinations which culminated in japan s transformation into a totalitarian state and set the stage for pearl harbor the author also examines the connection of buddhism to terrorism more broadly considering the

implications for today's islamic related terrorism

in the late 1980s and early 1990s the relative calm world of japanese buddhist scholarship was thrown into chaos with the publication of several works by buddhist scholars hakamaya noriaki and matsumoto shiro dedicated to the promotion of something they called critical buddhism *hihan bukkyo* in their quest to re establish a true rational ethical and humanist form of east asian buddhism the critical buddhists undertook a radical deconstruction of historical and contemporary east asian buddhism particularly zen while their controversial work has received some attention in english language scholarship this is the first book length treatment of critical buddhism as both a philosophical and religious movement where the lines between scholarship and practice blur providing a critical and constructive analysis of critical buddhism particularly the epistemological categories of critica and topica this book examines contemporary theories of knowledge and ethics in order to situate critical buddhism within modern japanese and buddhist thought as well as in relation to current trends in contemporary western thought

a comprehensive accessible guide to the fascinating history of zen buddhism including important figures schools foundational texts practices and politics zen buddhism has a storied history bodhidharma sitting in meditation in a cave for nine years a would be disciple cutting off his own arm to get the master's attention the proliferating schools and intense dharma combat of the tang and song dynasties zen nuns and laypeople holding their own against patriarchal lineages the appearance of new masters in the zen schools of korea japan vietnam and later the western world in the circle of the way zen practitioner and popular religion writer barbara o brien brings clarity to this huge swath of history by charting a middle way between zen's traditional lore and the findings of modern historical scholarship in a clear and often funny style o brien parses fact from fiction while always attending to the greatest interest of contemporary practitioners the development of zen doctrine and practice as a living tradition across cultures and centuries

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four decades ago aged twenty the author experienced what he calls a negative satori a fundamental and irrefutable realization not of enlightenment but of himself as a predicament only enlightenment could resolve this shaped by the hammer blows of a singular american professor richard demartino brought him to zen and to japan yet over time of far greater import than his bungling efforts were the wonderful occupants of the zen world he encountered toyoshima san the meditation prometheus whose superhuman efforts astounded and inspired all while he remained impaled on the cliff s edge the thief chief monastery monk who stole the world from whoever he encountered and whose yawns and the brushing of his teeth shot sparks of absolute meaning hisamatsu the great lay zen master who at age 16 overheard a doctor tell his mother he d be dead in six months only to awaken ten years later and become the most delighted man in japan bunko the monk kind to others but ferocious with

himself whose daily state of oneness in meditation left him dissatisfied because despite all exertion he could not crush it to pieces and break beyond it these are among the sitters for the portraits in reports from the zen wars steve antinoff's attempt to bear witness to what for him has been the greatest show on earth price of admission one lotus position

thomas cleary shows us how well known attributes such as the reserve and mystery of formal japanese behavior are deeply rooted in the ancient strategies of the traditional arts of war citing original sources that are popular among japanese readers today he reveals hidden forces behind japanese attitudes and conduct in political business social and personal life book jacket

during the first half of the twentieth century zen buddhist leaders contributed actively to japanese imperialism giving rise to what has been termed imperial way zen kodo zen its foremost critic was priest professor and activist ichikawa hakugen 1902 1986 who spent the decades following japan's surrender almost single handedly chronicling zen's support of japan's imperialist regime and pressing the issue of buddhist war responsibility ichikawa focused his critique on the zen approach to religious liberation the political ramifications of buddhist metaphysical constructs the traditional collaboration between buddhism and governments in east asia the philosophical system of nishida kitaro 1876 1945 and the vestiges of state shinto in postwar japan despite the importance of ichikawa's writings this volume is the first by any scholar to outline his critique in addition to detailing the actions and ideology of imperial way zen and ichikawa's ripostes to them christopher ives offers his own reflections on buddhist ethics in light of the phenomenon he devotes chapters to outlining buddhist nationalism from the 1868 meiji restoration to 1945 and summarizing ichikawa's arguments about the causes of imperial way zen after assessing brian victoria's claim that imperial way zen was caused by the traditional connection between zen and the samurai ives presents his own argument that imperial way zen can best be understood as a modern instance of buddhism's traditional role as protector of the realm turning to postwar japan ives examines the extent to which zen leaders have reflected on their wartime political stances and started to construct a critical zen social ethic finally he considers the resources zen might offer its contemporary leaders as they pursue what they themselves have identified as a pressing task ensuring that henceforth zen will avoid

becoming embroiled in international adventurism and instead dedicate itself to the promotion of peace and human rights lucid and balanced in its methodology and well grounded in textual analysis imperial way zen will attract scholars students and others interested in buddhism ethics zen practice and the cooptation of religion in the service of violence and imperialism

written by the former director of european and american operations for casio computer ltd this major new work calls for revolutionary changes in japanese society including the diminished role of the emperor and the establishment of an american style business management system illustrations

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