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TÁRSADALMI, ORIENTALISZTIKAI ÉS BUDDHOLÓGIAI FOLYÓIRAT



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Tibor Porosz:

*Practicing in vain or meaningful formality?
The roles of ritual in Buddhism*

The paper briefly reviews some of the most important Western theoretical models of the ritual. It outlines the Buddha's ritual standpoint and presents the basic patterns of the ritual practice of Buddhism and their appearance in Western Buddhism. Meanwhile, not only the cultural, communicative, organizational and cosmological role of the ritual becomes visible, but also the constantly emerging issue of anti-ritualism. The ritual is considered as an independent method of Buddhist religious practice in addition to philosophy and meditation. The author emphasizes that the performative ritual act has the potential to become a method of learning and cognition.

Tímea Windhoffer:

King Gesar based on a Tibetan ritual text of smoke purification

There is no such an expert of Inner Asia who would not have heard about King Gesar, or Geser Khan. King Gesar is a versatile character of the culture of Inner Asia. He can be found in folk poetry as an epic hero, but in the religion he can be seen in many forms. The aim of my paper is to present Gesar's figure, its iconometric features by the help of a Tibetan ritual text of smoke purification written in his honor. The manuscript of it is the property of the Ferenc Hopp Musum of Asiatic Arts. I also used a parallel text that belongs to the Oriental Collection of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Judit Béres:

*Incense Offering to the Gods of Qinghai Territory
An offering text of Trishok Gyälmo Lake Mother and Trika Amye Yulha*

Incense offering or *sang* is a frequent and widespread way of purificatory offering in Tibetan culture. Smoke arose from burning plants and other materials, and special mantras, texts are chanted during the offering rituals which are claimed to purify the person(s) who prepared the offerings, and pacify the territorial or protector gods. The text of incense offering given in the paper comes from Amdo. The offerings are presented to the important local gods of holy places between the Blue-lake and Amye Machen mountain range, especially to the Amye Yulha of Trika which is of Chinese origin.

Krisztián Krizsán:

Madness in Greek Drama

Sophocles: Ajax

The concept of melancholy in Antiquity is very similar in its main points to Heidegger's notion of anxiety. On the one hand, it becomes obvious to the melancholic man that he is distinctly different from the world or cosmos. „By realizing the exceptional quality of life”, as Földényi puts it, he is capable of relating authenticity – in the Heideggerian sense – to his own fate.

Aristotle names three heroes among the remarkable melancholic personalities, one of whom is Ajax. The story of the hero is examined through Sophocles' drama. The tragedy pictures the basic experience of uncertainty surrounding human life through the hero's rampage and his madness. This provides a deep insight into this universal, existential chasm.

Furthermore, in its morals, the play develops a new ontological dimension that arguably surpasses Nothing itself. In the present study, our aim is to discover this unknown territory with the help of Marion's Erotic Reduction.

Alexandra Bányai:

The Light of the Lantern

*An analysis of the rebirth-metaphors of the Milindapañha
with the help of cognitive linguistic tools*

In this paper, the author translates and analyzes Milindapañha 3.2.1 – a section of the text that shades light on the theme of rebirth with three similes – by means of a few relevant suttas from the Tipitaka and the application of the tools of modern cognitive linguistics.

László Fórizs:

Saramā and the Paṇis

Ṛgveda 10.108

The author translates the well-known 10.108 hymn of the Ṛgveda. This sūkta is nothing else than a dialogue between the Paṇis, the guardians of the cows, and Saramā, the messenger of the god Indra who has just crossed the river Rasā and is going to attack the Paṇis.