

Special Issue

Buddhism and Modernity in Asian Societies

Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue is particularly interested in the traits and aspects of modern Buddhism in Asia that can divide communities and become xenophobic as well as unite different groups and enhance peaceful coexistence, which manifests either in a militant communalism or in a non-sectarian collaboration in the spirit of interdependence. In addition, the Issue also hopes to examine issues such as the impact of colonial legacy on Buddhist nationalism, social media and the emergence of digital leadership, and the framing of universal issues (environment, gender, and human rights) in Buddhist language to appeal to the global audience. The general aim is to explore how Buddhism continues to transform and adapt itself to contemporary demands, and introduce new debates in Buddhism that provide people with modern visions of individual, community, and civil society that may be radically different from their traditional premises.

Guest Editor

Dr. Hiroko Kawanami

Department of Politics, Philosophy and Religion, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YL, UK

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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
religions@mdpi.com

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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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Germany

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79098 Freiburg, Germany

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