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The Sarawak Museum Journal, Vol. LXXXV, No. 106, 2022 / Dayang Morzanah  
Awang Haddy

Sarawak Museum Department, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia 2022

228p.

ISSN: 0375-3050

\$ 90.00 / null

650 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857977>

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Borneo Cultures Museum: A New Era in the Making / Sarawak Museum  
Department

Sarawak Museum Department, Malaysia 2022

150p.

9789839468267

\$ 100.00 / null

700 gm.

Borneo Cultures Museum is a symbol of unity, diversity and modernity that shapes the rapid growth of Sarawak especially in the last decade. It represents a new era in the making, an era that will lift Sarawak to a greater height not only in the region but also as a global leader. This book encapsulates the process of building this majestic landmark. It covers the stages involved from ideation to the curation of artefacts, led by the dedicated team at the Sarawak Museum Department. Get a glimpse of the works done behind the scenes as well as the exciting exhibitions that awaits visitors. Borneo Cultures Museum is indeed the pride of Sarawak and Borneo. It looks forward to welcoming visitors from all over the world.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858536>

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Bones: The Return / Sarawak Museum Department

Sarawak Museum Publisher, Sarawak Museum Department, Malaysia 2022

1v.

9789839468298

\$ 150.00 / null

450 gm.

In 1891, the second Rajah of Sarawak, Sir Charles Brooke established the Sarawak Museum to house an invaluable collection of zoological specimens as well as ethnological artefacts that reflect Sarawak's biodiversity and ethnic miscellany. One of the most significant discoveries that put Sarawak Museum on the world map in the prehistoric research field, and as one of the most important archaeological sites in Southeast Asia, is the 37,000-year-old Deep Skull excavated by the late Tom Harrisson (former Curator of Archaeology at Sarawak Museum in 1947) from Hell Trench at the West Mouth of Niah Cave in 1958. More excavations were done within the area up until 1967, resulting in more discoveries including the 122 bone fragments from the Neolithic era cemetery that somehow ended up in the United States of America for more than 50 years. This coffee table book takes a look at the long process of trying to get the 122 bone fragments back home to Sarawak, and the attempts as well as efforts by the Sarawak Government and Sarawak Museum Department to make sure they do get home, where they would eventually form part of the fascinating Niah Cave exhibit at the new Borneo Cultures Museum in Kuching, the capital of Sarawak

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858537>

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Rock Art in Sarawak / Ipoi Datan & Paul S.C. Tacon (Eds)

Sarawak Museum Publisher, Sarawak Museum Department, Malaysia 2022

40p.

9789839468274

\$ 20.00 / null

150 gm.

1. Rock Art – Archaeology – Museum Sarawak.

2. Rock-Art – History – Sarawak.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858538>

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God, Jesus and the Ancestors: An Ethnography of the Ancestors' Rites in the Taiwanese Catholic Church / Marco Lazzarotti

HASP-Heidelberg Asian Studies Publishing, Heidelberg, Germany 2023

xiv, 130p.

Includes Bibliography

9783948791650

\$ 24.90 / null

300 gm.

In this book the author describes the Ancestors Ceremonies as practiced in the Taiwanese Catholic Church. The author's point is to demonstrate how the Chinese symbolic universe made a deep translation of the "new" symbolic system represented by the Catholic doctrine. At the same time the effort of the Catholic Church in order to adapt the Gospel message to the local situation built up a particular phenomenon that the author defined as cultural dialogue. It is this dialogic relationship the process that the author defines as Culture.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858534>

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Indian Peasantry: Anthropological Essays on Peasantry / K.G. Gurumurthy

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

84p.; 22 cm.

Includes Index.

9788170180722

\$ 11.25 / HB

350 gm.

The Six essays-Ritual Circles in a Peasant Village, A Peasant Movement of Central Karnataka, Fertility Festivals and Unity in a Peasant Village, Depth of Gratitude and Political Life among the Peasants, Level of Class Consciousness among the Peasants, and Devadasi Custom in a Peasant Context--which make up the book are based on the field work undertaken by the author to explore the rich world of Indian peasants from the point of view of a Cultural anthropologist, and as there are a few books on this theme this book will be welcome to the students of Indian peasantry whether they are anthropologists or sociologists.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855036>

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The Book of Punan Myths and Legends / Calvin Jemarang

Calvin Jemarang (Self-Published), Malaysia 2023

590p.

9786299757115

\$ 45.00 / null

600 gm.

"Punan Myths and Legends is a treasure for the Punan people and for anyone interested in Punan culture and history. It contains precious stories and histories of a group often misunderstood by the outsiders organized in a way that brings together disparate tales of Punan history in a single source. Its value as cultural resource is immeasurable and I encourage anyone who thinks they know about the Punan to read it. " Dr Alexander David Smith  
National University of Singapore (NUS)

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858539>

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Between God and Man: Meaning and Essence in Nigerian Traditional Festivals / Frank Aig-Imoukhuede

Glendora Books, Nigeria 2014

376p.

97897899435944

\$ 200.00 / HB

2200 gm.

This is a companion book to 'A Calendar of Nigerian Traditional Festivals' by the same author and presents in a clearly defined way, the layering upon layering of cultures which make up the Nigerian amalgam.

It presents a compelling reconstruction of Ife-Benin and Igbo-Ife relationships that accords with existing documentary and archaeological evidence; and an account of the antecedents of Benin, Ife and Igbo Ukwu art, the abrupt end of Ife's classical art and Ife's relocation to its present site.

The book explains the seeming incongruities and contradictions in the Moremi-Igbo encounters at Ile Ife and the geographical and social distances which make them implausible unless the Ife and the Igbo were neighbours and the encounters between them took place in a different location of Ife.

As proof, the book presents the existence of Igbo ichi marks on soapstone carvings at Esie in Igbomina territory west of the Niger from which the Igbo launched guerilla attacks against Moremi's Ife; and the ichi mark on the soapstone representation at the Ideta shrine in Ile Ife of Obatala, the Yoruba creator god who in the Yoruba Ifa divination corpus, is described as 'Oosa Igbo (the deity of the Igbo.)

'Between God and Man...' is designed to promote heritage awareness for transforming the diversity and pluralism for which Nigeria is known into building blocks for community cohesion and an investment capital for its economic development.

It seeks to promote an integrated approach to the preservation and conservation of the cultural and natural heritage in Nigeria, reconcile the imperatives and requirements of development, strengthen endogenous capacities and the participation of local communities, local authorities and the private sector in tourism development in Nigeria.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859881>

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The Dawoodi Bohras: An Anthropological Perspective / Shibani Roy

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

191p.; 22 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788170181064

\$ 27.50 / HB

500 gm.

Dawoodi Bohras undeterred from the socio-political turmoil of the India sub-continent prospered and today are one of the few richest contemporary muslim communities of India. The 'batin' ideology of Bohra religious belief, unhesitant claim conversion to Islam from the anavil Brahmins of Gujarat and practice of clitoridectomy are some of the factors responsible for suffixing the title of 'secret society' to this community seen, not heard or read about.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855059>

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Palmyra – In the 20th Century and the Present: A Historical and Community Archaeological Study / Hasan M. Ali

Ege Yayinlari, Turkey 2023

224p. ; b/w and color figures

9786258056532

\$ 50.00 / null

350 gm.

Hasan Ali's study presented here, is a unique gift of a former citizen of Palmyra to all Palmyrenes in exile and all admirers of Palmyra around the globe. He collects here aspects of the history of Palmyra in the 20th and 21st century rarely told so far. To do so, he has interviewed people from Palmyra now living in exile, aiming to preserve their narratives and memories about their hometown.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=866119>

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Lantarr: Slow Food Festival 2021 / Fevie Rina Siehi, Paula Aruhuri & Ingrid Toka, Joel Simo (Ed)

Vanuatu Indigenous Land Defense Desk (VILDD), Vanuatu 2021

98p.

\$ 35.00 / null

450 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859841>

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Nompi en Ovoteme Erromango: Kastom Mo Kalja Blong Erromango, Kastom And Culture Of Erromango, La Coutume Et Culture D' ErroMango / Anna Naupa

Erromango Cultural Association, Vanuatu 2015

140p. ; 28cm.

9789829132024

\$ 195.00 / HB

1400 gm.

1. Erromango (Vanuatu) – Social life and customs

2. Erromango (Vanuatu) – History I. Naupa, Anna

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859842>

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Ancient Indian Numismatics / Bhavesh Semwal, Bhavna Singh

Venus Publications, New Delhi 2023

vi, 236p.; 23 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9789390412747

\$ 40.00 / HB

650 gm.

Coins tell a lot about the ruler who issued them. They speak of events that took place; they tell us the name of the ruler; some coins even tell us which year he ruled in. The designs are aesthetic. Coins in India depict the king, gods, goddesses, and other motifs while medieval ones issued by kings in North India bear inscriptions in Arabic or Persian and the ones in South India depict beautiful motifs coupled with legends. During the British rule in India, currency slowly, but steadily shifted from precious metals to token currency. Coins of British India were minted in brass, bronze, aluminium, stainless steel, and other metals which were not deemed precious.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854968>

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Hindu Civilizations, Customs and Traditions / Dalbir Bhanot, Udit Bahri

Peridot Literary Books, Delhi 2023

222p.; 23 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9789390393947

\$ 45.00 / HB

700 gm.

The word Hinduism derives from a Persian term denoting the inhabitants of the land beyond the Indus, a river in present-day Pakistan. By the early nineteenth century the term had entered popular English usage to describe the predominant religious traditions of South Asia, and it is now used by Hindus themselves. Hindu beliefs and practices are enormously diverse, varying over time and among individuals, communities, and regional areas. Unlike Buddhism, Jainism, or Sikhism, Hinduism has no historical founder. Its authority rests instead upon a large body of sacred texts that provide Hindus with rules governing rituals, worship, pilgrimage, and daily activities, among many other things.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854979>

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Ancient Indian Epigraphy / Bhaskar Chandrachud

Edukeen Publisher, Delhi 2023

v, 264p.; 23 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9789395626460

\$ 45.00 / HB

650 gm.

Among the written archaeological sources, epigraphic documents have generally been considered the most reliable as they are often contemporary to the period they talk about and, unlike textual sources, they have not been subjected to revisions and interpolations. The huge corpus of epigraphic literature found from different parts of the Indian subcontinent forms a major source for understanding various aspects of early Indian society, religion, economy and culture, besides dynastic and political history. Epigraphic sources have been used extensively for reading early Indian history. Indian epigraphy is a very specialised area of study in itself and also a principal medium for understanding India's past.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854989>

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Bhakti In Religions of the World with Special Reference to Dr. Sri Bankey Beharji / Chhaganlal Lala

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

268p.; 22 cm.

9788170183716

\$ 31.25 / HB

550 gm.

Bhakti in religions of the world is a comparative study of the four main religions of the world. This work assumes special importance in light of the fact that communal hatred and discrimination on the basis of religion mark the order of the day. The author has discusses Bhakti and the teachings of noted Bhakti leaders, especially Dr. Sri Bankey Beharaji who has bequeathed to posterity a rich heritage of mystico devotional literature.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855149>

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Writings on Indian Anthropology and Anthropologists / Subir Biswas, Barun Mukhopadhyay

Concept Publishing Company Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi 2023

xvi, 163p.; 22 cm.

Includes Index.

9789355945174

\$ 18.75 / HB

450 gm.

For the purpose of celebrating 100 years of teaching anthropology in India, the Council of the Indian Anthropological Society undertook a programme of organizing a series of Special Lectures in the cherished memory of a selected group of distinguished anthropologists of India who immensely contributed to the growth of Indian anthropology in three of its sub-disciplines over the last 10 decades. Thus, in all 14 special lectures were organized by the Society in collaboration with 14 different institutions engaged in either teaching and/or research in Anthropology. However, we have received 11 articles written by senior anthropological scholars for publication in this book.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857331>

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Genetics of Castes and Tribes of India / Rameshwar Singh

Innovative Imprint, New Delhi 2023

viii, 232p.; ill. 24 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788195671359

\$ 44.00 / HB

650 gm.

India is a country with enormous social and cultural diversity due to its positioning on the crossroads of many historic and pre-historic human migrations. The hierarchical caste system in the Hindu society dominates the social structure of the Indian populations. The origin of the caste system in India is a matter of debate with many linguists and anthropologists suggesting that it began with the arrival of Indo- European speakers from Central Asia about 3500 years ago. Previous genetic studies based on Indian populations failed to achieve a consensus in this regard. We analysed the Y-chromosome and mitochondrial DNA of three tribal populations of southern India, compared the results with available data from the Indian subcontinent and tried to reconstruct the evolutionary history of Indian caste and tribal populations.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855153>

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Srikavitakantasvayamvarah: Sriman Telkapalli Ramachandra Shastri (Instantly prepared) 1926 / C. Upendra Rao

Buddhist World Press, Delhi 2023

xvii, 73p.; 24 cm.

9789391985066

\$ 18.75 / HB

400 gm.

"Srikavitakantasvayamvarh" Was Instantly Composed (Asukavya) By SrimanTelkapalli Ramachandra Shastri, During The 19th Century A.D. In Telanga»a.This Poem Is Very Interesting For Deserving Readers, Mainly For The Accomplished Scholars Of Kavyasastra. The Sanskrit Manuscript Was Transliterated Into Devanagari And Latin Diacritics And Also Translated It Into Sanskrit And Hindi With A Hindi Commentary, 'Couduriyam'. Prof. C. Upendra Rao, A Renowned Academician From JNU, New Delhi. Goddess Saraswati, The Mother Of The Whole World Once Gave Birth To Two Brilliant And Marvellous Daughters. Brahma With Great Happiness Had Invited All Gods For Their Naming Ceremony.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855152>

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The Wonder That Is Hindu Dharma / Ram Chandra Gupta

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

240p.; 22 cm.

9788170184263

\$ 30.00 / HB

500 gm.

Hindu religion and Hindu thought have governed the Hindu way of life for thousands of years. Dharma is an intrinsic concept of this way of life since it treats life as a whole: it not only guides the social life of the people, but it also serves as the basis of political life in India. If we ignore dharma and its dictates, we ignore all that is moral and righteous.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855151>

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Sri Krishna: A Socio-Political and Philosophical Study / Ram Chandra Gupta

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

188p.; 22 cm.

9788170181477

\$ 25.00 / HB

650 gm.

Since my childhood I had always experienced an attraction for Lord Sri Krishna. This attraction grew stronger and stronger with the passing of time, and ultimately it transformed almost into a passion for studying his striking activities, performed (by him) during his life-time, and his divine teachings, as contained in the Mahabharata and the Bhagvad Gitā. While studying Krishna, I formed an impression that he happened to be the greatest politician, the world has ever produced, besides his being the foremost social reformer and religious and philosophical synthesist. In later years, this impression became fully confirmed, and I ultimately decided to embark upon a programme of writing a full-length book on Sri Krishna, with the above facts in view.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855150>

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In The Shadow of Ram: A Translation of Visnu-Hare and Treta Ka Takur  
Inscriptions of The Gahadavalas at Ayodhya: Issues and Challenges / Namratha  
Mogral

Readworthy Press Corporation, New Delhi 2023

148p.; 22 cm.

9788195669608

\$ 20.00 / HB

450 gm.

This book argues that the inscription found in the now extinct Babri masjid should be named as Visnu-hare instead of Visnu-hari since this title does not refer to any god but to the three Gahadavala rajas who had it made. It also challenges that the Sanskrit phrase janma bhumi means Ram's birth place; instead it suggests that in this language jan means folk rather, referring to Ayodhya as land of folk. The Gahadavala temple there had been renovated from an earlier Chola temple at the spot. It was dedicated to goddess Sri Sundara Amman, the Telugu Jaina goddess of beauty & art and devadasi cult. And the so called Ram foot prints found there belonged to the Gahadavala heir Vallabha.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855157>

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Social Structure and Change Among the Tribals: A Study among the Uralies of Iddukki District In Kerala / Jacob John Kattakayam

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

192p.; 22 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788176462020

\$ 26.25 / HB

450 gm.

In this well researched empirical study the author has examined the social structure of the Uralis, a primitive tribe in Idukkui district in Kerala. The Uralis, says the author, have a social system that is harmonic; they have few contacts outside of their own society. This is clear from the fact that none of the tribal welfare programmes which the government have launched to change their lot yielded any result. As the style of life of the Uralis was exclusively their own, they did not feel the indispensability of the government aid. Their social structure has remained till today what it was yesterday.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855156>

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Scarcity and Survival: A Study In Culture Ecology of Chowra In Nicobar Archipelago / G.P. Reddy

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

xi, 186p.; ill. 22 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9789391123758

\$ 25.00 / HB

500 gm.

The Island of Chowra, very small in size (2.8 km), has a population of 1400 people which works out to 500 persons per square mile, the highest both in Andaman and Nicobar groups of islands. Despite these two factors the Chowra Island has an important position in the Nicobar Archipelago. It controls the entire inter-island trade in the Nicobar group of islands. The author examines how with very limited resources and high density of population the Island carries on a lucrative traffic and is thus able to sustain its population which is not small considering the size of the island.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855155>

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Satavahana Coins from Peddabonkur / Deme Raja Reddy

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

189p.; ill. 22 cm.

9789391123567

\$ 43.75 / HB

550 gm.



One of the most illustrious dynasties of ancient India, the Satavahanas ruled over Dakshinapatha and central India and they left behind such great works of art as the famous Sanchi and Amaravathi stupas and rock cut temples in western India. During their long rule Satavahana dynasty provided peace, prosperity through foreign trade and they patronized a kind of art which flourished for many centuries. Hence it was no surprise that Satavahana period and Indus valley period are listed as the two times of peace and prosperity in 5000 year history of our country.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855154>

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Understanding Harappa: Civilization in the Greater Indus Valley / Sima Kumari

World Heritage Inc, New Delhi 2023

232p.; ill. 24 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788195669479

\$ 43.75 / HB

600 gm.

Indus civilization, also called Indus valley civilization or Harappan civilization is the earliest known urban culture of the Indian subcontinent. The nuclear dates of the civilization appear to be about 2500-1700 BCE, though the southern sites may have lasted later into the 2nd millennium BCE. The Indus civilization is known to have consisted of two large cities, Harappa and Mohenjo-daro, and more than 100 towns and villages, often of relatively small size. The two cities were each perhaps originally about 1 mile (1.6 km) square in overall dimensions, and their outstanding magnitude suggests political centralization, either in two large states or in a single great empire with alternative capitals, a practice having analogies in Indian history.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855159>

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The Dibongiyas: Social and Religious Life of a Priestly Community / Paban Chandra Saikia

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

109p.; ill. 22 cm.

Includes Index.

9788170188100

\$ 16.25 / HB

350 gm.

The Dibongiyas are one of the territorial groups of the Deuri- Chutiyas of Assam. The Deuri-Chutiyas are ethnically affiliated to the great Tibeto-Mongolian tribes of the State. The other groups of the Deuri- Chutiyas are the Bargonyas, the Tengapaniyas and the Patargonyas. The last group has reportedly become almost extinct. These four groups again constitute the Deuri-Chutiya sub-division of the Chutiyas. Formerly they were a priestly section among the Chutiyas. They conducted magico- religious rituals in the royal temples of the Chutiya Kingdom. Now they are recognised by the Constitution of India as one of the scheduled tribes of Assam. They sparsely inhabit the districts of Lakhimpur, Dibrugarh, Sibsagar and Darrang.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855158>

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Atavika: A Dialogue Between Past and Present (In Felicitation of Dr Baba Mishra)  
- In 2 vols. / P.K. Dandasena, Gitanjali Routa (ed)

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

424p.; ill. 29 cm.

9789391123185

\$ 237.50 / HB

2200 gm.

Atavika is the felicitation volume on Dr Baba Mishra, well known historian and archaeologist who retired on May 2019 after more than three decades of Teaching and Research career in the Govt. College Autonomous (Now Kalahandi University) during which, he proved his mettle as a teacher, researcher, research supervisor, organiser, explorer, excavator, interpreter and administrator. His Curriculum Vitae appended with the volume substantiate it. Tel river valley material remains indeed stands for the 'Forest Civilization' of mankind. Atavikas, the forest people who had build civilization and culture of high order on the basin of the Tel and the Indravati during the 4th /3rd cent, BCE to the 5th century CE. Dr Mishra's untiring research on it cannot be ignored.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855160>

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Numismatic History of Himachal Pradesh and the Catalogue of Coins in Himachal State Museum, Shimla and Bhuri Singh Museum, Chamba / Parameshwari Lal Gupta

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

ix, 223p.; ill. 24 cm.

Includes Index.

9788170184553

\$ 48.75 / HB

700 gm.

Coins, besides being of interest to the collector are of immense cognizance to the historian too because they depict the political, administrative, social, economic, religious and cultural life of the populace of that period. This aspect has been studied by Dr P.L. Gupta with special reference to Himachal Pradesh. A treatise on numismatic history, the book draws evidence from coins in the Himachal State Museum, Shimla and Bhuri Singh Museum, Chamba to recount the history of Himachal Pradesh. The figures and inscriptions on these coins have been painstakingly deciphered to chronologies the period of suzerainty of the various monarches. Involving a labour of five years, Gupta has compiled a catalogue which is a veritable treasure and simply cannot be passed up by the devoted numismatist.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=855174>

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A Record in Bone : Exploring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Bone and Tooth Objects / Michelle C Langley

Aboriginal Studies Press, Canberra, Australia 2023

xviii, 246p.

9780855751289

\$ 60.00 / null

536 gm.

Bone and tooth tools and ornaments have been made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for at least 46,000 years, using some of the oldest technologies in the world. Despite their beauty, sophistication and ubiquity, archaeologists and other researchers have overwhelmingly focused on the stone artefacts of Australia. Consequently, until now, we have known little of how bone and tooth objects were made and used, or how individual communities differed in how they worked with the material. A Record in Bone brings together into one volume the scattered and sometimes difficult-to-find research and findings of more than a century. It reveals Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' innovative bone, tooth, quill and claw industries, including the extensive use of ornamentation, the bone points and hooks which have been central to fishing in Australia for about 5000 years, and much more. This volume is a perfect companion to A Record in Stone: The study of Australia's flaked stone artefacts (ASP 2007). It will be an invaluable reference text for professionals in, and students of, archaeology, anthropology, Indigenous studies and museum studies. It is also an easy-to-read introduction for anyone interested in Australia's past, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and technology.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858317>

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Numismatic Sources on The Early History of Western Himalayas / O.C. Handa

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

xii, 168p.; 22 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788170181347

\$ 25.00 / HB

500 gm.

The Western Himalayas have always remained a theatre for all human activities-social and cultural and the ideal of human aspirations-religious and spiritual from the very dawn. of civilization in the Indian sub-continent. It is from this perennial source that all the socio-religious currents have flown and spread to the rest of the sub-continent and beyond eastward where they subsequently developed into multiforms. The cultural strata of the Western Himalayas has, thus, been composed of the sedimentary layers of diverse ethnic influences and socio-religious systems which, in the course of time, got blended and crystallised into a distinct cultural entity.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854375>

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The Kikuyu Marriage (Ugurani wa Ugikuyu) (Genealogy of Some Agikuyu Clans, Mbari ya Gathubati and Mbari ya Muga, with Special Reference to the Lineage of Njuguna Wa Mwangi with Family Trees and Relevant Text) / Njuguna wa Mwangi

Njuguna wa Mwangi (Self-Published), Kenya 2023

94p.

9789966123015

\$ 25.00 / null

200 gm.

The book focuses on the topics of Marriage and Descent, which are the foundations of genealogy and an account of the Agikūyū religious system, which was an extremely important part of their culture.

It brings on board issues of how Gikūyū and Mūmbi culture was, as it guided the clans in the way they lived and how people are linked genetically due common heritage. It shows how clans married to expand, how their behavior was guided by the rich Gikūyū culture including even how they greeted each other.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859259>

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Iban Bejalai / Peter M. Kedit

UNIMAS Publishers, Malaysia 2023

234p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9789670054308

\$ 29.00 / null

400 gm.

"Bejalai is an embodiment and enactment of the spirit of adventure by pioneers who not only accepted but energetically sought new experiences. It is this same spirit which presages the successful transition of Iban from traditional and spiritual mobility to a challenging and promising future".

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861046>

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Dances of Sabah and Sarawak / Mohamed Ghouse Nasuruddin

Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) Press, Malaysia 2023

viii, 184p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9786297590301

\$ 35.00 / null

400 gm.

Dances of Sabah and Sarawak is an ethnographical study of the structural analysis of the major traditional dances of Sabah and Sarawak which gives a brief cultural/tribal history of the two states of Sabah and Sarawak within the context of Borneo-Indo-Philippines cultural region as well as an account of the aesthetics of East Malaysian dances. The main part of the book delineates the dances and their ritualistic and secular functions followed by a structural analysis of the respective dances, that includes vocabulary and movement characteristics, choreography, costumes and accessories and the musical accompaniment. Unlike Peninsula Malaysia, there was no court system and thus no development of court dances, only tribal and celebratory dances performed as part of a ritual worship of animistic spirits and for social and secular occasions.

In the animistic communities of Sabah and Sarawak, where tribal groups live in long houses, ritualistic dances of worship are an integral part of their lives. These dances serve the pristine function of placating and invoking the spirits, which they believe govern every facet of their lives. They are performed for the following purposes: (i) Blessing ceremonies associated with agricultural activities such as land clearing, planting and harvesting; (ii) Therapeutic healing ceremonies such as exorcism ceremonies to cleanse the village and to treat individual person afflicted with psychosomatic maladies; (iii) Thanks giving ceremonies for a bountiful harvest of crops or for a season's good catch of fish; (iv) Ceremonies of rite de passage (rite of passage) such as births, puberty, weddings and deaths; and (v) Special ceremonies to honor ancestor spirits, the recently departed and the moving of skulls to new locations.

There are also dances performed without any ritualistic intent, but only for celebratory efficacies. They include secularized propitiatory and offertory dances serving mainly as entertainment during wedding festivities, cultural fairs, and welcoming ceremonies and also to celebrate national holidays. Some of these dances have been commercialized and packaged for tourist consumption. For such purpose, the dances have been capsulated to represent a panorama of traditional dances and performed at cultural villages such as in Sarawak and Sabah and also at five-star hotels frequented by tourists. In so doing the original choreography has been altered to accommodate modern tastes and sensibilities. As a result, these commercialized dances have lost their original purity that expresses the soul and spiritual dimensions of the community.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861047>

Names – Fashioned by Gender: Stitched Perceptions / Thenjiwe Meyiwa & Madoda Cekiso

UNISA Press, University of South Africa, South Africa 2022

xxviii, 343p.

Includes Index

9781776151288

\$ 35.00 / null

650 gm.

Names are very powerful and significant, especially in the African context. Across societies, there is a universal, albeit taken-for-granted fact that all human beings have names. Names Fashioned by Gender is a collection of essays on onomastics- a linguistics field of study focusing on the origin, form, history and use of proper names. The study of naming potentially provides significant evidence about the role of gender in the assimilation and/or enculturation processes as personal names evoke insight into the construction of gender and personhood in African societies.

The book takes intellectual course from the idea that how names are viewed and used is heavily context-dependent and gendered. It demonstrates that personal names are narratives derived from different contexts within various cultures and circumstances subsequently imposing different identities on name bearers. Through persuasive essays, this book elucidates that naming is an activity that needs to be conducted cautiously because names tend to determine the destiny and character of an individual.

Unfortunately, names are sometimes given without considering the consequences of ascribing names to people. This book asserts that females continue to be named according to gender stereotypes, therefore, evidently perpetuating women oppression. Sometimes, circumstances around one's birth may be used to name the child, including time, month, emotions, and weather among others. Music is also used to describe and denigrate the characters of women. Moreover, westernisation, colonisation, Christianity, patriarchy and African traditions influence African naming patterns.

Interrogating positions and attitudes of the larger society, what transpires from the discussion about this scholarly work is that personal names form and reflect ideas held about personal identities, children's well-being and underlying perceptions held by the public about boys versus girls and men relative to women.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857527>

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Invisible Or Ignored: The Status of Indigenous South African Instruments in the Venda Society / Evans Ntshengedzeni Netshivhambe

UNISA Press, University of South Africa, South Africa 2023

x, 184p.

Includes Bibliography

9781776151554

\$ 40.00 / null

400 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857528>

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Srivijaya Routes : The Greatest Trade Networks in Ancient Southeast Asia / Keatkhamjorn Meekanon

White Lotus Co., Ltd., Bangkok, Thailand 2023

xiv, 162p.

Includes Index

9789747534320

\$ 18.00 / null

300 gm.

Srivijaya: The Greatest Trade Networks in Ancient Southeast Asia is a scholarly analysis of existing knowledge with all the Chinese quotes, also in a unified Chinese script which most other works do not show. The Books covers the following topics and present a wealth of sources. A treasure trove for further studies:

Chapter 1: Srivijaya Confederation.

Chapter 2: Pre-Srivijaya: Maritime Trade Network in The South Seas.

Chapter 3: The Sri Jayanasa: The Foundation of Srivijaya's Trade Network .

Chapter 4: The Early Shailendra The Expansion of the South Seas Trade Network.

Chapter 5: The Mid-Shailendra: The Secession of Javanese City States.

Chapter 6: The Late Shailendra: Chola Invasion and Influence.

Chapter 7: The Mauli: The Last-ditch Restoration of South Seas Trade Network.

Chapter 8: Conclusion.

It also has a reference to the Hanse, the Baltic trade network

Appendix: Chinese Emperors contemporaneous with Srivijaya Illustrated with maps showing the sea routes at different times and areas

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858401>

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Spiti: The Gigantic Valley of Many-Hued Strata: Archaeological and Historical Research in the Western Himalaya - In 2vols. / Yannick Laurent

Vajra Books, Nepal 2023

2v.

(Vol.1): 9789937733335; (Vol.2): 9789937733328

\$ 125.00 / HB

4000 gm.

This groundbreaking study focuses on the premodern capital of the Spiti Valley, Dangkhar, "perched on its crag, overlooking the gigantic valley of many-hued strata" in the words of Rudyard Kipling. From its incorporation into the Tibetan Empire in the 7th century until its annexation by British India in 1846, the Spiti Valley occupied a peripheral yet significant position on the map of South Asia. During this time, the Dangkhar settlement emerged as the political centre of this border valley.

Yannick Laurent draws on extensive fieldwork and historical archives to re-examine the constitutive elements of this site from its territory to its religious and political institutions. Over time, the Dangkhar settlement came to be referred to as 'royal seat' or 'capital' (rgyal sa) of Spiti. Sitting astride some of the most important trade and communication routes of the Western Himalayas, the Spiti Valley played a major role in the diffusion of ideas and the transfer of goods within the Indo-Tibetan border regions. In tracing both local and trans-regional patterns of continuity and change, this study contributes to refining a periodisation scheme which illuminates the various political, religious, and economic interactions which have shaped the history of the Western Himalayas. Laurent's investigation into the imperilled cultural heritage site of Dangkhar lays the foundations for the most detailed historical overview of Spiti to date.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=860799>

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Mount Ararat and Noah's Ark Researches / Oktay Belli, Prof. Dr. Randall W. Younker & Vedat Evren Belli (M.A.)

Belli Education Cultural History and Archaeology Research Center, Turkey 2023

712p.

Includes Bibliography

9786058656338

\$ 150.00 / HB

2000 gm.

Mount Ararat with an elevation of 5137m is considered sacred by millions of people living not only in the Eastern and North-eastern Anatolian Regions but in the Caucasus, Nakhchivan, Azerbaijan and the region of Northwestern Iran. Even today Mount Ararat enchants people with its magnificence and beauty, and it is mentioned in both the Bible and the Torah on account of The Flood. The fact that Mount Ararat is mentioned in the Bible and the Torah gives it another important quality that distinguishes it from other mountains on earth.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858813>

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Naga Polity / M. Horam

B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi 2023

ix, 161p.; 22 cm.

Bibliography Includes Index.

9788170180050

\$ 22.50 / HB

450 gm.

Foreign writers have sincerely attempted various studies of the multifaceted subject of Naga people and their territory and have succeeded in gathering enough obvious information. But they have found it well nigh impossible to treat at length any one aspect of it. This is not surprising as even today, among the Nagas themselves, no reliable information about the history of their race is available. This is so because there is a dearth of relevant records and, also, the legends, traditions, culture, history and literature are preserved orally.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=854458>

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St. John Church and Castle of Ayasuluk: Archaeological Guide / Mustafa Buyukkolanci

Ege Publications, Turkey 2023

312p.

Includes Bibliography

9786258056594

\$ 70.00 / null

600 gm.

This book in your hands presents a detailed account of St. John's Church on Ayasuluk Hill (Ayasuluk Citadel), Isabey Mosque and Baths, and Artemis Temple and the Seven Sleepers site, which all are constituents of Ephesus, an ancient city on the UNESCO World Heritage List. There is no doubt all these monuments shall define a new itinerary for visitors on the Ephesus-Selçuk route. The book begins with a short visitors' guide for Ayasuluk Hill, followed by archaeological and art historical information.

The Church of St. John, which is the most important monument of Byzantine Ephesus, occupies a substantial place in the book. Furthermore, not included in the former book but included here is the information about the excavation and restoration work carried out since 2007 at the Citadel and the monuments therein, which was opened to visitors in 2014.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=858814>

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In The Shadow Of The Ancestors: The Prehistoric Foundations Of The Early Arabian Civilization In Oman / Serge Cleuziou & Maurizio Tosi

Ministry of Heritage and Culture Sultanate of Oman, Oman 2018

xxx, 554p.

9789996932014

\$ 295.00 / HB

2650 gm.

The first edition of In the Shadow of the Ancestors (2007) was the first and only summary of decades of archaeological research in the Oman Peninsula. This second expanded had a long and winding journey toward publication. The passing away of Serge Cleuziou not long after the release of the first edition left Maurizio Tosi alone in completing this challenging enterprise. For this reason, and out of respect for his lifelong friend and colleague, he decided not to intervene too extensively on the main contents, but to add instead to the original eleven chapters a number of new 'windows' written by other scholars, in order to include more recent research and interpretations. In addition to the main contents, the new contributions by this younger generation of scholars, most of whom were students and collaborators of Cleuziou and Tosi, offers great testament to the legacy the authors leave behind them.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857510>

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The Archaeological Heritage of Oman: UNESCO, Paris – September 7th, 2012 /  
Ministry of Heritage & Culture Sultanate of Oman  
Ministry of Heritage and Culture, Oman 2015  
166p.  
9789996904752  
\$ 150.00 / HB  
1100 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=857511>

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