

Special Issue

Shaping Sacred Knowledge: The Transmission and Legacy of the Chinese Buddhist Canon

Message from the Guest Editors

The Chinese Buddhist Canon forms the very foundation of Chinese Buddhism. Nearly all Chinese Buddhist texts are housed within this monumental canon, which has served as the cornerstone of religious practice and scholarship for centuries. It functions not only as a repository of religious doctrine but also as a conduit that connects Buddhist spirituality to the broader currents of secular life. The study of the genealogical transmission of these canons offers a rare window into the dynamic development of East Asian Buddhism and provides critical insights into the intersection of religion and society.

This Special Issue invites scholars from diverse fields to contribute their perspectives on the transmission and transformation of the Chinese Buddhist Canon. By examining how these texts have been transmitted, adapted, and reinterpreted across time and space, we hope to illuminate the broader cultural, intellectual, and material influences that shaped their evolution. This multidisciplinary approach promises to deepen our understanding of religious transmission and its ongoing impact on both Buddhist practice and the wider East Asian cultural sphere.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 July 2025)



Religions

an Open Access Journal
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Impact Factor 0.6
CiteScore 1.3



mdpi.com/si/217388

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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.

Religions is inviting innovative and comparative contributions. Please consider Religions as an exceptional, exciting enterprise ready to reward your trust, attention, and participation.

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