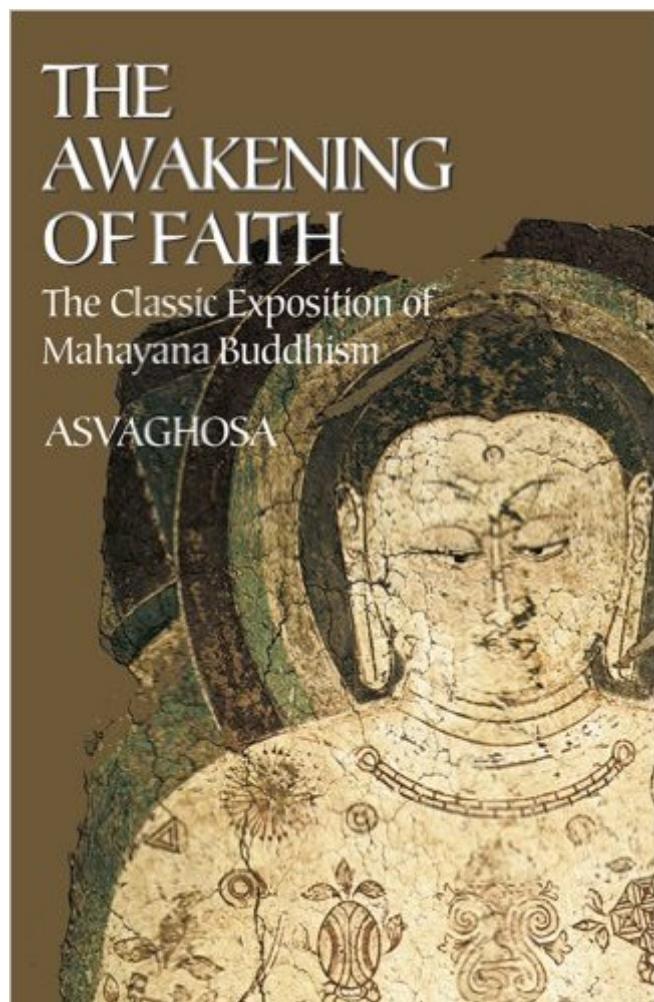


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The Awakening Of Faith: The Classic Exposition Of Mahayana Buddhism



Synopsis

Comprehensive and coherent, this guide to a complex system of Buddhism is so authoritative that it has been employed in the instruction of Buddhist priests. Readers will find that it offers the keys to the essentials of Mahayana Buddhism, a liberal and theistic branch of the faith practiced chiefly in China and Japan. Translated by the distinguished scholar Teitaro Suzuki, the text discusses how humans can transcend their finite state to partake in the life of the infinite. Practices and techniques to assist believers in the awakening and growth of faith appear here, in addition to the most developed form of tathagata-garba, or Buddha-matrix teachings. This accessible work was written specifically for those who prefer a brief and pithy presentation to extensive discourse.

Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications; Dover Ed edition (November 21, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 048643141X

ISBN-13: 978-0486431413

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.4 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #438,989 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Eastern > Buddhism > Mahayana #91639 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality

Customer Reviews

No fluff here, Straight to the point and concise. Though modern scholars say this was composed way later and not by the Author it is attributed to...that does not diminish it's supreme importance. A Great Bridge between Nagarjuna and Asanga. Mainly a treatise about the Sunyata and how the lower mind produces all that we see and experience, it, Like the Lankavatara, does not in my estimation equate with Yogacharya and Asanga's more complicated beliefs in the reality of the Conventional reality. Get your highlighter out. Though complex and complete, no preparatory study is needed in my opinion. Forget about Richards & Hakeda. This and the Dwight Goddard version are the best.

No one can appreciate the Awakening of Faith fully without reading the Chinese translation.

Although the Chinese version is supposedly based on a Sanskrit version, many scholars believe that the Chinese version is the original version, and that there are no Sanskrit versions. I use various versions of English translations to help me to look at it from different points of views. Ultimately, each reader will have to form his own point of view. The Suzuki translation is close to the Chinese version from the point of view of Buddhist faith. The Hakeda translation attempts to present it from a point of view of metaphysics. If you are going to read only one English translation, I recommend the Suzuki version.

Grammatical errors occur really prolifically in this book. The content is fantastic, but there are so many problems with the grammar that I really feel like it's a solid one star deduction on an otherwise five star work.

If you wish to study and learn Mahayana Buddhism, this is the book. Get your pencils ready to underline. And have the sharpener handy also.

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