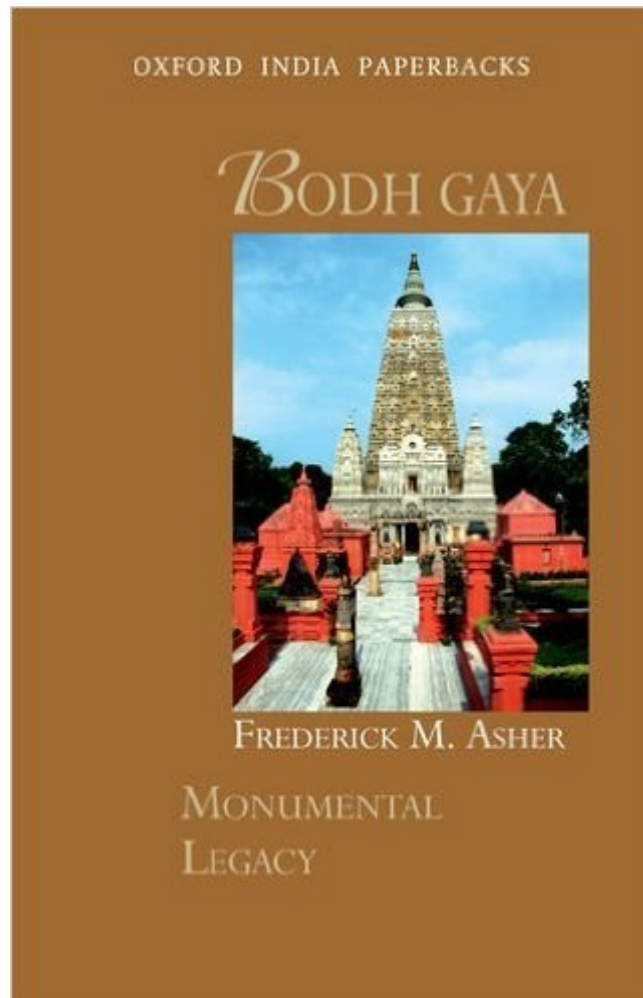


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Bodh Gaya (Monumental Legacy)



Synopsis

Located seven miles south of Gaya, Bodh Gaya is one of the most sacred Buddhist pilgrimage centres in the world. Part of the prestigious Monumental Legacy Series, this book takes readers on a graphic journey of the site and the monuments as they appear today and as they have been altered through time and variously perceived through history. The author provides a fascinating description of the Mahabodhi temple complex, Bodhi Tree, Tara Temple, Jewel Walk, Gateway, Buddhapad, and Sujata Stupa. He discusses modern monuments located around the temple, as well as other Buddhist pilgrimage sites in the vicinity of Bodh Gaya. It is well illustrated with layout plans, maps, and photographs. Readership This book will be indispensable for general readers and informed tourists visiting the site. Students and scholars of history, cultural studies, and art and architecture as well as practitioners of Buddhism and Hinduism will find the work interesting. Review Comments It is a cornucopia of authentic information about the Buddhist monuments, sculptures, museums, modern monasteries and tourist tips...[Asher] has analysed and discussed the subject matter...in an impartial manner. Indian Historical Review

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (2 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This is a good informative book about Bodh Gaya. One of the biggest issue I cam across was that the author was acting as an apologist for the Muslin invasion, desecration and destruction of Bodh Gaya and other Buddhist, Hindu and Jain Temples, Viharas, and other religious establishments. For

example, author raises the question whether Bakhtiar Khilji ever burnt Odantapuri (and/or Nalanda and/or Bodh Gaya). As an academician, I would simply refer the author to the A. K. Warder's classic book "Indian Buddhism", which accurately portrays the impact of Muslim invasions on Buddhism in India and provides documented evidence from Tibetan tourist in 13th century about what was happening at Nalanda - attacks from Muslim army near by. One wonders what the Muslim army nearby was doing and if they didn't do anything to Nalanda, did it burn because of a lightning strike or some other accident? Other than that apologist attitude that is also portrayed at the end, all in all, this is a good book to read to get a wider perspective on Bodh Gaya.

Poorly Organized. Pictures are poor and are not linked to relevant text. Minimal historical context.

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