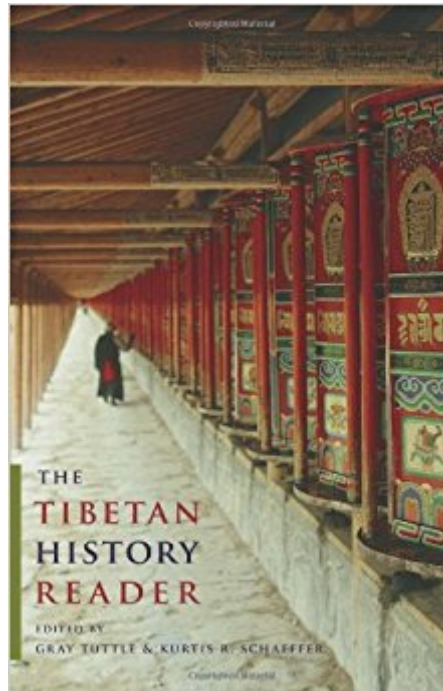




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The Tibetan History Reader



Synopsis

Covering the social, cultural, and political development of Tibet from the seventh century to the modern period, this resource reproduces essential, hard-to-find essays from the past fifty years of Tibetan studies, along with several new contributions. Beginning with Tibet's emergence as a regional power and concluding with its profound contemporary transformations, the collection is both a general and specific history, connecting the actions of individuals, communities, and institutions to broader historical trends shaping Asia and the world. With contributions from American, French, German, Italian, Chinese, Japanese, and Tibetan scholars, the anthology reflects the international character of Tibetan studies and its multiple, interdisciplinary perspectives. By far the most concise scholarly anthology on Tibetan civilization in any Western language, this reader draws a clear portrait of Tibet's history, its relation to its neighbors, and its role in world affairs.

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Schaeffer and Tuttle are among the best scholars in the field, and they provide an exemplary selection of expert articles in one convenient, well-integrated, and phonetically readable volume. (Bryan J. Cuevas, Florida State University) This single volume offers a thorough education in Tibetan history from the founding of the Tibetan empire in the seventh century through 1951. In thirty-three topical and absorbing essays, leading historians of Asia, Europe, and North America explain exactly what the original documents say and why historians of Tibet interpret them in such dramatically different ways. Anyone who wants to learn more about Tibetan history should begin here. (Valerie Hansen, Yale University) There has long been an interest in the Tibetan civilization and, in particular,

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Gray Tuttle is the Leila Hadley Luce Associate Professor of Modern Tibet in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Columbia University. He is the author of Tibetan Buddhists in the Making of Modern China and the editor of Mapping the Modern in Tibet, and coeditor, with Kurtis R. Schaeffer and Matthew T. Kapstein, of Sources of Tibetan Tradition. Kurtis R. Schaeffer is professor and chair of the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia. He is the author of The Culture of the Book in Tibet and Himalayan Hermitess: The Life of a Tibetan Buddhist Nun, and coeditor, with Gray Tuttle and Matthew T. Kapstein, of Sources of Tibetan Tradition.

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