

Foreword

Since the turn of the century, the field of late Indian Buddhism has been invigorated by the publication of Sanskrit manuscripts preserved in Tibet and by recent studies of scholars working on Śaivism. Recent developments in Śaiva studies are particularly welcome given the substantial influence of Śaivism on Tantric Buddhism in medieval India. The Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia at the University of Tokyo has been at the forefront of this effort to expand research on the medieval Indian religious landscape. In 2009, this institute published *Genesis and Development of Tantrism*, a collection of studies of medieval Indian religion, which includes the foundational piece by the renowned Oxford professor, Alexis SANDERSON, “The Śaiva Age—The Rise and Dominance of Śaivism during the Early Medieval Period.”

Together with Dr. Taiken KYUMA, Associate Professor of Buddhism at Mie University, my editorial colleague on this project, it is my pleasure to present this special issue of the *Tōyō Bunka* (Oriental Culture) on “Relationship between Tantric and Non-Tantric Doctrines in Late Indian Buddhism.” This issue marks another milestone in the history of the *Tōyō Bunka*. Since 1944, the *Tōyō Bunka* has been a preeminent platform for Japanese language scholarship on Asian studies. This will be the first issue of this storied publication consisting entirely of English language papers. We hope the insightful works in this issue will inspire further developments in Indian Buddhist studies.

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