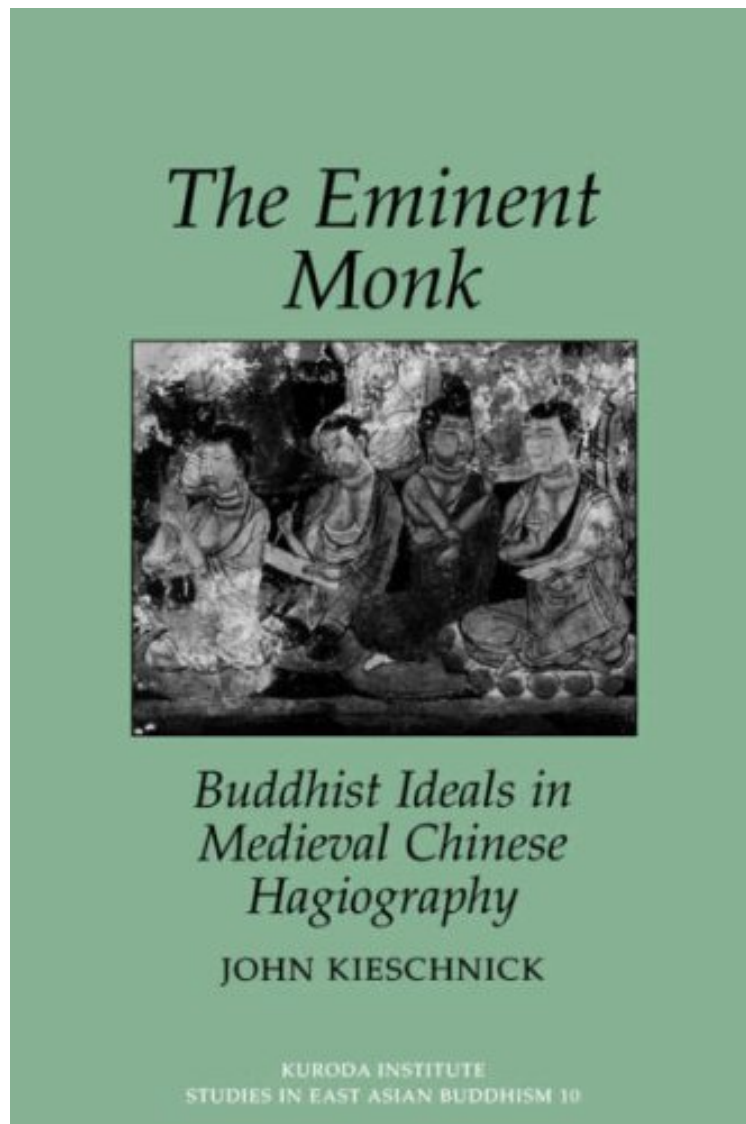


[Mobile ebook] The Eminent Monk: Buddhist Ideals in Medieval Chinese Hagiography (Kuroda Studies in East Asian Buddhism)

The Eminent Monk: Buddhist Ideals in Medieval Chinese Hagiography (Kuroda Studies in East Asian Buddhism)

John Kieschnick

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John Kieschnick : The Eminent Monk: Buddhist Ideals in Medieval Chinese Hagiography (Kuroda Studies in East Asian Buddhism) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Eminent Monk: Buddhist Ideals in Medieval Chinese Hagiography (Kuroda Studies in East Asian Buddhism):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. solid and well written
By Dewdrop
This study of medieval Chinese monks is solid and well written. The author has gone through all the basic sources and divided medieval monastic life into three main categories: asceticism, thaumaturgy, and scholarship. He probes each of these in detail, revealing complexities and contradictions in monastic identity. This book is essential reading for anyone interested in medieval Chinese Buddhism.

In an attempt to reconstruct an elusive aspect of the medieval Chinese imagination, *The Eminent Monk* examines biographies of Chinese Buddhist monks, from the uncompromising ascetic to the unfathomable wonder-worker. While analyzing images of the monk in medieval China, the author addresses some questions encountered along the way: What are we to make of accounts in eminent monk collections of deviant monks who violate monastic precepts? Who wrote biographies of monks and who read them? How did different segments of Chinese society contend for the image of the monk and which image prevailed? By placing biographies of monks in the context of Chinese political and religious rhetoric, *The Eminent Monk* explores both the role of Buddhist literature in Chinese history and the monastic imagination that inspired this literature.