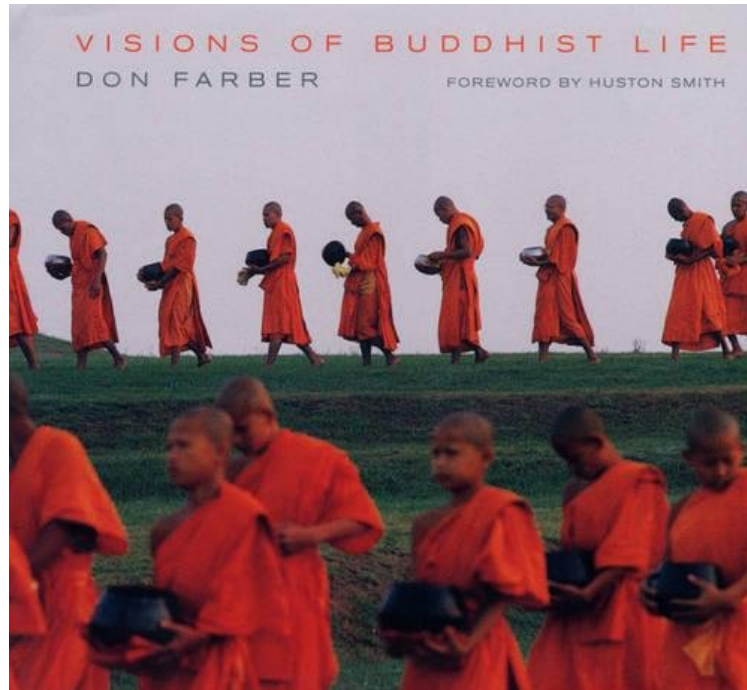


(Library ebook) Visions of Buddhist Life

## Visions of Buddhist Life

*Don Farber*

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**Don Farber : Visions of Buddhist Life** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Visions of Buddhist Life:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A beautiful and vivid glimpse into every-day life in Buddhist countries of Asia By Kindle Customer Don Farber has done a truly fantastic job in compiling an assortment of beautiful photos that open the reader's eyes to the brilliant and multifaceted Orient, where Buddhism still deeply influences many societies. In over 240 pages of color and detailed description, Farber masterfully portrays the Eastern world as an ancient if humble bastion of the Awakened One's timeless and universal teachings. This book is strongly recommended to anyone who is interested in a visual presentation of the many wonders, so simple yet so extraordinary all the same, of the richly diverse Buddhist world. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great pics. A real treasure By Sheila E Ryan Dynamite book. Great pics. A real treasure. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Crowley, Vivianne. Review: 'Visions of Buddhist Life', by Don Farber, Foreword by Huston Smith. By Vivianne Crowley Crowley, Vivianne. Review: 'Visions of Buddhist Life', by Don Farber, Foreword by Huston Smith. The Middle Way: Journal of the Buddhist Society 81, no. 2 (August 2006): 121. Don Farber's stunning photographs of Buddhist life span a quarter of a century, beginning in 1977 with photographs of lay worshippers and masters such as the Ven. Dr. Thich Thien-An and His Holiness the Sixteenth Gyalwa Karmapa, Rangjung Rigpe Dorje (1924-1981) at the temple created by Vietnamese refugees in Los Angeles. In 1985, Don Farber made his first trip to Asia to Japan and Taiwan, and in 1987 added South China to the itinerary, photographing monks and nuns along the journey. In 1988, Don Farber was able to photograph the opening of the Hsi Lai Temple in Hacienda Heights, California, the largest Buddhist temple in America. The photographs range from the reverential a beautiful photograph of the opening

ceremony with representatives from Buddhist monasteries from around the world to the joyful, nuns enjoying a Disneyland ride during a break from proceedings. Don Farber's photographs include portraits of H.H. The Dalai Lama and other great teachers of recent years. In all of these, the masters' radiance shines through a tribute to Don Farber's skill and artistry. Nor are the photographs confined to male masters. Some of his most serenely expressive photographs are of women teachers such as Her Eminence Jetsun Kushok Chimey Luding, the Venerable Khandro Rinpoche, the Venerable Master Cheng Yen and Khandro Tsering Chodron. Photography today can, of course, show us marvels that earlier Buddhists could never share. A series of photographs from the mid-eighties to the early nineties portray Kalu Rinpoche, moving from the Rinpoches' funeral in Tibet to photographs of the son of Lama Gyaltzen who was recognized as the reincarnation of Kalu Rinpoche, and culminating in two whole-page portraits of the two Rinpoches sitting in almost identical robes and poses. This is a beautiful book for those who enjoy photography and the creative use of the visual image. In making this record, Don Farber has performed a great service for Buddhism.

Don Farber's highly acclaimed photographs open a spectacular view of the beauty and diversity of Buddhist life around the world. His superb eye for composition, his attention to color and detail, and his intimate knowledge of Buddhism come together to produce outstanding, often breathtaking images. A selection of Farber's best work to date, *Visions of Buddhist Life* brings an important message of compassion, healing, and understanding to today's troubled world. The photographs, together with Farber's extensive captions, take us to the temples, monasteries, and colorful streets of Los Angeles, Kyoto, and Bangkok, and travel onward to China, India, Nepal, South Korea, and Taiwan. They depict Buddhists alone and in crowds, in cities rich and poor, in meditation and in conversation. They also picture some of the great teachers of our day—the Dalai Lama, Thich Nhat Hanh, and Kalu Rinpoche. These images capture some of the last Tibetan masters to have received their training before the Chinese invasion and are a vital documentation of a tradition in danger of vanishing forever. A study in the human face, in the art of spiritual devotion, in the evocative power of landscape, this collection of images provides an essential context for understanding Buddhism. *Visions of Buddhist Life* is also a visual and spiritual journey into a realm where the doctrine of nonviolence is paramount and where peace begins with the thoughts and actions of the individual.

"Inspired and inspiring.... [A] visual treat." - Shambhala Sun "The overall impression is that of a rich and varied celebration.... The photographer sets out to open a spectacular view on the beauty and diversity of Buddhism and this he ably does." - Japan Times "The global range of Buddhism, from Los Angeles to Japan to India to Thailand to South Korea, is captured in this astonishing book of photos and text." - USA Today "Since 1987, Don Farber, a Buddhist and Fulbright scholar, has photographed Buddhist life in eight Asian countries and the United States. This beautiful book is a collection of his best work from those travels. As professor of religion and philosophy Huston Smith says in his foreword, 'Farber doesn't tell us what drew him to Buddhism. He shows us.'" - San Francisco Chronicle "This gorgeous, near-square coffee-table volume is a loving, beautifully realized tribute to Buddhists around the world." - Publishers Weekly "From the Inside Flap" Devoted eye. Sweet enterprise. Thank you." Leonard Cohen "What a kind, gentle, knowing photo book Don Farber has done here. It has taken a lifetime of commitment and insight for these photos to reach us." Richard Gere "Farber brings us into the temple, monastery, and mountain village with these striking photographs of both ordinary practitioners and many of the great masters. The simple elegance of these images offers a wonderful window into the Buddhist world." Sharon Salzberg, co-founder of Insight Meditation Society and author of *Lovingkindness* and *A Heart as Wide as the World* "Don Farber's images capture the beauty of his subjects. However, his skill goes far beyond the surface and draws the viewer into a close experience with the structure of the experience that opens before his lens. This rare talent is essential when directing the gaze toward a sacred object or a holy person. It is an even greater need when holding a moment of religious life in the frame. Farber provides us with pictures which give dignity to aspects of religion and culture that appear as a result of his careful focus and sensitivity to the energy and spirit of each event taking place before him. We are directed in our own viewing by his guidance as people and objects take on a quality that touches our emotions. His pictures teach us much about life and art. In his hands, the camera gives us the nuances that escape all but the most talented of artists. It is a pleasure to see the Buddhist tradition depicted in such a masterful fashion." Lewis Lancaster, Professor Emeritus, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, UC Berkeley "Don Farber is one of the most important chroniclers of Buddhism in the twentieth century. Whether he is portraying great teachers or ordinary practitioners, he has a unique ability to capture in a photograph the essence of Buddhist enlightenment." Melvin McLeod, Editor-in-chief, Shambhala Sun magazine "Visions of Buddhist Life is a powerful and moving work, a spiritual odyssey, which beautifully captures the living spirit of Buddhism in today's world. Through this extraordinary collection of photographs, Don Farber chronicles his personal spiritual journey with a keen eye and an open heart, revealing a rare and intimate glimpse into Buddhist life. I highly recommend this remarkable book." Howard C. Cutler, M.D., co-author with the Dalai Lama of *The Art of Happiness: A Handbook for Living*