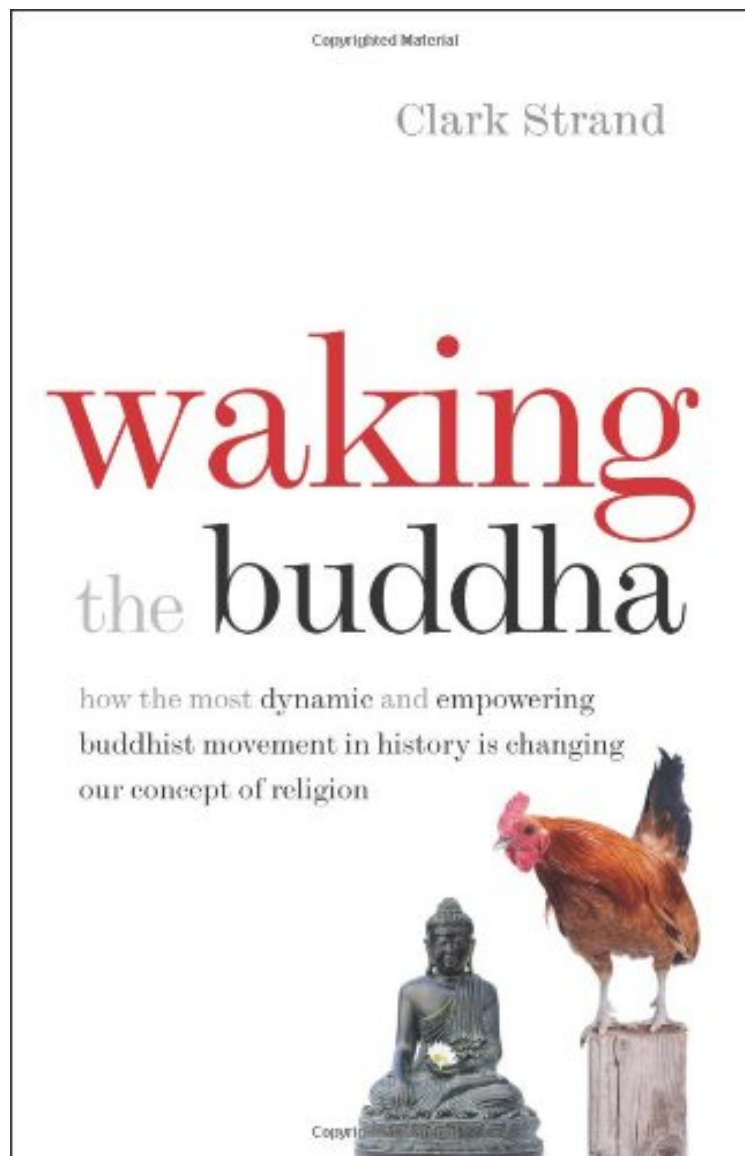


(Download pdf) Waking the Buddha: How the Most Dynamic and Empowering Buddhist Movement in History Is Changing Our Concept of Religion

Waking the Buddha: How the Most Dynamic and Empowering Buddhist Movement in History Is Changing Our Concept of Religion

Clark Strand

**Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#259648 in Books Clark Strand 2014-05-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.50 x .50 x 5.50l, .51 #File Name: 0977924564192 pages Waking the Buddha How the Most Dynamic and Empowering Buddhist Movement in History Is Changing Our Concept of Religion | File size: 50.Mb

Clark Strand : Waking the Buddha: How the Most Dynamic and Empowering Buddhist Movement in History Is Changing Our Concept of Religion

before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Waking the Buddha: How the Most Dynamic and Empowering Buddhist Movement in History Is Changing Our Concept of Religion*:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Hoping for More Depth
By Martin E. Schmidt
Having found *Waking Up to the Dark*, Strand's more recent book, a unique contribution in how I now perceive not only darkness and light, but how to access one's spiritual life in general, I eagerly bought this book. And I did learn about Soka Gakkai in a way that I would not have otherwise. However, I did find it lighter and less satisfying than *Waking Up to the Dark*. I wanted something with more depth and insight into what Soka Gakkai does in contrast to other attempts to modernize religion. A decent book, but I was hoping for more.
5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Inspiring
By Joyce
This book is the fascinating story of the Soka Gakkai movement whose roots go back to the 1940s. What is particularly interesting is its amazing growth and its values, which have been ahead of their time and indicate the direction for religion today. Soka Gakkai exerts its influence for human rights and human dignity, equal treatment of gays, women and minorities, for religious freedom for all people, not just for Buddhists. They address global issues like climate change, nuclear proliferation, overpopulation, poverty, hunger, economic expansionism, and nationalism. They promote value-creating education with its principles rooted in the land, valuing good food and good water for all. One aspect of their religious practice is monthly discussion meetings, not sermons or lectures. This democratic, egalitarian, life-affirming format allows every voice to be heard. The underlying principle of Soka Gakkai is the wellbeing of humanity as a whole. Their wish is to transform an Age of Global Decline into an Age of Global Sustainability
an Age of Life in which one person's happiness would not be won at the expense of another's, and human progress would not be mortgaged against the degradation of the earth. Inspiring, I'd say.
24 of 27 people found the following review helpful. Quite a good job
By Barbara Goodwin
I am a Nichiren Buddhist, probably like so many others who bought the book. I was amazed at the author's profound understanding of the Nichiren Buddhism. For someone who doesn't practice this philosophy he did quite a good job of explaining it. The deeper elements were missing but then I had to keep reminding myself that since he doesn't practice it, there would be limits to his understanding. I think the one thing that stood out was when he mentioned that different people have said to him that Nichiren Buddhist "isn't really a religion". I'm surprised that he didn't clarify that by "religion" most people mean a "God" outside of themselves; whereas this Buddhism believes that the "god" is within....that we are the Buddha. He did speak of personal responsibility for changing lives without mentioning begging some exterior being for help. He sort of danced around the issue perhaps not wanting to offend anyone that we don't believe that a "God" exists. However he did a mighty job and I was impressed. And in fact I DID learn new things.

Is there more to Buddhism than sitting in silent meditation? Is modern Buddhism relevant to the problems of daily life? Does it empower individuals to transform their lives? Or has Buddhism become too detached, so still and quiet that the Buddha has fallen asleep? *Waking the Buddha* tells the story of the Soka Gakkai International, the largest, most dynamic Buddhist movement in the world today and one that is waking up and shaking up Buddhism so it can truly work in ordinary people's lives. Drawing on his long personal experience as a Buddhist teacher, journalist, and editor, Clark Strand offers broad insight into how and why the Soka Gakkai, with its commitment to social justice and its egalitarian approach, has become a role model, not only for other schools of Buddhism, but for other religions as well. Readers will be inspired by the struggles and triumphs of the Soka Gakkai's three founding presidents—individuals who staked their lives on the teachings of the Lotus Sutra and the extraordinary power of those teachings to help people become happy.