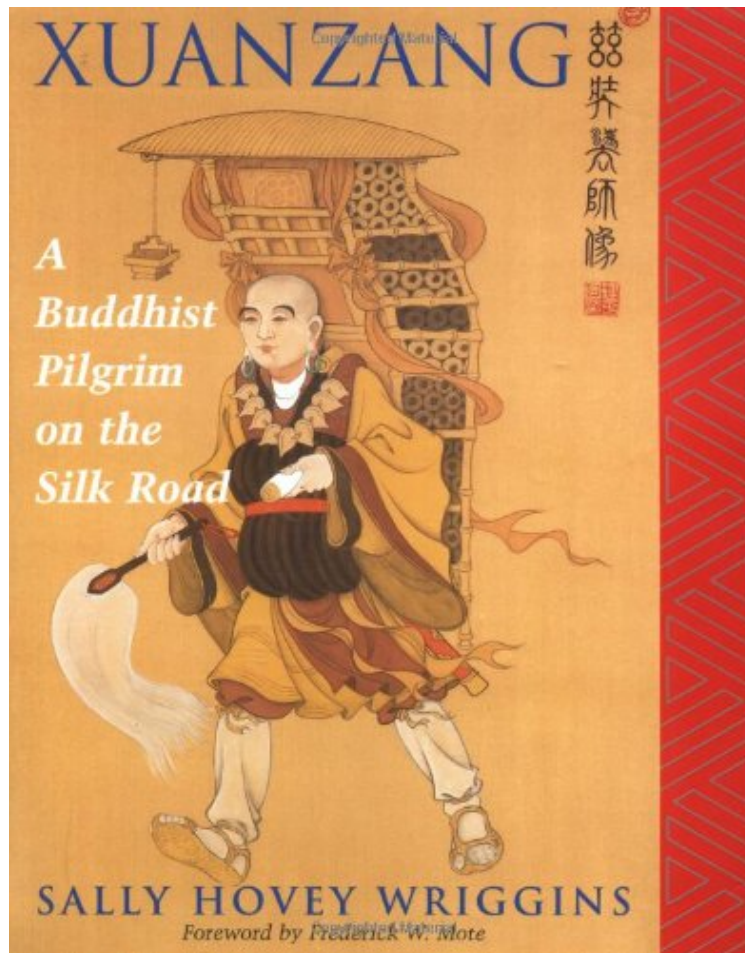


(Read now) Xuanzang: A Buddhist Pilgrim On The Silk Road

## Xuanzang: A Buddhist Pilgrim On The Silk Road

Sally Wriggins

audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#1270004 in Books Westview Press 1997-10-09  
Ingredients: Example Ingredients  
Original language: English  
PDF # 1 .73 x 7.40 x 9.20l, #File Name: 0813334071292 pages | File size: 56.Mb

**Sally Wriggins : Xuanzang: A Buddhist Pilgrim On The Silk Road** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Xuanzang: A Buddhist Pilgrim On The Silk Road:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars  
By Andrew Hudson  
A great book on a great historical figure in Chinese buddhism.  
3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Worthwhile but Incomplete  
By Michael Kiem  
By all means read this book if you are interested in the history of the Silk Road.  
However there is a significant omission in this book. Xuanzang embarked on this epic journey because he wanted to learn Buddhism from the original source. But if you think you'll be able to learn much about 7th century Buddhism from this book, think again. Of course there are tid-bits and small blurbs about Buddhist ideas but it is more an expedient to advance the story rather than an effort to explain. This book is basically a travelogue, not a book of ideas.  
Of course researching the various schools and thoughts of 7th century Buddhism would have been difficult and explaining it to the layperson without being confusing or boring would have also been difficult. But still I feel that writing a book on Xuanzang

without attempting to explain the Buddhism of that era is incomplete. Despite the above reservation, I still give it 4 stars because the rest of the book is quite well done. 0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By Mel Shell It worked well enough for my paper.

The saga of the seventh-century Chinese monk Xuanzang, who completed an epic sixteen-year journey to discover the heart of Buddhism at its source in India, is a splendid story of human struggle and triumph. One of China's great heroes, Xuanzang is introduced here for the first time to Western readers in this richly illustrated book. Sally Wriggins, who journeyed in Xuanzang's footsteps, brings to life a man who transcended common experience. Eight centuries before Columbus, this intrepid pilgrim against the wishes of his emperor traveled on the Silk Road through Central Asia on his way to India. Before his journey ended, he had met most of Asia's important leaders and traversed 10,000 miles in search of Buddhist scriptures. He was both a mountain climber who scaled three of Asia's highest mountain ranges and a desert survivor who nearly died of thirst on the brutal flats; a philosopher and metaphysician; a diplomat who established China's ties to Central Asian and Indian kings; and above all a devout and courageous Buddhist who personally nurtured the growth of Buddhism in China by disseminating the nearly 600 scriptures he carried back from India. Wriggins gives us vivid descriptions of the perils Xuanzang faced, the monasteries he visited (many still standing today), and the eight places of Buddhist pilgrimage in India. Detailed maps and color photographs provide striking evidence of the vast distances involved and the appalling dangers Xuanzang endured; reproductions of Buddhist art from museums around the world capture the glories of this world religion while revealing a cosmopolitan era in which pilgrims were both adventurers and ambassadors of goodwill. An engaging introduction to Buddhism and Buddhist art, this unique book takes the reader on a rousing adventure that also gives a compelling view of Asian history and civilization.

From Publishers Weekly A remarkable and unprecedented pilgrimage to India in A.D. 639-645 by the Chinese Buddhist monk Xuanzang is one of the great milestones in the history of China's long love affair with Buddhism. Xuanzang returned from that trip laden with Buddhist scriptures, artifacts and a treasure trove of spiritual learning for his homeland, thus transforming Buddhism's position in China and energizing its reception by the ruling classes. Wriggins has, in this small book, provided a practical introduction to Xuanzang and a useful text accompanied by maps and photographs. Despite the fact that Wriggins's prose is often dull (the stuff of guidebooks rather than of holy travel), Xuanzang's travels prove interesting enough to make even these flaws seem minor; and Wriggins's book will provide a significant introduction to an extraordinary traveler's extraordinary contribution to Buddhist history. Copyright 1996 Cahners Business Information, Inc. About the Author Sally Hovey Wriggins was the first Westerner and first woman to walk extensively in the footsteps of Xuanzang. Having lived and traveled in Asia for several years based out of Sri Lanka, she also studied with the Venerable Kheminda Thero. She is a regular contributor to Archeology and Orientations .