

contemporary manifestations of these entrenched antisemitic myths within our present-day context. For instance, the impact of the Gospel of John on Robert Bowers, the individual responsible for the tragic murder of 11 elderly Jewish worshippers at the Tree of Life Synagogue in 2018. Although the author does not have formal academic training in the area of Christian theology, he is able to navigate thoughtfully and precisely its profound impact on the “mythical Jew.” There is one correction to suggest, however, that *Nostra aetate* was a “landmark proclamation” of the Second Vatican Council, not “Pope John Paul VI” (39).

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UNDERSTANDING ZIONISM: HISTORY AND PERSPECTIVES.

By Anne Perez. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2023. Pp. vii + 277. Paperback, \$27.00.

An historian of modern Jewish and Israeli history, Anne Perez has written a much-welcomed book on the history of Zionism. It navigates a historical trajectory, chronicling the beginning of the Zionist movement to its modern evolution. Exploring diverse themes such as Christian Zionism, anti-Zionism, the Boycott, Divest, and the Sanction movement (BDS), Perez's book offers a comprehensive journey through this intricate narrative. This book balances accessibility and scholarly rigor, making it suitable for both undergraduate courses focused on Zionism and non-academic individuals seeking a deeper understanding of this pertinent topic outside of the academy. The readable nature of the book, alongside its exploration of contemporary issues, distinguishes it as an exceptional and unique addition to the array of existing academic literature about Zionism (i.e., *A History of Zionism: From the French Revolution to the Establishment of the State of Israel* by Walter Laquer; *The Making of Modern Zionism: The Intellectual Origins of the Jewish State* by Shalom Averini; and *American Zionism from Herzl to the Holocaust* by Melvin Urofsky). Moreover, it holds a particular significance for those unacquainted with the history of Zionism (e.g., the role of Christianity in its inception or the different Zionist factions) and contemporary issues like the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Perez's remarkable impartiality underscores the book's value as an essential resource for those unacquainted with Zionism. Her unwavering neutrality serves as a defining feature, ensuring a comprehensive and unbiased exploration of the subject throughout each chapter. Although Perez's impartiality is a significant advantage of this book, it is important to underscore the disadvantages as well. The book's impartiality may have inadvertently, at times, overlooked or failed to address accordingly, a few complex ethical dilemmas (e.g., how BDS rhetoric, particularly in equating Zionism with Nazism, is antisemitic).

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NEW PERSPECTIVES IN MODERN KOREAN BUDDHISM: INSTITUTION, GENDER, AND SECULAR SOCIETY.

Edited by Hwansoo Ilmee Kim and Jin Y. Park. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2022. Pp. xiv + 334. Hardback, \$99.00; Paperback \$36.95.

This work lives up to its titular promise by providing nuanced insights into the intricate dimensions shaping the formation, transformation, and contemporary complexities of Korean Buddhism within the context of modernity. This scholarly compilation, authored by ten distinct contributors, traverses the temporal spectrum from the nineteenth century to the present while also including consideration of the historical roots of Buddhism in Korea. The text engages in a comprehensive exploration of various facets that have hitherto been overlooked or underestimated. Noteworthy among these are gender issues, the often marginalized but pivotal roles of lay women and nuns in the historical preservation and evolution of Korean Buddhism, existential concerns, and the dynamic interplay with the state and societal currents that have molded the trajectory of Buddhism in modern Korea. This work scrutinizes influential individuals, societal concerns, clerical marriage, scandals, and the interface with secular society, offering a nuanced understanding of the multifaceted forces at play. A meticulous reconsideration of neglected factors elucidates the complex processes by which Korean Buddhism has transitioned into its contemporary manifestation. This scrutiny involves an assessment of both internal and external influences, with the latter historically stemming predominantly from China and, in more recent epochs, Japan. Such analysis challenges prevailing assumptions concerning the ascription of specific evolutionary facets primarily to external forces, notably the influence emanating from Japan. This examination accentuates the interrelatedness between these geographical regions and cultural terrains, highlighting a salient characteristic of Korean Buddhist modernity—an intricate engagement with the West, Christianity, Japan, and Japanese Buddhism. This scholarly endeavor not only advances our comprehension of Buddhism's role and nature in modern Korea but also addresses broader themes such as colonialism, nationalism, and modernity. By centering on individual lived experiences and recognizing the transnational and institutional dimensions of modern Korean Buddhism, the text challenges simplistic interpretations that narrowly focus on the current state of Buddhism in Korea. Instead, it underscores the intricate and nuanced factors that have collectively contributed to the multifaceted tapestry of Korean Buddhist development into its present form.

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