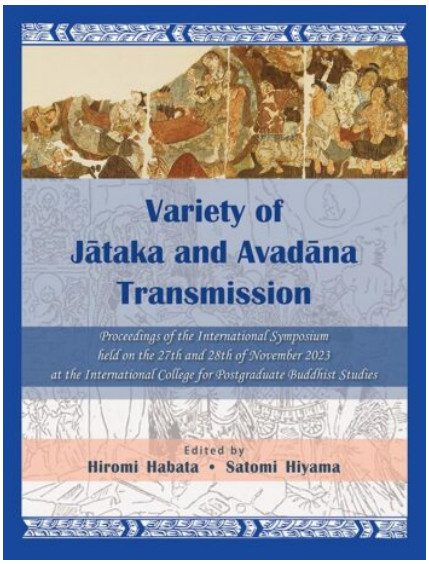
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Variety of J?taka and Avad?na Transmission: Proceedings of the International Symposium held on the 27th and 28th of November 2023 at the International College for Postgraduate Buddhist Studies



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About the Book

The j?taka and avad?na constitute one of the most widely disseminated and vibrant genres within the Buddhist literary tradition. As narrative tales—ranging from concise to lengthy and elaborate—they communicate the teachings of the Buddha to a broader audience in an accessible and appealing manner. These stories have been transmitted across diverse regions of Buddhist Asia in a variety of languages, and they have significantly influenced the development of visual art forms unique to each cultural context.

This volume comprises ten scholarly contributions that investigate various dimensions of these literary traditions. The articles are based on presentations originally delivered at the international symposium “Variety of J?taka and Avad?na Transmission,” held on 27–28 November 2023 at the International College for Postgraduate Buddhist Studies in Tokyo. The keynote address by Peter Skilling offers a critical reassessment of the history of research on these genres and provides foundational reflections on their role as vehicles for the transmission of Buddhism. The subsequent four chapters explore key aspects of j?taka and avad?na transmission, focusing respectively on their visual representations; textual styles and variant versions; linguistic features and issues of translation; and their literary classifications and geographical distribution.

About the Author

Hiromi Habata is Professor at the International College for Postgraduate Buddhist Studies. Her research focuses on the Mah?parinirv??as?tra, as well as the Tocharian Buddhist texts. Her recentpublicationsinclude: Aufbau und Umstrukturierung des Mah?parinirv??as?tra. Untersuchungen zum Mah?parinirv??a-mah?s?tra unter Berücksichtigung der Sanskrit-Fragmente (2019); Tocharische Texte zur Buddhalegende (2019).

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