



Animals and Plants in Chinese Religions and Science

By Huaiyu Chen

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Examines how medieval religious agents engaged with animals and plants as material culture in the mundane world, and how the spiritual world and natural world mutually enriched each other in the medieval world of China.

This transdisciplinary study focuses on animals and plants in medieval Chinese religions and science. It examines how medieval religious agents engaged with animals and plants as material culture in the mundane world, and how the spiritual world and natural world mutually enriched each other in the medieval world of China.

Key selling points

- Bridges the gaps between religious studies and environmental studies, between the history of science and religious studies, and between animal studies and plant studies.

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Acknowledgments; List of Figures; List of Charts; Introduction; Plant Science and Technology in Medieval China; Ordering Plants in the Buddhist World: A Medieval Botanical Taxonomy; Animal Divination and Climate: An Environmental Perspective on the Cult of the Pig; Zoomancy in Medieval China; The Changing Images of Zodiac Animals in Medieval Chinese Buddhist Literature; The Were-Tigers in Medieval China and Its Asian Context; The Animal Turn in Asian Studies and the Asian Turn in the Animal Studies; Bibliography; Index

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Huaiyu Chen is Associate Professor of School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies at Arizona State University. He is the author of *In the Land of Tigers and Snakes: Living with Animals in Medieval Chinese Religions* (2023).

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