

The Philosophical Research Society, Inc.

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CONTRIBUTORS' BULLETIN - OCTOBER 1973

Dear Friends:



In our book *Buddhism and Psychotherapy* we discuss religious pilgrimage as it has been practiced in Japan for nearly twelve hundred years. Those visiting a circle of temples or shrines as an act of devotion receive *Ofuda*, or temple souvenirs, from the sacred places which they visit. These are stamped with the seal of the temple, usually in vermilion ink. Through a source in Japan, we have received a pilgrim's jacket on which the temple seals were stamped, also in vermilion ink. There is a red panel down the back of the jacket inscribed with the date and noting

that it was inspired by the birthday of Buddha. The jacket is some fifty years old and is made of a rough material resembling unbleached cotton. Accompanying the coat is a scarf-like strip also covered with temple seals. Perhaps the outstanding oddity in this group is what appears to be a pair of gloves. When you examine them, you find that there is no opening at the bottom. Actually, they are to protect the hands of the wearer from the direct light of the sun. They are worn on the back of the hand and are held in place by a loop for the thumb and the second finger. They are also held at the wrist by a series of metal clasps that go through cord loops. The Japanese generally do not favor sunlight and strenuously object to becoming tanned. The ladies carry parasols and the men wear broad-brimmed hats and gloves. We have never seen one of these pilgrim outfits before and think that some of our friends may be intrigued by this devotional practice.

Incidentally, European pilgrims of the medieval period also wore charms attached to their garments. These could be small medals or pictures, drawings or paintings of the

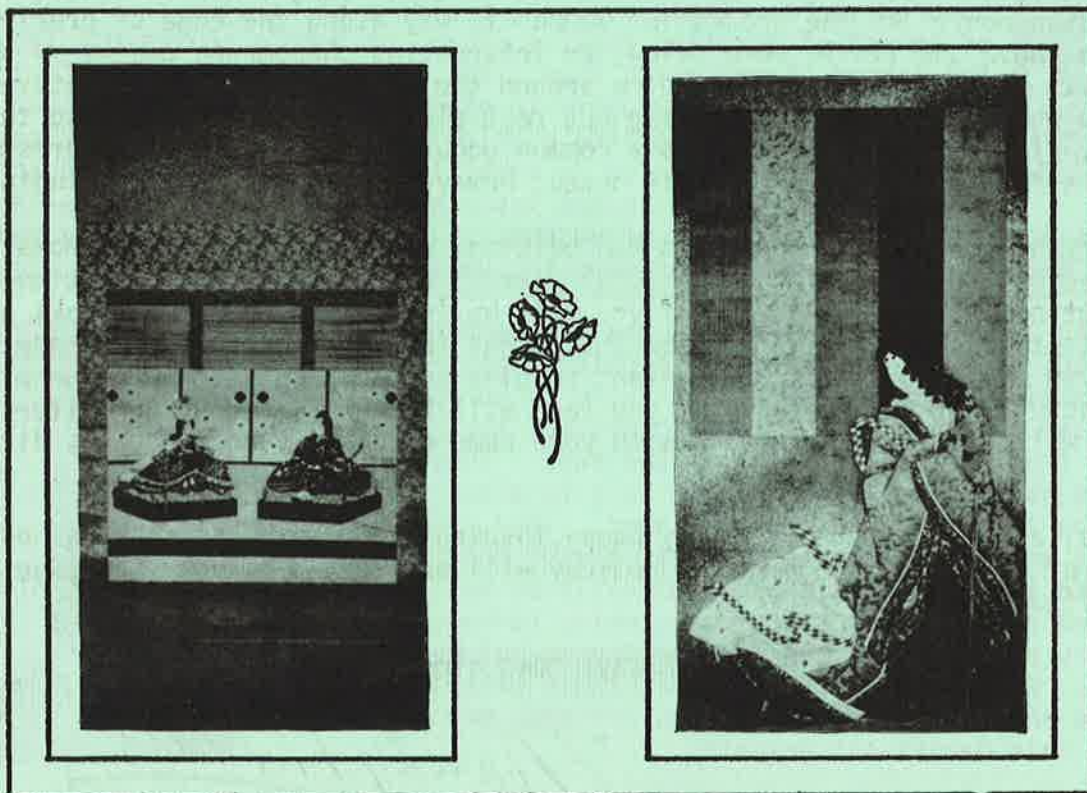


Pilgrim's Jacket
and Hand-Protectors

cross directly applied to the fabric, or talismanic magical figures attached to the hat. Originally, many of these devices were either of solid gold or silver, but these were so fascinating to the local highwaymen that they were replaced by trinkets without monetary value. During the plague years, doctors wore voluminous gowns on which were drawn or painted all kinds of spells and enchantments, also astrological symbols and short prayers as protection against contagion. Early apothecary shops sold paper charms against numerous ailments, and they can still be purchased in a number of American cities.

We have also received two very interesting applique pictures. One of these represents a Japanese court lady of the classical period. The figure itself is made of padded silk, hand-painted, and is then dressed in elaborate brocade robes. The work was done about 150 years ago, and certainly should be included among Japanese decorative art.

At the same time we received another example of this applique artistry which is both charming and ingenious. The background consists of a *kakemono*, or vertical hanging scroll panel, which can be rolled up for storage. In the center of the panel is a very severe design of sliding door panels and a raised platform indicated by a wide, black horizontal line. The applique figures of the emperor and empress are somewhat less formal than usual and face each other. They are also of padded silk dressed in appropriate silks and brocades, and seated on ornamented platforms. These two figures lift out so that the scroll can be rolled for storage. Such a hanging picture is suitable for the Girls' Doll Ceremony, which is held annually in March. It is about the same age as the picture described above. Both applique pictures are illustrated below.



Our September exhibit in the Library featured a series of photographs that I took in India exactly fifty years ago. These were displayed after my return from this trip, many of them were made into hand-colored stereoptigan slides (there was no colored

film at that time), and then were quietly stored away as unctemporary. After fifty years, thing considered outdated suddenly become valuable documentary records and priceless mementoes. One of these mementoes caught my eye and brought back some interesting memories. An elephant which served as hotel bus is pictured ambling along toward the main entrance of a native hostelry. There was a kind of enclosed courtyard with a high arched gate, the walls of which were about ten feet in thickness. In niches, one on each side of the gate in the thickness of the wall, were two deep stone bathtubs. They fulfilled the promise of the establishment: Room with Bath. When guests decided to bathe the proper parties were duly alerted, and the tubs were filled with buckets of hot water tempered to the bather's convenience. When all was ready the guest was ushered into the bathtub sans clothes and with an appropriate flourish, he or she luxuriated while the hotel guests rode in on the stately elephant. It was considered a breach of etiquette to gaze too long at the tubs, but passing glances were tolerated. I presume that these little nuances have faded away, but they will not be quickly forgotten by older travelers.

We are also exhibiting several photographs showing the switch-back railway which carried travelers to the town of Darjeeling in north India close to the border of Tibet. There was a large round iron contraption on the front of the engine, and during the ascent, a railway employee sat on the cow-catcher and threw handfuls of sand on the rails from the circular box behind him. This helped to prevent the train from sliding back to Calcutta.

Once settled quietly in the hotel at Darjeeling, preparations were made for our journey to Tiger Hill, one of the lesser Himilayan peaks, from which, if the omens were auspicious, one could get a splendid view of Mount Everest surrounded by twenty other peaks, many of them over twenty thousand feet high. We started out at dawn along a narrow trail, and I was riding a Tibetan pony. As the procession wound its way along the edge of precipitous cliffs with space above and little more below, an interesting phenomenon caught my attention. It was still dark, and there was a glow around the feet of each of the native bearers. You could see the whole procession of nothing but feet plodding their way up into the rugged highlands. I was told that this was a common occurrence due to some fluorescent substance in the soil. I have never seen it noted, however, in books on north Indian travel.

We are doing everything possible to publish new editions of all our important books, some of which have been out of print for several years. With all these publications available for distribution, we hope that many of you will be inspired to give our books as Christmas presents to your friends. We know that plans for holiday giving are made well in advance, and you may find it very convenient to give subscriptions to our Journal or to our monthly lecture notes to folks whom you feel will be benefitted by our literature. Upon request, we will include a gift card with your name and mail your purchases directly from here.

It is appropriate, also, to wish you a very happy Thanksgiving, with the sincere hope that the kindly charm of this uniquely American holiday will remind you of your heritage of courage and gratitude.

Always most sincerely,



SPECIAL NOTICE FROM OUR BOOK DEPARTMENT

A number of important and scholarly volumes in our fields of interest are now available in attractive and accurate reprints. Most of those listed here are included in Mr. Hall's list of recommended reading and have long been rare and out of print. To these have been added selected works by outstanding modern authors. The Contributors' Bulletin will list additional works in future issues. These books may be ordered directly from the Philosophical Research Society, Inc. (address on page one). Please add 25¢ for handling on orders of less than \$5.00, and sales tax is to be included by California residents. NOTE: Prices are subject to change without notice.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
The Pictorial Key to the Tarot	Waite (P)	\$ 1.95
Plato, An Introduction	P. Friedlander	12.50
The Platonist - Selected Writings	Trans. Thomas Taylor	8.50
Popular Stories of Ancient Egypt	Maspero	10.00
Porphyry on Abstinence From Animal Food	Trans. Thomas Taylor	6.00
The Portal of Initiation	Rudolf Steiner	6.75
Practical Dowsing - A Symposium	M. H. Bell	5.00
The Practice of Psychotherapy #16	Carl Jung	4.50
Principles of Astrology	C.E.O. Carter	4.00
Principles of Light & Color	E. Babbitt	15.00
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The Prophet (Deluxe Edition)	Kahlil Gibran	10.00
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Science & Psychoanalysis - Vol III	J. H. Masserman	13.00
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The Psychology of Handwriting	Robert Saudek	7.50
Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain	Ostrander/Schroeder (P)	1.50
Phrenology	Sybil Leek (P)	2.95
Psychological Types (#6)	Carl Jung	15.00
The Philosopher's Stone	Israel Regardie	5.00
Principles of Tantra (Part I & II)	Sir John Woodroffe (Set)	15.25
Peach Boy (Children's Story)	Florence Sakada	2.00
Prayer Can Change Your Life	Parker/E. St. John	6.95
Power of Concentration, The	Theron Sumont	4.50
Prophecy In Our Time	Martin Ebon (P)	2.50
Qabalah, Philosophical Writings of Avicbron	Isaac Myer	15.00

* * BOOKS BY MANLY P. HALL * *

Collected Writings, Vol. II	- \$5.00	Adventures in Understanding	- \$5.00
Questions & Answers	- \$5.00	Search for Reality	- \$9.00
Buddhism and Psychotherapy	- \$5.00	Journey in Truth	- \$5.00
The Way of Heaven	- \$4.00	Pathways of Philosophy	- \$5.00