

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910460932103321
Autore	Gyatso Janet
Titolo	Being human in a Buddhist world : an intellectual history of medicine in early modern Tibet / / Janet Gyatso ; cover and book design, Lisa Hamm
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, [New York] : , : Columbia University Press, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	0-231-16497-1 0-231-53832-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (538 p.)
Disciplina	294.3/366109515
Soggetti	Buddhism - Tibet Region - History Medicine, Tibetan - History Medicine - Religious aspects - Buddhism Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- A TECHNICAL NOTE -- ABBREVIATIONS -- INTRODUCTION -- PART I: IN THE CAPITAL -- 1. READING PAINTINGS, PAINTING THE MEDICAL, MEDICALIZING THE STATE -- 2. ANATOMY OF AN ATTITUDE: MEDICINE COMES OF AGE -- PART II: BONES OF CONTENTION -- 3. THE WORD OF THE BUDDHA -- 4. THE EVIDENCE OF THE BODY: MEDICAL CHANNELS, TANTRIC KNOWING -- 5. TANGLED UP IN SYSTEM: THE HEART, IN THE TEXT AND IN THE HAND -- CODA: INFLUENCE, RHETORIC, AND RIDING TWO HORSES AT ONCE -- PART III: ROOTS OF THE PROFESSION -- 6. WOMEN AND GENDER -- 7. THE ETHICS OF BEING HUMAN: THE DOCTOR'S FORMATION IN A MATERIAL REALM -- CONCLUSION: WAYS AND MEANS FOR MEDICINE -- NOTES -- BIBLIOGRAPHIES -- INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	Critically exploring medical thought in a cultural milieu with no discernible influence from the European Enlightenment, <i>Being Human in a Buddhist World</i> reveals an otherwise unnoticed intersection of early modern sensibilities and religious values in traditional Tibetan

medicine. It further studies the adaptation of Buddhist concepts and values to medical concerns and suggests important dimensions of Buddhism's role in the development of Asian and global civilization. Through its unique focus and sophisticated reading of source materials, *Being Human* adds a crucial chapter in the larger historiography of science and religion. The book opens with the bold achievements in Tibetan medical illustration, commentary, and institution building during the period of the Fifth Dalai Lama and his regent, Desi Sangye Gyatso, then looks back to the work of earlier thinkers, tracing a strategically astute dialectic between scriptural and empirical authority on questions of history and the nature of human anatomy. It follows key differences between medicine and Buddhism in attitudes toward gender and sex and the moral character of the physician, who had to serve both the patient's and the practitioner's well-being. *Being Human* in a Buddhist World ultimately finds that Tibetan medical scholars absorbed ethical and epistemological categories from Buddhism yet shied away from ideal systems and absolutes, instead embracing the imperfectability of the human condition.
