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Nota di contenuto	<p>Illustration 10 Ekambaranatha Temple, Kanchi, Left to right: Roof of Kacci Mayanam shrine (tenth century), Pillared Hall (twentieth century), Gateway (seventeenth century), Vrsabhesvara Shrine (ninth century), Gateway (sixteenth century) -- Illustration 11 (Vrsabhesvara Shrine at far right) Archaeological Survey of India, A view of the tank from the east, Ekambreswaraswami Temple, Conjeevaram, 1897, photographic print, 21.1 x 25.6 cm, British Library, Photo1008/3(325) -- Illustration 12 Panel 1-4 (and see Illustration 7), Tantonrisvara Temple, Kanchi, panels seventh century</p> <p>Illustration 2 Map of Kanchi Temples (map by Emma Natalya Stein and Daniel Cole, Smithsonian Institution) -- Illustration 3 Kailasanatha Temple, Kanchi, ca. 700-725 CE -- Illustration 4 Buddha, Kanchi Police Station, twelfth century -- Illustration 5 Sitesvara Temple, Kanchi, tenth century -- Illustration 6 Festival at Kamaksi Amman Temple, Kanchi (July 2014) -- Illustration 7 Panel 4, Tantonrisvara Temple, Kanchi, seventh century -- Illustration 8 Laksita cave-temple, Mantakappattu, ca. 580-630 CE -- Illustration 9 Brick shrine in quarry area, Arpakkam</p> <p>Colonel Colin Mackenzie's Search for the Jains -- Surgeon George Russell Dartnell -- James Fergusson's Downward Spiral -- Prince Alexis Soltykoff's 'City of Infinite Temples' -- Conclusion: Plastered Pasts -- Epilogue -- The Living Temple -- Encounter -- Expansion --</p>

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Sommario/riassunto

This book traces the emergence of the South Indian city of Kanchi as a major royal capital and multireligious pilgrimage destination during the era of the Pallava and Chola dynasties (ca. seventh through thirteenth centuries). It presents the first-ever comprehensive picture of historical Kanchi, locating the city and its more than 100 spectacular Hindu temples at the heart of commercial and artistic exchange that spanned India, Southeast Asia, and China. The author demonstrates that Kanchi was structured with a hidden urban plan, which determined the placement and orientation of temples around a central thoroughfare that was also a burgeoning pilgrimage route. Moving outwards from the city, she shows how the transportation networks, river systems, residential enclaves, and agrarian estates all contributed to the vibrancy of Kanchi's temple life. The construction and ongoing renovation of temples in and around the city, she concludes, has enabled Kanchi to thrive continuously from at least the eighth century, through the colonial period, and up until the present.
