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| Nota di contenuto | About the Special Issue Editor -- Preface to "Religion, Ritual and Ritualistic Objects" -- Introduction to the Special Issue Religion, Ritual, and Ritualistic Objects' -- Matter in Motion: A Dogon Kanaga Mask -- Requiescat in Pace'. Initiation and Assassination Rituals in the Assassin's Creed Game Series -- Lambling Baka: Immanence, Rituals, and Sacred Objects in an Unwritten Legend in Alor -- When Children Participate in the Death Ritual of a Parent: Funerary Photographs as Mnemonic Objects -- The Ritualizing of the Martial and Benevolent Side of Ravana in Two Annual Rituals at the Sri Devram Maha Viharaya in Pannipitiya, Sri Lanka -- On the Xiapu Ritual Manual Mani the Buddha of Light -- Influences of Egyptian Lotus Symbolism and Ritualistic Practices on Sacral Tree Worship in the Fertile Crescent from 1500 BCE to 200 CE -- Continuity and Discontinuity in 17th- and 18th-Century Ecclesiastical Silverworks from the Southern Andes -- Prayers of Cow Dung: Women Sculpturing Fertile Environments in Rural Rajasthan (India) -- Bare Feet and Sacred Ground: "Visnu Was Here". |
| Sommario/riassunto | This is a volume about the life and power of ritual objects in their religious ritual settings. In this Special Issue, we see a wide range of contributions on material culture and ritual practices across religions. |

By focusing on the dynamic interrelations between objects, ritual, and belief, it explores how religion happens through symbolic materiality. The ritual objects presented in this volume include: masks worn in the Dogon dance; antique ecclesiastical silver objects carried around in festive processions and shown in shrines in the southern Andes; funerary photographs and films functioning as mnemonic objects for grieving children; a dented rock surface perceived to be the god's footprint in the archaic place of pilgrimage, Gaya (India); a recovered manual of rituals (from Xiapu county) for Mani, the founder of Manichaeism, juxtaposed to a Manichaean painting from southern China; sacred stories and related sacred stones in the Alor-Pantar archipelago, Indonesia; lotus symbolism, indicating immortalizing plants in the mythic traditions of Egypt, the Levant, and Mesopotamia; lavishly illustrated variations of portrayals of Ravana , a Sinhalese god-king-demon; figurines made of cow dung sculptured by rural women in Rajasthan (India); and mythical artifacts called 'Apples of Eden' in a well-known interactive game series.
