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Titolo	A comparative sociology of world religions [[electronic resource]] : virtuosos, priests, and popular religion / / Stephen Sharot
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 309-335) and index.
Nota di contenuto	World religions, elites, and popular religion -- Religious action : a Weberian model -- Elites and masses : Max Weber, Weberian scholars, and Marxist analysis -- China : state religion, elites, and popular religion in a syncretistic milieu -- India : Brahmans, renouncers, and popular Hinduism -- Nirvana and spirits : Buddhism and animism in Sri Lanka and Southeast Asia -- Hierocracy and popular religion : Catholicism in 'traditional' Europe -- Elite scholars and popular saints : a brief excursus on Islam and Judaism -- Protestants, Catholics, and the reform of popular religion -- Comparisons.
Sommario/riassunto	A Sociology of World Religions presents a comparative analysis of the world's religions, focusing on the differences and interrelationships between religious elites and lay masses. In each case the volume contextualizes how the relationships between these two religious forms fit within, and are influenced by, the wider socio-political environment. After introducing the book's major themes, the volume introduces and builds upon an analysis of Weber's model of religious action, drawing on Durkheim, Marxist scholars, and the work of contemporary sociologists and anthropologists. The following chap