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Note generali	Significant revision of the author's thesis (doctoral--University of Chicago, 2004) under title: An Ethic of Continuity: Shwegyin monks and the Sasana in Contemporary Burma/Myanmar.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages [223]-235) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Acknowledgements -- Contents -- Abbreviations -- Figures and Tables -- A Note on the Name Myanmar -- Conventions for Transliterations, etc. -- Map of Myanmar -- Introduction: From the kyamuni Buddha to the Shwegyin Tradition -- Chapter One: The Shwegyin Tradition and Its Traditionalism -- Chapter Two: Institutional Moorings -- Chapter Three: Classic Ritual Permutations -- Chapter Four: Existential Ruminations -- Conclusion: Continuities and Ruptures -- Epilogue: A Comment on Continuity and Rupture, from Afar -- Bibliography -- Index of Authors -- Index of Burmese Terms -- Index of Pali and Sanskrit Terms -- Index of Subjects
Sommario/riassunto	Intended as a methodological and theoretical contribution to the study of religion and society, this book examines Buddhist monasticism in Myanmar. The book focuses on the Shwegyin, one of the most important but least understood monastic groups in the country. Analyzing the group as a tradition constructed around ideas of continuity and disruption/rupture, the study illuminates key aspects of monastic and wider Burmese Buddhist thought and practice, and

ultimately argues for the distinctiveness of elements of that thought and practice in comparison to the Buddhist cultures of Sri Lanka and Laos. After situating the Shwegyin within the history of Buddhist monasticism more generally, and within the vicissitudes of modern Burmese political history, the book proceeds along two scholarly avenues. It adopts an interdisciplinary method with attention to biographical, administrative, doctrinal, and ethnographic evidence. Theoretically, the book engages scholarly discussion about "traditions" and their "traditionalisms" and advances a specific type of interpretive approach built on bringing the viewpoints and practices of the Shwegyin into conversation with the enterprise of understanding larger historical and cultural patterns in the Buddhist societies of South and Southeast Asia.
