

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910782316503321
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Titolo	Sarasvat [[electronic resource]] : riverine goddess of knowledge : from the manuscript-carrying vina-player to the weapon-wielding defender of the Dharma / / by Catherine Ludvik
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden ; ; Boston, : Brill, 2007
ISBN	1-281-92633-7 9786611926335 90-474-2036-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xviii, 374 pages, [16] pages of plates) : illustrations
Collana	Brill's Indological library, , 0925-2916 ; ; v. 27
Disciplina	294.5/2114
Soggetti	Sarasvati (Hindu deity) Sarasvati (Buddhist deity)
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [317]-337) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Materials / C. Ludvik -- Introduction / C. Ludvik -- Vedic Literature / C. Ludvik -- Chapter One. g Veda / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Two. Atharva Veda / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Three. Yajur Veda / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Four. Brhmaas / C. Ludvik -- Vedic Sarasvat In Retrospective / C. Ludvik -- Epic And Puranic Literature / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Five. Mahbhrata / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Six. Puras / C. Ludvik -- Epic And Puranic Sarasvat In Retrospective / C. Ludvik -- Sarasvat In Buddhist Sutras / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Seven. Sutra Of Golden Light / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Eight. Great Eloquence Deity / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Nine. Bath / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Ten. Kauinya's Praises / C. Ludvik -- The Sutra's Sarasvat In Retrospective / C. Ludvik -- Identification Of Images And Goddesses / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Eleven. Early Images Of Sarasvat / C. Ludvik -- Chapter Twelve. Images Corresponding To Yijing's Goddess / C. Ludvik -- Images In Retrospective / C. Ludvik -- Conclusion / C. Ludvik -- Appendix A Sarasvat Chapter Of The Sutra Of Golden Light / C. Ludvik -- Appendix B Herb Lists For The Bath Taught By Sarasvat In The Sutra Of Golden Light / C. Ludvik -- Bibliography Of Sources And Works Cited / C. Ludvik -- Index / C. Ludvik.

Sommario/riassunto

This is a fascinating depiction of the transformation of the Indian riverine goddess from the manuscript-carrying v -player to the Buddhist weapon-wielding defender of the Dharma. Drawing on Sanskrit and Chinese textual sources, as well as Hindu, Jain, and Buddhist art historical representations, this book traces the conceptual and iconographic development of the riverine goddess of knowledge Sarasvat from some time after 1750 B.C.E. to the seventh century C.E. Through the study of Chinese translations of no longer extant Sanskrit versions of the Buddhist Sutra of Golden Light the author sheds light on Sarasvat's interactions with other Indian goddess cults and their impact on one another.
