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Titolo	The rise of Mahasena [[electronic resource]] : the transformation of Skanda-Karttikeya in North India from the Kusana to Gupta empires / / by Richard D. Mann
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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (296 p.)
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Soggetti	Karttikeya (Hindu deity) - Cult - India, North - History Hinduism - India, North - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
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Note generali	Revision of the author's Ph. D. dissertation.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- Introduction -- Theories Related to the Origins of Skanda -- The Early Traditions of Skanda-Krttikeya from Epic, Medical and Ritual Sources -- The Emergence of the Senpati: The Narrative Conversion of the Warrior and Graha -- The Birth of Skanda-Krttikeya in the alyaparvan, Anusanaparvan and Rmyaa -- Coins, Statuary and Skanda-Krttikeya: The Earliest Depictions -- Skanda-Krttikeya on Kua Coinage and Gandhra Statuary -- Developments in Skanda-Krttikeya's Cult between the Empires -- The Kumrasabhava and Puric Accounts of Skanda-Krttikeya -- The Material Culture of Skanda-Krttikeya in the Gupta Empire -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index -- Plates.
Sommario/riassunto	This book studies the early development of Skanda-Krttikeya's Hindu cult from its earliest textual and material sources to the end of the Gupta Empire in the north of India. The text argues that Skanda's early 'popular' cult is found in Graha and Mt traditions oriented towards appeasing potentially dangerous spirits. Once propitiated, however, Skanda and his Grahas/ Mts could become fierce protectors of their followers. During the Kua and Gupta empires, this tradition gains the attention of rulers, who transform the deity's protective cult into

one focused on the ruler's military prowess and right to rule. Once detached from his former popular traditions the deity's cult begins to falter in the north as it becomes increasingly focused on elite agendas.
