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Nota di contenuto	Introduction; 1 The Historical Value Of The Khandhaka Of The Khandhaka Of The Vinaya Pitaka; 2 Religious Motivation And The Relationship Between The Early Samgha And The Laity; 3 Religious Motivation And The Theme Of Conversion In Buddhism; 4 Social Psychology And The Religious Motivation Of The Early Buddhists; 5 Religious Motivation And The Role Of Fear; 6 Religious Motivation And The Merit Of Giving; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Why did people in North India from the 5th century BC choose to leave the world and join the sect of the Buddha? This is the first book to apply the insights of social psychology in order to understand the religious motivation of the people who constituted the early Buddhist community. It also addresses the more general and theoretically controversial question of how world religions come into being, by focusing on the conversion process of the individual believer.

