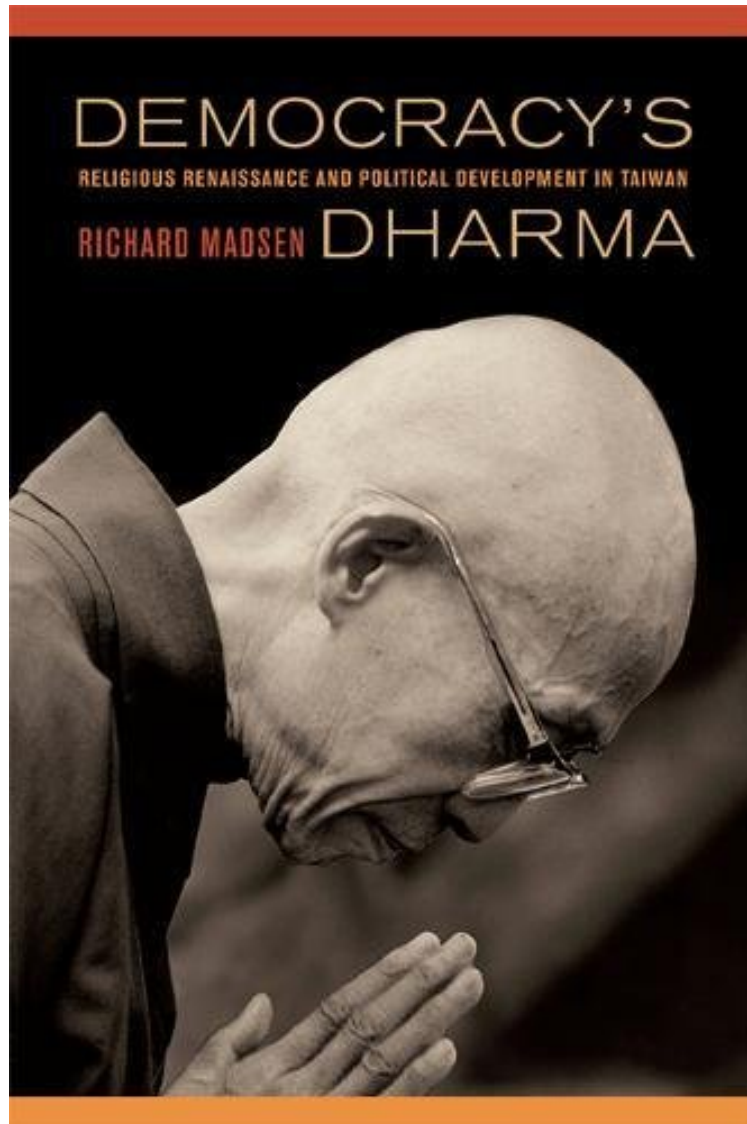


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# Democracys Dharma: Religious Renaissance and Political Development in Taiwan

*Richard Madsen*

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**Richard Madsen : Democracys Dharma: Religious Renaissance and Political Development in Taiwan** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Democracys Dharma: Religious Renaissance and Political Development in Taiwan:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Lot of Good InformationBy MorkThis is a well-researched book which I have found helpful in my own research. Madsen has always had great attention to detail. The only criticism I

have is that, at times, he seems to be far more critical of the West than of the East which has its own, albeit different, set of civil society problems. Still, a good read with a lot of interesting information.

This book explores the remarkable religious renaissance that has reformed, revitalized, and renewed the practices of Buddhism and Daoism in Taiwan. *Democracy's Dharma* connects these noteworthy developments to Taiwan's transition to democracy and the burgeoning needs of its new middle classes. Richard Madsen offers fresh thinking on Asian religions and shows that the public religious revival was not only encouraged by the early phases of the democratic transition but has helped to make that transition successful and sustainable. Madsen makes his argument through vivid case studies of four groups: Tzu Chi (the Buddhist Compassion Relief Association), Buddha's Light Mountain, Dharma Drum Mountain, and the Enacting Heaven Temple and his analysis demonstrates that the Taiwan religious renaissance embraces a democratic modernity.

Rich historical and phenomenological detail.