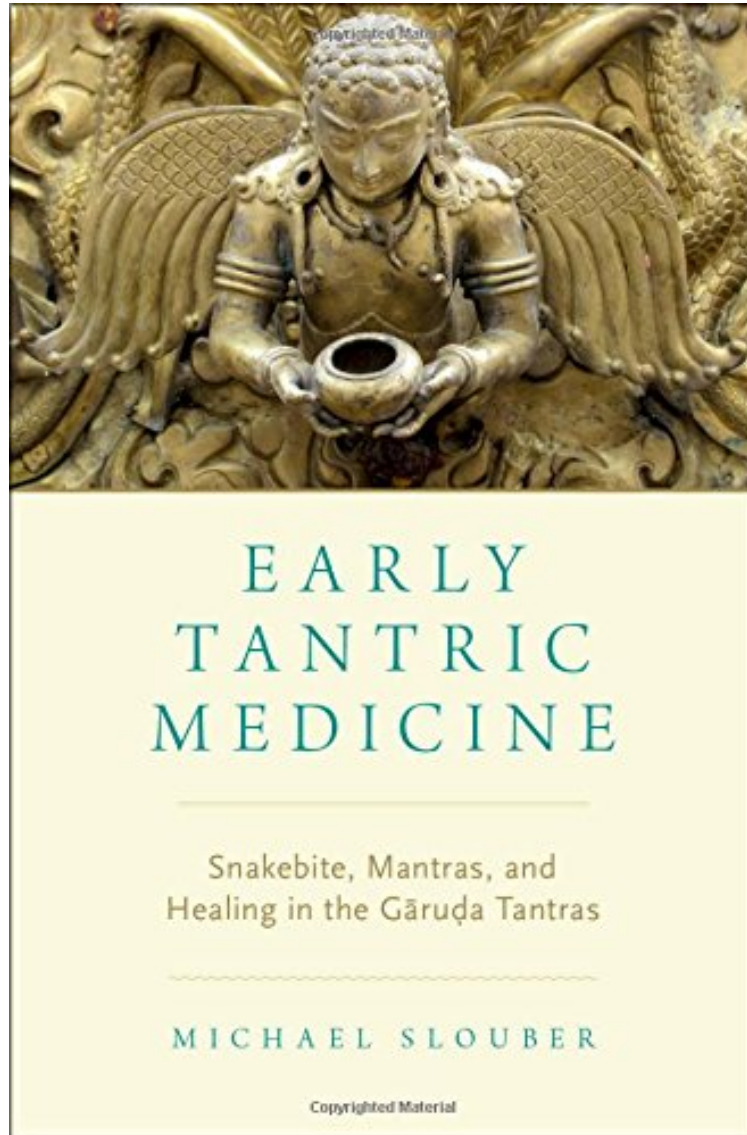


(Download) Early Tantric Medicine: Snakebite, Mantras, and Healing in the Garuda Tantras

# Early Tantric Medicine: Snakebite, Mantras, and Healing in the Garuda Tantras

Michael Slouber

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**Michael Slouber : Early Tantric Medicine: Snakebite, Mantras, and Healing in the Garuda Tantras** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Early Tantric Medicine: Snakebite, Mantras, and Healing in the Garuda Tantras:

Snakebite may sound like a rare and exotic phenomenon, but in India it is a problem that affects 1.4 million people every year and results in over 45,000 deaths. A traditional medical system that flourished over 1,000 years ago, the Garuda Tantras had a powerful influence on medicine for snakebite, and some of their practices remain popular to this day. In *Early Tantric Medicine*, Michael Slouber offers a close examination of the Garuda Tantras, which were deemed lost until the author discovered numerous ancient titles surviving in Sanskrit manuscripts written on fragile palm-leaves. The volume brings to life this rich tradition in which knowledge and faith are harnessed in complex visualizations accompanied by secret mantras to an array of gods and goddesses; this religious system is combined with herbal medicine and a fascinating mix of lore on snakes, astrology, and healing. The book's appendices include an accurate yet readable translation of ten chapters of the most significant Tantric medical text to be recovered: the *Kriyakalaganottara*. Also included is a critical edition based on the surviving Nepalese manuscripts. Tying in to interest in holistic medicine, meditation, and Tantra, this volume sheds light on a nearly forgotten piece of history.

"The book is written in a fascinating style, bringing to life serpents, eagles, gods, and goddesses, and remains throughout enjoyable. It offers a colorful mix of lore on snakes, theories on mantras and healing, and also reveals newly discovered literature of snakebite medicine. The book is thus a must read for all those interested in religious medicine or Tantric cultures." --Diwakar Acharya, Spalding Professor of Eastern Religions and Ethics, All Souls College, Oxford "Slouber's fascinating book draws us into a whole new world of medieval Indian Tantric wisdom about poisons, venomous snakes, mantras, visualizations, rituals, and healing. Slouber also gives us a first edition of key sections of a previously unpublished work, the *Kriyakalaganottara*, together with a lucid translation and interpretation of the new materials revealed by this thousand-year-old treatise. Overlapping only partially with Ayurveda, the new materials explored by Slouber will be enthralling for anyone interested in the full spectrum of ancient healing practices in South Asia." --Professor Dominik Wujastyk, Singhmar Chair of Classical Indian Society and Polity, University of Alberta About the Author Michael Slouber is Assistant Professor of South Asia in the Department of Liberal Studies at Western Washington University.