

BUDDHISM AND ECOLOGY

Booklist compiled by Dr. Stephanie Kaza, University of Vermont, 2005

Aitken, Robert. *The Mind of Clover: Essays in Zen Buddhist Ethics* (San Francisco: North Point Press, 1984). These provocative essays, introducing the Ten Grave Precepts, shed light on a number of contemporary issues in Buddhist ethics, including the environment.

Barnhill, David L. "Relational Holism: Huayan Buddhism and Deep Ecology" in *Deep Ecology and World Religions*, David Landis Barnhill and Roger S. Gottlieb, eds. (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2001), pp 77-106.

Batchelor, Martine and Brown, Kerry, eds. *Buddhism and Ecology* (London: Cassell Publishers, 1992). One of five introductory volumes on the five major world religions and the environment, this set of essays addresses Buddhist teachings and practice and how they apply to ecological issues.

Boston Research Center for the 21st Century. *Buddhist Perspectives on the Earth Charter*. (Cambridge: Boston Research Center, 1997). A range of reflections on the potential for the Earth Charter to support Buddhist values in contemporary challenges to sustainability and peace.

Callicot, J. Baird and Ames, Roger T., eds. *Nature in Asian Tradition of Thought: Essays in Environmental Philosophy* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1989). A collection of essays by mostly Western philosophers, drawing on Asian thought as a source for environmental ethics. Academic overviews of Japanese, Chinese, and Indian environmental philosophy, with several articles specifically on Buddhism and nature.

Chapple, Christopher Key. *Nonviolence to Animals, Earth, and Self in Asian Traditions* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1993). Origins of the practice of nonviolence in early India with applications to contemporary issues such as vegetarianism, animal protection, death by choice.

Dogen, Eihei. "Mountains and Waters Sutra" in *Shobogenzo* collection, translations by Thomas Cleary or Kaz Tanahashi (*Moon in a Dewdrop*, San Francisco: North Point Press, 1985). A poetic elucidation of interdependence of soil and water, mind and matter, landscape as teacher. The basis for Gary Snyder's epic life poem cycle.

Fukuoka, Masanobu. *The Road Back to Nature: Regaining the Paradise Lost* (Tokyo: Japan Publications, 1987). A Japanese organic farmer's Taoist philosophy on the foundations of good farming.

Gross, Rita. "Interdependence and Attachment: Toward a Buddhist Environmental Ethic" (pp 75-93) and "Buddhist Values for Overcoming Pro-Natalism and Consumerism" (pp108-124) in *Soaring and Settling* (New York: Continuum, 1998). Thoughtful and challenging reflections on difficult environmental subjects, bringing fresh interpretations of fundamental Buddhist principles.

Habito, Ruben L.F. *Healing Breath: Zen Spirituality for a Wounded Earth* (Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books, 1993). An introduction to Zen practice in the context of personal and planetary woundedness, approached here through the Christian frame of love as well as the Buddhist emphasis on awareness.

Harris, Ian. "Buddhism and Ecology" in *Contemporary Buddhist Ethics*, ed. Damien Keown (Richmond, Surrey: Curzon Press, 2002), pp 113-136. The author provides historical and philosophical evidence for and against the existence of a Buddhist environmental ethic.

Hunt-Badiner, Alan, ed. *Dharma Gaia: A Harvest of Essays in Buddhism and Ecology* (Berkeley: Parallax Press, 1990). An early collection of provocative articles and poetry addressing the intersection of Buddhist and environmental thinking and perception.

Kapleau, Philip. *To Cherish All Life: A Buddhist Case for Becoming Vegetarian* (San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1982). A compelling argument for vegetarianism based on Buddhist thought and practice.

Kaza, Stephanie. *The Attentive Heart: Conversations with Trees* (New York: Ballantine, 1993). Meditative nature writing essays from a Zen deep ecological perspective, with a particular interest in meeting individual trees as sentient beings.

Kaza, Stephanie. "To Save All Beings: Buddhist Environmental Activism" in *Engaged Buddhism in the West*, Christopher Queen, ed. (Boston: Wisdom Publications, 2000), pp 159-183. An overview of Buddhist environmental history and initiatives in the United States with a summary of key philosophical principles used by people in the field.

Kaza, Stephanie and Kraft, Kenneth, eds. *Dharma Rain: Sources for a Buddhist Environmentalism* (Boston: Shambhala, 2000). Foundational anthology of classic and modern texts, including advice and reflection from Buddhist environmental activists.

Kaza, Stephanie, ed. *Hooked! Buddhist Writings on Greed, Desire, and the Urge to Consume* (Boston: Shambhala, 2005). Essays by leading Buddhist teachers, scholars, and practitioners on Buddhist ethics related to modern issues of consumerism.

Macy, Joanna and Brown, Molly Young. *Coming Back to Life: Practices to Reconnect Our Lives, Our World* (Gabriola Island, B.C.:New Society Publishers, 1998). Practical experiential exercises to introduce deep ecology and Buddhist principles into environmental perception and organizing.

Macy, Joanna. *Mutual Causality in Buddhism and General Systems Theory* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1991). Analysis of Buddhist views of reality showing convergences with modern systems theory, including self as process, co-arising of knower and known, body and mind, doer and deed, self and society.

Nhat Hanh, Thich. "The Sun My Heart" in *Love in Action* (Berkeley: Parallax Press, 1993). Mindfulness teachings as they relate to interdependence from an ecological and spiritual view. Guidelines for practicing with the Jewel Net of Indra and the ten penetrations.

Nhat Hanh, Thich, ed. *For a Future to be Possible* (Berkeley: Parallax Press, 1995). Commentaries on the five basic precepts, many from an ecological perspective.

Ryan, P.D. *Buddhism and the Natural World: Toward a Meaningful Myth* (Birmingham: Windhorse Publications, 1998). An in-depth study of the Buddhist version of a creation story, interpreted from an environmental perspective.

Schmithausen, Lambert. *The Problem of the Sentience of Plants in Earliest Buddhism* (Tokyo: The International Institute for Buddhist Studies, Studio Philologica Buddhica, Monograph Series VI, 1991). Detailed scholarship raising the issue of plants as sentient beings or not.

Schimthausen, Lambert. *Buddhism and Nature* (Tokyo: The International Institute for Buddhist Studies, Studio Philologica Buddhica, Monograph Series VII, 1991). Foundational research on Buddhist attitudes towards nature in early historical periods of development.

Sivaraksa, Sulak. *Seeds of Peace* (Berkeley: Parallax Press, 1992). Essays on economic development in Thailand and its relationship to Buddhist principles and Western consumerism.

Sivaraksa, Sulak, ed. *Santi Pracha Dhamma: essays in honor of the late Puey Ungphakorn* (Bangkok: Santi Pracha Dhamma Institute, 2001). Many essays on globalization, development, consumerism, and environmental justice representing both eastern and western views and experience.

Snyder, Gary. *The Practice of the Wild* (San Francisco: North Point Press, 1990). Penetrating essays from Buddhist revolutionary bioregionalist poet-philosopher Snyder on the natural world and Zen Buddhist teachings and practice.

Snyder, Gary. *A Place in Space* (Washington, D.C.: Counterpoint, 1995). Collected essays from the 50s to the 90s, many on Buddhism and reinhabitation of culture and nature.

Tucker, Mary Evelyn and Williams, Duncan, eds. *Buddhism and Ecology: the Interconnection of Dharma and Deeds* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1997). First serious scholarly collection of papers in the emerging field of Buddhism and Ecology. Includes critiques, field studies, and reinterpretation of classic texts.

Waldau, Paul. "Buddhism and Animal Rights" in *Contemporary Buddhist Ethics*, ed. Damien Keown (Richmond, Surrey: Curzon Press, 2002), pp 81-112. A thorough overview of Buddhist positions and practices regarding human-animal relations, including aspects that apply to modern animal rights concerns.