

The Sacred Banana Leaf

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an adaptation of an indonesian trickster tale about kanchil the mouse deer

sweet but starchy soft but toothsome and so easy to peel they just beg to be devoured bananas are one of our favorite foods found everywhere from gas station counters to michelin star restaurants yet for as versatile and ubiquitous as this fruit is today its history is a turbulent one entangled in colonial domination capitalist exploitation sexual politics and even horrific violence delving into the banana s past this book traces the complex circumstances of global modernity that perfectly aligned to grant us often at tremendous costs a treat we all now take for granted beginning with the banana s origins in new guinea lorna piatti farnell follows its pathways to south east asia africa the caribbean and the americas binding together a millennium of history into one digestible bunch focusing especially on the banana s recent past she shows how it rose from a regional staple to a global commodity on par with coffee and sugar she examines the ways it has been advertised sold and incorporated into popular culture moving from nineteenth century medical manuals to cookbooks songs slapstick comedy and problematic

figures like miss chiquita wide ranging but pocket sized banana is a culinary and cultural account of a peculiar little fruit that is at once the icon of exoticism and one of the most familiar foods we eat

sacred trees are invoked on special days for long life for the expiation of sins for averting mishaps or for the fulfillment of a particular wish sacred trees form an important part of the ecological heritage of india in general and telangana in particular

winter woods silent and undisturbed empty of birds and leaves flowers icicles of pearls for miles a path i traverse every morning in search of the robin to build musical melodies for an early spring winter a time i reminisce and note season s memories a time to carve season s changes of customs traditions and rituals observed through season s festivals and note differences any winter colors a difference of summer i see in winter vegetables and fruits a color i need for an art to carve winter a summer i need a plea for rest of an illness every winter winter lark i searched for a message a search only futile a winter melody i listen to every evening and watch the stars a dance of the melody of a winter night winter woods an encounter different every winter only worthy

started in 1958 sanathana sarathi is a monthly magazine devoted to sathya truth dharma righteousness shanti peace and prema love the four cardinal principles of bhagawan baba s philosophy it is published from prasanthi nilayam the abode of highest peace and acts as a mouthpiece of baba s ashram as it speaks of the important events that take place in his sacred abode besides carrying divine messages conveyed through divine discourses of bhagawan sri sathya sai baba the word meaning of sanathana sarathi is the eternal charioteer it signifies the presence of the lord in every being as the atma guiding their lives like a charioteer it implies that he who places his life the body being likened to a chariot in an attitude of surrender in the hands of the lord will be taken care of by the lord even as a charioteer would take the occupant of his chariot safely to its destination the magazine is an instrument to disseminate spiritual knowledge for the moral physical and mental uplift of humanity without any discrimination as the subject matter discussed therein is always of common interest and of universal appeal the fifteen vahinis streams of sacredness known as the vahini series comprising annotation and interpretation of the upanishads and other scriptures itihasas like the ramayana the bhagavatha and the mahabharata and authentic explanations on dhyana dharma prema etc have been serially published in this magazine as and when they emanated from the divine pen of bhagawan baba this magazine is published in almost all indian languages english and telugu from prasanthi nilayam and others from respective regions every year sanathana sarathi comes out with a special issue in november commemorating the divine birthday the english and telugu magazines are posted on the 10th and 23rd respectively of every month from prasanthi nilayam this magazine has wide ever increasing circulation in india as well as abroad as the study of it brings the reader closer to the philosophy of the avatar in simple understandable language thus spake sai discoursing during the launch of sanathana sarathi from this day our sanathana sarathi will lead to victory the cohorts of truth the vedas the sastras and similar scriptures of all faiths against the forces of the ego such as injustice falsehood immorality and cruelty this is the reason why it has emerged this sarathi will fight in order to establish world prosperity it is bound to sound the paeon of triumph when universal ananda is achieved

the authors an architectural historian niels gutschow and an indologist axel michael are presenting the second part of a trilogy of studies of life cycle rituals in nepal carried out under the auspices of the collaborative research centre dynamics of ritual the initiation of boys and girls of both hindus and buddhists of the ethnic community of newars in the kathmandu valley are documented the first part of the book presents elements of newar rituals the spatial background of bhaktapur and the hierarchy of ritual specialists illustrated by 21 maps the second part documents with detailed descriptions the rst feeding of solid food birthday rituals and pre puberty rituals like the first shaving of the hair the boy s initiation with the loincloth in buddhist and hindu contexts the girl s marriage with the bel fruit and the girl s seclusion one girl s marriage ihi and three boy s initiations kaytapuja are documented on a dvd the third part presents the textual tradition local handbooks and manuals used by the brahmin priest to guide the rituals two of these texts are edited and translated to demonstrate the function of such texts in a variety of contexts

from both ethnoarchaeological and ethnogenesis perspectives the complete cycle of quarrying manufacture trade and uses of stone tools and symbolic stones and the creation of other kinds of material goods and associated behavior within cultural systems of different language speaking groups are documented and analyzed two adjacent stone tool use and trade regions are defined by the distribution and uses of mutually exclusive kinds and styles of profane ground stone tool blades in the grand valley and west region ground stone are and adze blades knives and chisels are manufactured and traded outward along complex trade linkages from two internal independently operated and geographically separated quarry and manufacturing centers to the exclusion of adze blades and knives of distinctly different styles that are manufactured and traded within the adjoining yali and east region tool blades trade freely across language boundaries within the two regions profane symbolic stones trade across the regional boundary from west to east slightly differing types of quarry ownership operational technology including uses of fire and production techniques are discussed and shown at the different quarry manufacturing centers as much as 25 40 percent of axe adze blades and chisels were removed by users from secular use and converted to spiritually powerful sacred symbolic ancestor stones and to empowered sacred tools all hierophanies of great cultural importance adze blades and chisels were of particular importance in their uses as power objects in shamans religio medical kits profane display exchange stones and sacred ancestor stones were the cultural binders without which the cultures would have ceased to exist as they did these symbolic stones were combined with perishable organic materials as decoration to visually transmit important cultural information in addition the uses of fiber string stems of grass a few leaves and a certain root were essential to maintain the continuum of supernatural power from unknown places in the domain of the unseen into those durable stone objects that had been selected to be made sacred the sociopolitical and to a lesser extent the socioeconomic implications of the above factors for these inhabitants of highlands irian jaya also are discussed and analyzed systemically

theyyam is a dravidian ritual art form of kerala india god s own country like the blues in the mississippi delta the thottam and theyyam use song and dance to express the melancholy of the dravida natives of god s own country submerged under the 5000 year old chaturvarnya caste system a truly divine rebellion against mighty unjust systems theyyam stories and art pluck a string in our own hearts today this book offers comprehensive insights into the authentic theyyam as fashioned five centuries ago by manakkadan gurukkal and king kolathiri it showcases stunning images videos and forty captivating stories paying homage to the

theyyam artists the true embodiments of the sentiment behind of the people by the people for the people we express gratitude for the awe inspiring message and blessings from the indian prime minister for the chirakkal perumkaliyattam festival we are honored by the resounding success of the festival in april 2023 where we had the privilege of hosting a staggering 450 000 participants from around the world the authors of this book have devoted a substantial amount of time and effort to delve meticulously into the multifaceted realm of theyyam in doing so they unveil its nuances historical significance and elaborate ceremonies this book is the culmination of the dedicated contributions of over a hundred esteemed professionals hailing from different corners of the globe including fulbright fellows and award winning writers this state of the art multimedia book is ornamented with photography and video links qr codes that provide a glimpse of hundreds of hours of captivating high quality video and spatial audio recordings from the festival this book showcases core content media aimed for streaming on platforms like amazon prime netflix apple tv and national geographic channel most of the theyyams involve high wire acts with performers dedicating their lives at considerable personal risk for the betterment of devotees performers transform into mystical beings and exhibit the ability to walk through fire carry heavy costumes and impossible headgear and perform seemingly magical feats their well being is significantly impacted by the service they render we are actively exploring philanthropic partnerships including collaborations with indian medical organizations particularly in the west we firmly believe that such partnerships will yield an exponentially beneficial impact in areas where it is most needed we dedicate this book to the theyyam artists the veritable gods of the people by the people for the people the royalties from this book will be donated to those needful gods of the god s own country

the 1st ed includes an index to v 28 36 of st nicholas

this traces taymor s background achievements in theater opera film taymor herself provides notes on each of her projects along with her original drawings for costumes characters

transcript of papers presented during various conferences published in commemoration of the silver jubilee of the inception of linguistic society of nepal

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a comprehensive overview of balinese dance and theatre this book presents a description and history of the many genres of balinese dance the first full scale work to appear on the subject since 1938 this study discusses every aspect of balinese dance from dances given in the most sacred sanctuaries on the island to those of a secular nature from the demonic performances ritually performed in dangerous areas to performances for tourists the text is accompanied by copious illustrations

and a glossary of terms and is an essential tool for understanding the beautiful art of balinese culture interest given in e an epilogue addresses tourist eventstthrough the areas of lesser sanctity writings on the subject this work explores

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