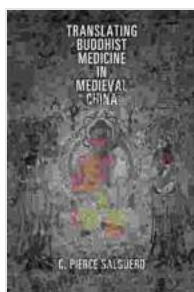


# Translating Buddhist Medicine in Medieval China: Encounters with Asia

Buddhism played a major role in the development of Chinese medicine. Buddhist monks brought medical texts from India to China, and these texts were translated into Chinese and studied by Chinese physicians. This process of translation and exchange had a profound impact on the development of Chinese medicine, and it is still felt today.



## Translating Buddhist Medicine in Medieval China (Encounters with Asia) by C. Pierce Salguero

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3782 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 256 pages



This book explores the translation of Buddhist medical texts into Chinese during the medieval period. It examines the different ways in which these texts were translated, and the impact that these translations had on the development of Chinese medicine. The book also explores the broader context of Buddhist medicine in medieval China, and the ways in which it interacted with other medical traditions.

## The Translation of Buddhist Medical Texts

The translation of Buddhist medical texts into Chinese began in the early centuries of the Common Era. The first Buddhist medical texts to be translated were the *Suvarnaprabhasa* and the *Ratnagoatravibhaga*. These texts were translated by Chinese monks who had traveled to India to study Buddhism. As Buddhism became more popular in China, more and more Buddhist medical texts were translated into Chinese.

The translation of Buddhist medical texts into Chinese was not a simple process. The Chinese language is very different from the Indian languages in which Buddhist medical texts were originally written. This meant that Chinese translators had to find creative ways to convey the meaning of the original texts. In some cases, they simply transliterated the Indian terms into Chinese. In other cases, they created new Chinese terms to express the concepts found in the original texts.

The translation of Buddhist medical texts into Chinese had a profound impact on the development of Chinese medicine. These texts introduced new medical theories and practices to China, and they helped to shape the way that Chinese physicians thought about medicine. For example, Buddhist medical texts introduced the concept of the four humors to Chinese medicine. This concept was later adopted by Chinese physicians, and it became a cornerstone of Chinese medical theory.

### **The Impact of Buddhist Medicine on Chinese Medicine**

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Chinese medicine. This concept was later adopted by Chinese physicians, and it became a cornerstone of Chinese medical theory.

In addition to introducing new medical theories and practices, Buddhist medicine also had a significant impact on the way that Chinese physicians practiced medicine. Buddhist physicians emphasized the importance of compassion and empathy in the treatment of patients. They also believed that the mind and body are interconnected, and that mental health is just as important as physical health. These ideas were later adopted by Chinese physicians, and they continue to influence the way that Chinese medicine is practiced today.

### **Buddhist Medicine in Medieval China**

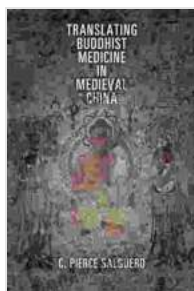
Buddhist medicine was a major part of the medical landscape of medieval China. Buddhist monasteries were often centers of medical care, and Buddhist physicians were highly respected. Buddhist medicine was also closely linked to other medical traditions, such as Daoist medicine and Confucian medicine. As a result, Buddhist medicine had a significant impact on the development of Chinese medicine as a whole.

Buddhist medicine in medieval China was not a monolithic entity. There were a variety of different Buddhist medical traditions, each with its own unique emphasis. Some Buddhist medical traditions focused on the treatment of physical illnesses, while others focused on the treatment of mental illnesses. Some Buddhist medical traditions were more closely linked to Daoist medicine, while others were more closely linked to Confucian medicine.

Despite these differences, all Buddhist medical traditions shared a common goal: to help people achieve physical and mental health. Buddhist physicians believed that the mind and body are interconnected, and that true health can only be achieved when both the mind and body are healthy. They also believed that compassion and empathy are essential qualities for a good physician.

The translation of Buddhist medical texts into Chinese was a major event in the history of Chinese medicine. These texts introduced new medical theories and practices to China, and they helped to shape the way that Chinese physicians thought about medicine. Buddhist medicine also had a significant impact on the way that Chinese physicians practiced medicine, emphasizing the importance of compassion and empathy in the treatment of patients.

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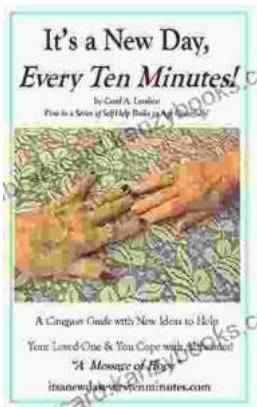
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