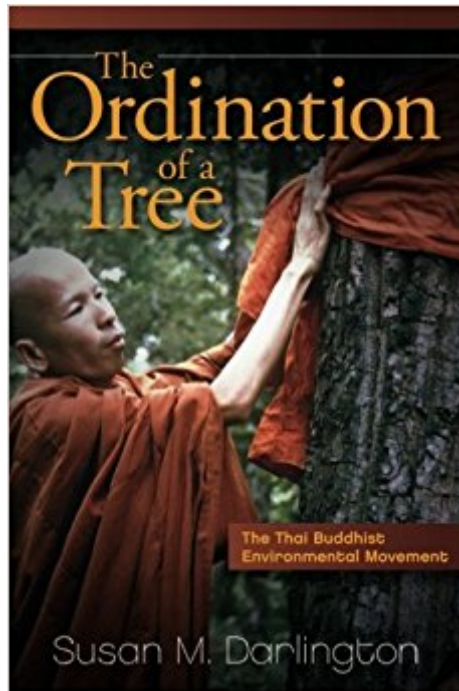




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The Ordination Of A Tree: The Thai Buddhist Environmental Movement



Synopsis

A firsthand look at the Thai Buddhist environmental movement and its activist monks. Thai Buddhist monks wrap orange clerical robes around trees to protect forests. "Ordaining a tree" is a provocative ritual that has become the symbol of a small but influential monastic movement aimed at reversing environmental degradation and the unsustainable economic development and consumerism that fuel it. This book examines the evolution of this movement from the late 1980s to the present, exploring the tree ordination and other rituals used to resist destructive national projects. Susan M. Darlington explores monks' motivations, showing how they interpret their lived religion as the basis of their actions, and provides an in-depth portrait of activist monk Phra Khru Pitak Nanthakhun. The obstacles monks face, including damage to their reputations, arrest, and even assassination, reveal the difficulty of enacting social justice. Even the tree ordination itself must now withstand its appropriation for state projects. Despite this, monks have gone from individual action to a loosely allied movement that now works with nongovernmental organizations. This is a fascinating, firsthand account of engaged Buddhism. Susan M. Darlington is Professor of Anthropology and Asian Studies at Hampshire College.

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An excellent book for anyone concerned with religion and environment Essential. "CHOICE" this insightfully innovative study deserves wide readership. Darlington skillfully describes and analyzes a fascinating element of socially engaged Buddhism while succinctly synthesizing important historical

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Susan M. Darlington is Professor of Anthropology and Asian Studies at Hampshire College.

I would recommend this book to anyone interested in social justice and the environment. Very easy to read this book.

I am only giving the kindle version the 2 star rating. I used my kindle for college and I only purchased the kindle version instead of the cheaper print because it had real page numbers. Well this 300 something page book only contains page 15 according to kindle, so every page after 14 says page 15. I have contacted and they cannot figure out why, I am stuck with it. So now I get to be lost in class when my teacher says to turn to page 100. It is a great book however but do not buy the kindle version if you are a fan of page numbers. Also it says there are only 34 page in this book and that is obviously a typo.

Sue Darlington is a brilliant writer and researcher. This is a book that will shift the way you think about Buddhism, about the environment, and the interaction between the two. This is an incredible story. Tell your friends.

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