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KUMĀRAJĪVA

The Transcreator of Buddhist Chinese diction



Nirmala Sharma

Foreword by: Lokesh Chandra

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KumĀraj...va is the luminescent word of the endless reverie of the Buddhist Sutras and Āstras where the grand cosmology of time and space finds harmony in the symbolic order of life

This work is the first full-length narration of the extraordinary life, immense literary output, manifold philosophical perspectives of Kumarajiva and the development of a new translation methodology by him. All his works, both extant and lost, are detailed. The author discusses at length his crucial texts that became the foundation of sects and philosophical systems in East Asia. Around a hundred illustrations of murals and scrolls vividly portray the ambience of Kucha, Kumarajiva's homeland.

A write up by President Daisaku Ikeda, whose devotion to the unparalleled monk-translator adds to the deep understanding of the mind and message of Kumarajiva to humanity. President Ikeda discusses Kumarajiva's new systematisation of terminology to bring greater clarity to Buddhist thought and practice.



About the Author:

Professor **Nirmala Sharma** is an art historian and a professor of Buddhist studies at the International Academy of Indian Culture, New Delhi. She is working on a project of Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts on "Iconography of the Mandals of the Dukhang of Alchi". Professor Sharma has read her papers and taught at various institutes across the world. She has also made educational films for Doordarshan on Indian monuments, step wells, sculptures, textiles and paintings.

