Monthly Title Information
AI Sheets - February 2021

AUP Marketing; Lucia Dove (l.dove@aup.nl)
17/12/2020

Amsterdam University Press

9789462989863 The Chinese Communist Youth League
9789463720069 Principles of International Auditing and Assurance
9789463723138 Skateboarding and Urban Landscapes in Asia
9789463723022 Media Culture in Nomadic Communities

Arc Humanities Press

9781641893756 Icelandic Folklore and the Cultural Memory of Religious Change
9781641891332 Christianity and War in Medieval East Central Europe and Scandinavia
9781641892087 Sufi Masters and the Creation of Saintly Spheres in Medieval Syria
9781641892629 Memory in the Middle Ages
Konstantinos D. Tsimonis
The Chinese Communist Youth League
Juniority and Responsiveness in a Party Youth Organization

In 2003, President Hu Jintao instructed Communist Youth League cadres to 'keep the Party assured and the Youth satisfied'. This laconic recognition that winning the support of Chinese youth requires a more responsive engagement with their interests and demands, provided the League with a new youth work mandate to increase its capacity for responsiveness. This original investigation uses a combination of interviews, surveys and ethnography to examine the often contradictory and self-defeating ways the League implemented this mandate locally and nationally. By doing so, it also sheds light on Xi Jinping’s decision to downgrade it politically and organizationally in 2016. This book introduces a previously unexplored organization and develops ‘juniority’ as a conceptual tool that captures the ways generational power is institutionalized and fuels youth political apathy. For this reason, apart from China scholars, this study will be of particular interest to those working on comparative youth politics and sociology.

BIOGRAPHY
Dr Konstantinos Tsimonis is a Lecturer (US: Assistant Professor) in Chinese Society at the Lau China Institute, King’s College London. He has a PhD in Politics from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). His work concentrates on the evolution of Chinese party-state organizations in the context of marketization and globalization, and their impact on policy making and state-society relations. His current research examines the social footprint of State Owned Enterprises in Southeast Europe.

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Principles of International Auditing and Assurance

4th Edition

The first textbook based upon International Standards on Auditing (ISAs), this fully revised and updated fourth edition presents a structured approach to auditing principles using ISAs as its basis. The International Standards on Auditing are now widely regarded as the global benchmark for auditing standards and as such an important audit quality indicator.

This book describes the developments and practical use of all ISAs, as well as significant national standards in different countries. The new edition has been updated in line with International Standards and presents a truly International perspective. The book provides students with a real-world perspective as close to current auditing practice and thinking as possible.

Key features:
- Structure of the book following the four phases of the audit process
- Coverage of the latest auditing insights including technology and automated tools & techniques (data analytics)
- Updates of the most recent auditing & assurance standards, including ISA 315 and 540
- Highlighting the broader range of assurance engagements
- Practice exam-style questions with end-of-chapter answers

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Duncan McDuie-Ra

Skateboarding and Urban Landscapes in Asia

Endless Spots

As urban development in Asia has accelerated, cities in the region have become central to skateboarding culture, livelihoods, and consumption. Asia’s urban landscapes are desired for their endless supply of ‘spots’. A spot is an assemblage of objects, surfaces and obstacles holding the possibilities to perform skateboarding manoeuvres (tricks). Spots are not built for skateboarding; they are accidents of urban planning and commercial activity; glitches in the urban machine. Skateboarders and filmers chase these glitches searching for spots to make skate video, the currency of the industry and skateboarding’s primary cultural artefact. Once captured, performances at Asia’s spots circulate rapidly through digital platforms to millions of skateboarders, enrolling spots from Shenzhen, Dubai and Ramallah into an alternative cartography of the region. By focusing on this alternative way of desiring and consuming urban Asia, this book explores the ways skateboarding resets relational and comparative hierarchies of urban development within Asia and between Asia and the West.

BIOGRAPHY

Prof. Duncan McDuie-Ra is Professor of Urban Sociology at University of Newcastle. His most recent books are: Borderland City in New India (Amsterdam University Press, 2016), Debating Race in Contemporary India (Palgrave/Springer, 2015), Northeast Migrants in Delhi: Race, Refuge and Retail (Amsterdam University Press, 2012).

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Media Culture in Nomadic Communities examines the ways that new technologies and ICT infrastructures have changed the communicative norms and patterns that regulate mobile and nomadic communities' engagement in local and international deliberative decision making. Each chapter examines a unique communicative event, such as how the Maasai of Tanzania have used online petitions to demand government action. How Mongolians in northern China have used microblogs to record and debate land tenure. And how herding communities from around the world have supported the Lakota Sioux protests at Standing Rock. Through these case studies, Hahn argues that mobile and nomadic communities are creating and utilizing new communicative networks that are radically changing local, national, and international deliberations.

Allison Hailey Hahn is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Baruch College, City University of New York (CUNY). Her research and teaching examine the ways that information and communication technologies influence argumentation strategies and communicative networks amongst pastoral-nomadic communities in Kenya, Tanzania, Mongolia and China.

February 2021
214 pages
Hardback
156 x 234 mm
€89.00 / £81.00 / $110.00
€88.99 / £80.99 / $109.99

ISBN 9789463723022
eISBN 9789048550302
BISAC SOC052000 / LAN004000 / POL033000
BIC JFD / GTC / JFFS

KEYWORDS
Mobile Communities, Herding, ICT, New Media, Protest

To pre-order this book visit www.aup.nl

Distribution Rest of World via NBN International | www.distribution.nbni.co.uk
Distribution North America via Baker & Taylor Publisher Services | www.btpubservices.com

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Eric Shane Bryan  
**Icelandic Folklore and the Cultural Memory of Religious Change**

Nearly all recent examinations of Icelandic (and Scandinavian) folklore from the nineteenth century and earlier have concerned themselves with the origins and production of folktale rather than with the cultural implications of their content. This volume extends those discussions by offering an interdisciplinary methodology that weaves together the literature, religious and political history, and other cultural phenomena that have impacted folk narratives as evidence of the emergent cultural memory of a society undergoing the religious developments of Christianization and Reformation.

Iceland’s uncommon proclivity towards storytelling, its robust tradition of medieval manuscripts, and the “re-oralization” of those narratives after the medieval period, create a body of folktale and legends that have encoded a hidden account of how orthodox and heterodox beliefs (sometimes pagan in origin) intermingled as Christianity, and later Reformation, spread through the North. This volume unlocks that secret story by placing Icelandic folktale in a context of religious doctrine, social history, and Old Norse sagas and poetry. The analysis herein reveals a cultural memory of belief.

**BIOGRAPHY**

Eric Bryan is Assoc. Prof. of English at Missouri Univ. of Science and Technology. He has received grants from the Fulbright Program and American Scandinavian Foundation.
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Edited by Radosław Kotecki, Carsten Slech Jensen and Stephen Bennett

Christianity and War in Medieval East Central Europe and Scandinavia

This collaborative collection provides fresh perspectives on Christianity and the conduct of war in medieval East Central Europe and Scandinavia, investigating the intersection between religion, culture, and warfare in territories that were only integrated into Christendom in the Central Middle Ages. The contributors analyze cultures that lay outside Charlemagne’s limes and the frontiers of the Byzantine Empire, to consider a region stretching from the Balkans to the south, through Hungary and the Slavic lands (Poland, Bohemia, Rus), to the Baltic coastline with Polabia, Pomerania, Prussia, and Estonia, and reaching into Scandinavia.

The volume considers clerics as military leaders and propagandists, the role of Christian ritual and doctrine in warfare, and the adaptation and transformation of indigenous military cultures. It uncovers new information on perceptions of war and analyzes how local practices were incorporated into clerical narratives, enabling the reader to achieve a complete understanding of the period.

BIOGRAPHY
Stephen Bennett (Queen Mary University of London) is a historian specializing in medieval warfare.
Carsten Selch Jensen (University of Copenhagen) has published a number of works on the process of Christianization, warfare, and crusading, especially in the Baltic.
Radosław Kotecki (Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz) has published a number of works on religion and war, clerical warfare, and arms-bearing, especially in medieval Poland.
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Daphna Ephrat

Sufi Masters and the Creation of Saintly Spheres in Medieval Syria

This study explores the creation of saintly spheres surrounding Sufi masters who functioned as embodiments of Islamic sainthood and imprinted their tangible mark on the land. Situated in the Syrian milieu of the counter-crusader period that was marked by intense religious excitement and re-sanctification of the landscape, the study centres on the role of Sufi saints as revivers of the prophetic legacy and as patrons of fellow believers, and their association with the glorious history of ancient Syrian cities and the expanding sacred landscape. Based upon a variety of literary sources, including hitherto unexplored saintly vitas, the investigation aims to contribute to an understanding of the process through which the religious and charismatic leadership of the venerated shaykhs was sustained and diffused, and their holiness emplaced and commemorated.

BIOGRAPHY
Daphna Ephrat is an Associate Professor of Islamic and Near Eastern History at the Open University of Israel. Her research focuses on religious and charismatic leadership in the medieval period.

KEYWORDS
Mysticism, Shaykh, Medieval Sufi Masters, Medieval Syria, Charismatic religious teaching
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Edited by Flocel Sabaté

Memory in the Middle Ages
Approaches from Southwestern Europe

Memory was vital to the functioning of the medieval world. People in medieval societies shared an identity based on commonly held memories. Religions, rulers, and even cities and nations justified their existence and their status through stories that guaranteed their deep and unbroken historical roots. The studies in this interdisciplinary collection explore how manifestations of memory can be used by historians as a prism through which to illuminate European medieval thought and value systems. The contributors draw the link between memory and medieval science, management of power and remembrance of the dead ancestors through examples from southern Europe as a means of enriching and complicating our study of the Middle Ages; this is a region with a large amount of documentation but which to date has not been widely studied. Finally, the project has researched the role of memory as a means to sustain identity and ideology from the past to the present.

This book has two companion volumes, dealing with ideology and identity as part of a larger project that seeks to map and interrogate the significance of all three concepts in the Middle Ages in the West.

BIOGRAPHY
Prof. Flocel Sabaté (Univ. of Lleida) has been awarded the main research prizes in Catalonia (Distinció 2000; ICREA 2015) and Doctor Honoris Causa of the Univ. of Cuyo (2014).
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