Abstract

The Chan (Zen in Japanese) school of Chinese Buddhism began when, in the 7th century, a small religious community gathered around a Buddhist monk named Hongren. Over the centuries, Chan Buddhism grew from an obscure movement to an officially recognized and eventually dominant form of Buddhism in China and throughout East Asia. This book presents the story of the rise of Chan, a story which has been obscured by myths about Zen. Zen apologists in the 20th century, the book argues, sold the world on the story of Zen as a transcendental spiritualism untainted by political and institutional involvements. The book shows that, in fact, the opposite is true: relationships between Chan monks and political rulers were crucial to Chan’s success. The book concentrates on an important but neglected period of Chan history, the 10th and 11th centuries, when monks and rulers created the so-called Chan "golden age" and the classic principles of Chan identity.
English examples for "political ascendancy" - This produced a political ascendancy across the south and east of Britain, which require in turn required some structure to be successful. She loves her rank and becomes ambitious, first of social, and then of political ascendancy. Russell was born at the height of Britain's economic and political ascendancy. But he broke up the political ascendancy of nobles, although he did not confiscate their property. ... Cited from Beacon Lights of History, Volume IV, by John Lord. Having won the highest military honors and political ascendancy, Athens now took the lead in intellectual progress. The Oxford handbook of political economy edited by Barry R. Weingast and Donald A. Wittman. by edited by Barry R. Weingast and Donald A. Wittman. ISBN: 0199272220 (hbk.) The Confederate republic : a revolution against politics by George C. Rable. Literati. Ascendancy. Zen Buddhism. Monks. Buddhism. Ruler. Rise. History. The book concentrates on an important but neglected period of Chan history, the 10th and 11th centuries, when monks and rulers created the so-called Chan "golden age" and the classic principles of Chan identity. KW - Buddhist monk. KW - Chan. KW - Chinese Buddhism. KW - East Asia. KW - Golden age. KW - Hongren.