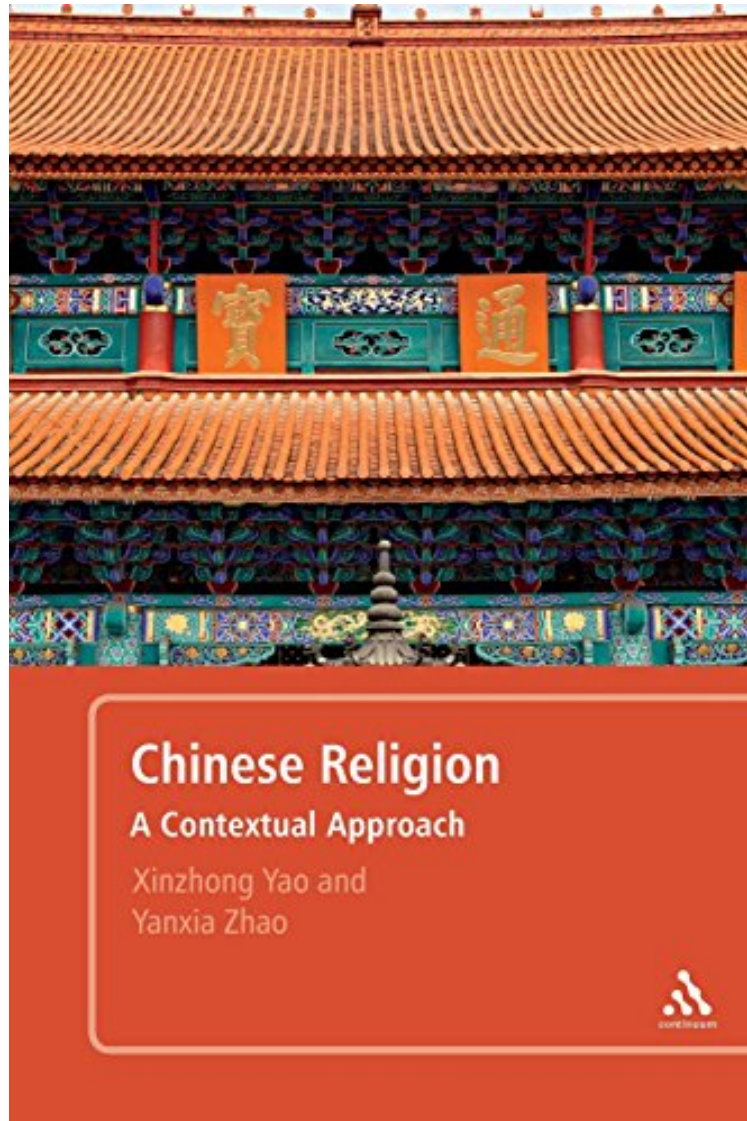


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Chinese Religion: A Contextual Approach

Xinzhong Yao, Yanxia Zhao
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this book examines religious beliefs and practices in particular cultural contexts, and highlights the relevance of religion to personal, communal and political life. In this clear account, Xinzhong Yao and Yanxia Zhao move away from the traditional and outmoded definition of Chinese religion, towards a multi-layered hermeneutic of the diverse and yet syncretic nature and functions of religions in China. Additional features include questions for reflection and discussion at the end of each chapter and suggestions for further reading at the end of the book.

"With interest in China and things Chinese growing at an unprecedented rate, this wide-ranging, informative and readable introduction to Chinese religion by Xinzhong Yao and Yanxia Zhao is both timely and welcome. Based on twenty years experience of teaching a course in Chinese religion and culture, the authors provide a first-rate account of Han Chinese religion in its social and historical context, aimed at students and the general reader. Highly recommended!" Professor Brian Bocking, University College Cork, Ireland

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About the Author Xinzhong Yao is Professor of Chinese Religion at King's College London, UK, and author of *An Introduction to Confucianism* (Cambridge University Press 2000).