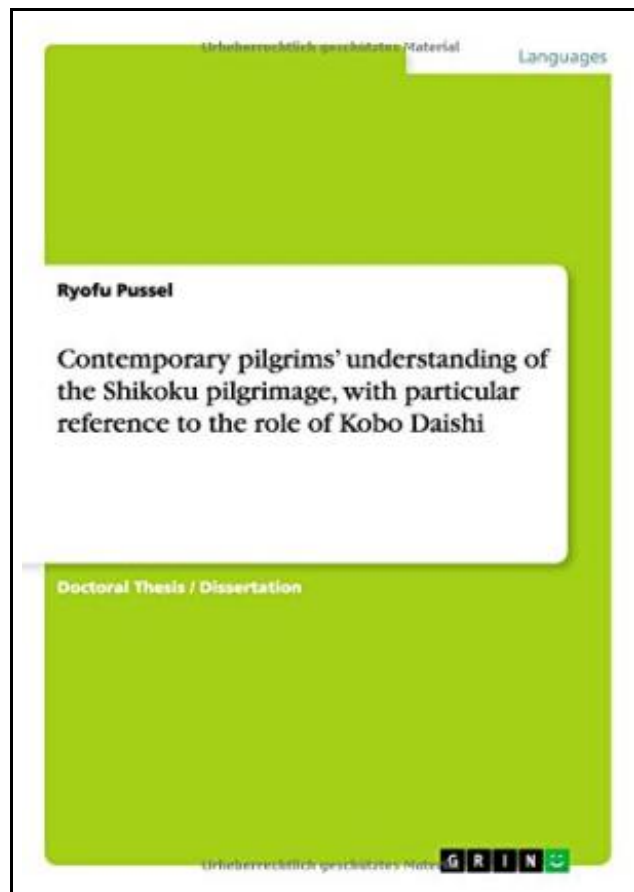


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GRIN Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 388 pages. Dimensions: 8.3in. x 5.9in. x 1.1in. Doctoral Thesis Dissertation from the year 2011 in the subject Orientalism Sinology - Japanology, grade: -, University of Sunderland, course: Japanese Buddhism, language: English, abstract: This thesis analyses how contemporary pilgrims understand the 88-temple-Shikoku pilgrimage, and in particular what role Kb Daishi plays in their outlook and practices. The particular issue that this research addresses is that while Kb Daishi figures large in many of the popular presentations of the pilgrimage, there is a question of what role he actually plays in the outlook and practices of contemporary pilgrims. The thesis therefore highlights the ways in which Kb Daishi figures in the views and behaviour of pilgrims and those who support them: the various roles Kb Daishi plays, and how these relate together, and to other themes and aspects of the pilgrimage, as well as pointing out aspects of the pilgrimage that are not focussed on Kb Daishi. In other words, how contemporary pilgrims make meaning of the pilgrimage and, in particular, Kb Daishi's place in this. Looking at the position of Kb Daishi and the legendary construction of the pilgrimage in the minds of the informants, it becomes clear that in their views, the real history of the pilgrimage is not important compared to the legendary one centred on Kb Daishi, and this is seen in their adherence to legends and stories relating to him. Quantitative and qualitative research was conducted, including brief surveys and in-depth interactions with pilgrims, pilgrimage guides, those that give out alms, and temple officials to analyse contemporary pilgrims understanding of the sacred foci of the pilgrimage: Kb Daishi and his possible role in the Shikoku pilgrimage and its origin, with related issues of meaning-making, such as the Daishi-faith, Kb Daishi-theses,...



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