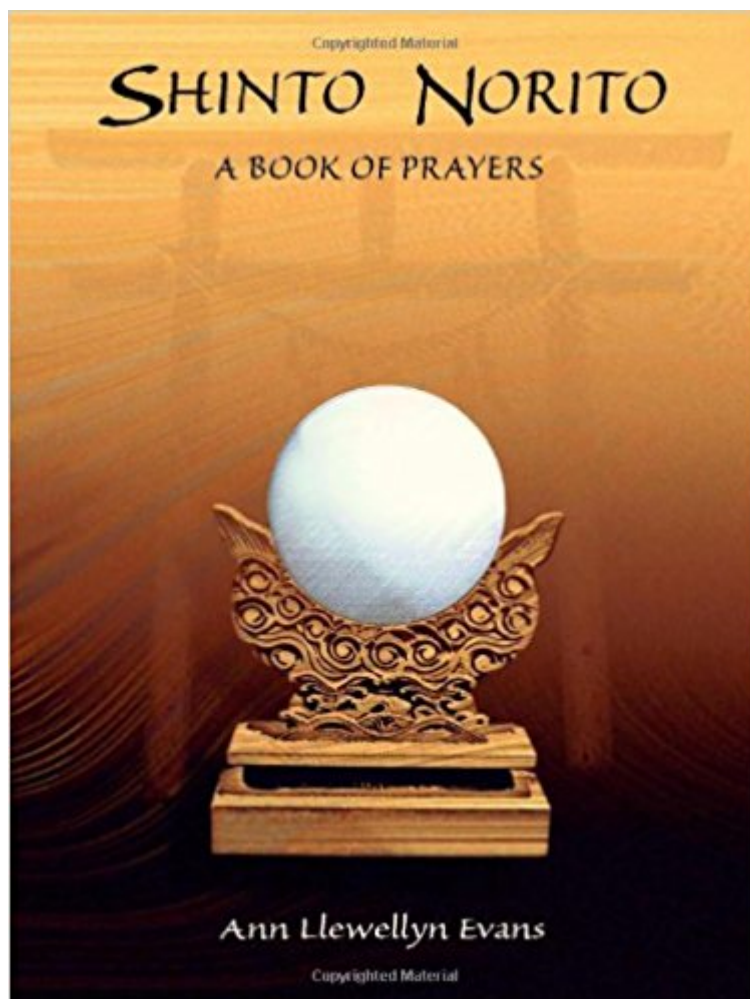


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Shinto Norito: A Book Of Prayers



Synopsis

This book presents, for the first time, a collection of ancient Japanese Shinto prayers in a format where English speaking readers can both understand the deep meaning of the translated text and can also pronounce the original Japanese words. Shinto is an ancient spiritual tradition, primarily practiced in Japan, which is now spreading its traditions to the western world. Its primordial rituals and traditions touch a deep chord within one's spiritual self. Shinto's focus on divinity of all beings and of all creation, on living with gratitude and humility, and on purification and lustration of one's self and environment will bring light and joy to any reader. The purpose of prayer and ritual as practiced in the Shinto tradition, is to reinsert ourselves into a divine state of being, not as a new position, but as an acknowledgement and reinforcement of what already exists. Ritual restores sensitive awareness to our relationship to the universe. Through purification and removal of impurities and blockages, we return to our innate internal brightness and cultivate a demeanor of gratitude and joy. Shinto rituals and prayers were created by ancient man over 2,000 years ago in a time when mankind was more intuitive about his relationship to this world. Because of this, the rites are archetypal and invoke deep emotion within the participants. This book of prayers will introduce the western reader to the deep spirituality of Shinto, providing explanation of the spiritual tradition and practice and providing a collection of 22 prayers for use in personal meditation and devotions. Order a coil bound version of Shinto Norito

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

What a wonderful find! I bought the book wanting to understand more about Shinto beliefs, and I got even more than I expected. The introduction explained the basics. The translation of the prayers is really beautiful. And I also found I could pronounce the Japanese (I can't read or speak any Japanese!) by reading the "romaji"--the Japanese pronunciation written in English letters. I've started chanting a couple of the prayers every morning--it is really calming and starts my day out great. This book is a "must" for anyone interested in Shinto.

It's rare that I find my questions fully answered in one book. This is the book that tells me more than I knew to ask about how to practice Shinto. I speak with humility and respect when I say, thank you, Ann Llewelyn Evans. With a profound bow.

My opinion is that this book is not an empty academic book that show the Shinto as in religion's history book. In this book we have an idea of the heart of Shinto, of the practice of Shinto, of the Shinto as felt by who practice it. This book contain also very important translations of Norito

I only downloaded the sample of this book, but it was fraught with typographical errors. This was apparently just a bad scan of the printed book that was run through OCR. "m" frequently ends up as "rn", and the kanji are images that are so tiny that they're completely illegible. If you really want this book, try the print edition.

This book is exactly what the title says. It is a book of Shinto norito, or prayers. The book begins by giving some basic understanding of the practice of Shinto. My favorite section is actually the Appendices, which give some descriptions of how to pray, the bowing and the clapping, etc. Also, describes how offerings are set out. One thing I wish the book did was to describe or show diagrammatically, voice inflections in the prayers. Given that the sound of the words are so important in Shinto prayers, I would think that inflection would be important too, and I saw no discussion of this. If it's pronounced in a monotone manner, I'd like to at least know that. But, that's my personal feeling. Maybe I should see if I can find some audio clips to get a better idea of how Shinto prayers are chanted. Back to the review, this is very much a non-academic book and the discussion of Shinto itself is pretty minimal. I don't feel I learned a tremendous amount about Shinto here. But then, as the title says, this is a book of prayers, which is exactly what I wanted and was expecting, and I'm glad I found it.

I just received it at my door today, and I am pleased with what is contained in it. It is difficult to find a collection of Shinto prayers in the English language. This book collects some of the most useful prayers, and presents them in a much needed format. Scholars can judge the translation by reading the Japanese text. English speakers can understand the prayer. Also, the romaji (romanization of the Japanese words) is included in the book so that people can actually perform these prayers in the original language without knowledge of Japanese.

I picked up a copy of this book while visiting the Tsubaki Grand Shrine of America in Granite Falls, WA. I was incredibly impressed with how the author explained the various terminologies, the Shinto appreciation of Nature and the Kami offering a greater understanding to the beautiful ritual we had witnessed by Reverend Barrish. The lovely translations of the beloved Shinto prayers were an added and unexpected bonus.

With a few lines, with enviable clarity Mrs. Evans describes liturgy and operation of a religion far removed from Western monotheisms. Simplicity and accuracy make this text an introduction to Shinto for anyone who wants to have a first real taste of it. Filippo Zizzo

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