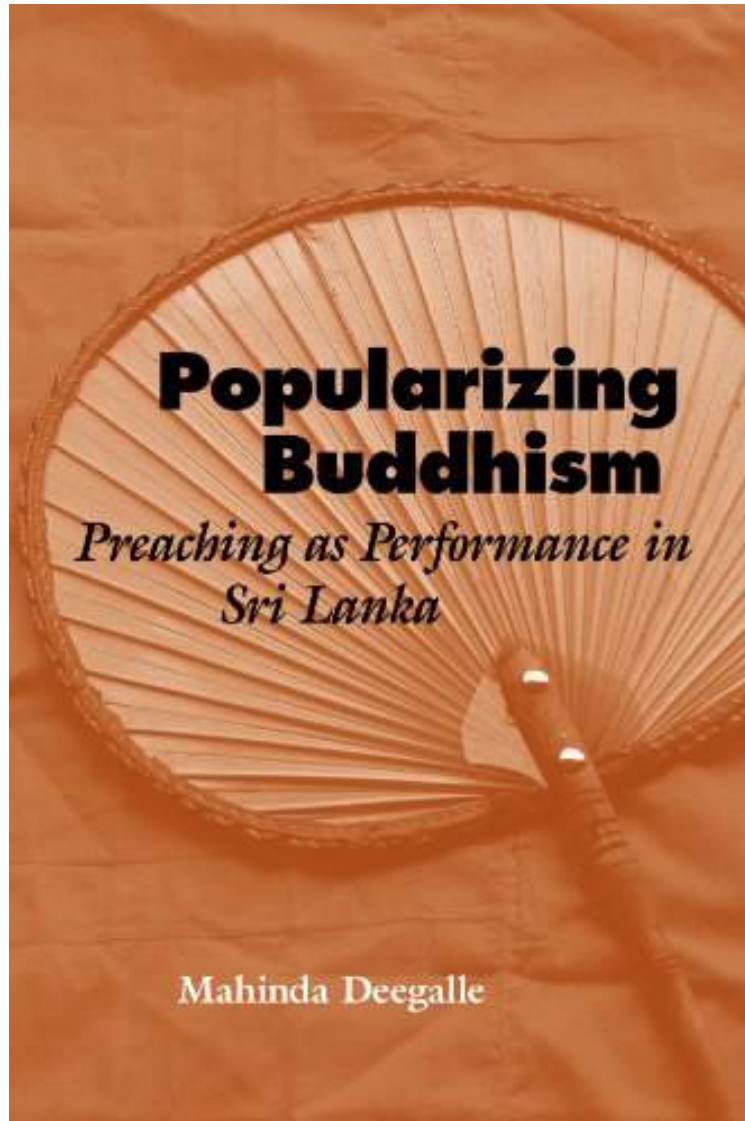


Popularizing Buddhism: Preaching As Performance in Sri Lanka

By Mahinda Deegalle

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The first book to focus on the ritual practice of Buddhist preaching in Asia Popularizing Buddhism examines the role

of preaching in Buddhist devotional life and its relationship to the vernacular Sinhala literature of late medieval Sri Lanka Blending ethnography textual and doctrinal studies and an analysis of untranslated Sinhala vernacular Buddhist texts Mahinda Deegalle traces the development of Buddhist preaching within the Sri Lankan Theravada Buddhist traditi In his research Deegalle has examined the most important and relevant sources and has demonstrated a sense of priority in recognizing the most pertinent discussions within them I applaud his sense of historical perspective his acute sensitivity to the Sri L

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