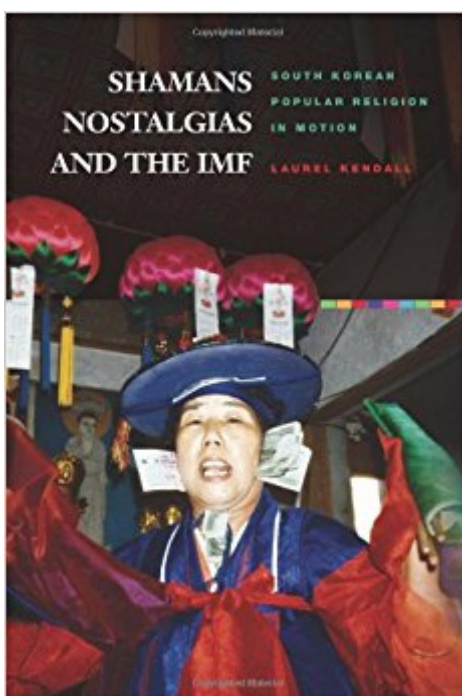


The book was found

# Shamans, Nostalgias, And The IMF: South Korean Popular Religion In Motion



## Synopsis

Thirty years ago, anthropologist Laurel Kendall did intensive fieldwork among South Korea's (mostly female) shamans and their clients as a reflection of village women's lives. In the intervening decades, South Korea experienced an unprecedented economic, social, political, and material transformation and Korean villages all but disappeared. And the shamans? Kendall attests that they not only persist but are very much a part of South Korean modernity. This enlightening and entertaining study of contemporary Korean shamanism makes the case for the dynamism of popular religious practice, the creativity of those we call shamans, and the necessity of writing about them in the present tense. Shamans thrive in South Korea's high-rise cities, working with clients who are largely middle class and technologically sophisticated. Emphasizing the shaman's work as open and mutable, Kendall describes how gods and ancestors articulate the changing concerns of clients and how the ritual frame of these transactions has itself been transformed by urban sprawl, private cars, and zealous Christian proselytizing. For most of the last century Korean shamans were reviled as practitioners of antimodern superstition; today they are nostalgically celebrated icons of a vanished rural world. Such superstition and tradition occupy flip sides of modernity's coin—the one by confuting, the other by obscuring, the beating heart of shamanic practice. Kendall offers a lively account of shamans, who once ministered to the domestic crises of farmers, as they address the anxieties of entrepreneurs whose dreams of wealth are matched by their omnipresent fears of ruin. Money and access to foreign goods provoke moral dilemmas about getting and spending; shamanic rituals express these through the longings of the dead and the playful antics of greedy gods, some of whom have acquired a taste for imported whiskey. No other book-length study captures the tension between contemporary South Korean life and the contemporary South Korean shamans' work. Kendall's familiarity with the country and long association with her subjects permit nuanced comparisons between a 1970s "then" and recent encounters—some with the same shamans and clients—as South Korea moved through the 1990s, endured the Asian Financial Crisis, and entered the new millennium. She approaches her subject through multiple anthropological lenses such that readers interested in religion, ritual performance, healing, gender, landscape, material culture, modernity, and consumption will find much of interest here.

## Book Information

Paperback: 296 pages

Publisher: University of Hawaii Press (September 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0824833988

ISBN-13: 978-0824833985

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.7 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #605,044 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #52 in [Books > History > Asia > Korea > South](#) #418 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Shamanism](#) #1056 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Sociology](#)

## Customer Reviews

[Kendall's] book, which will remain authoritative for years to come, will be one of the first read by scholars and students of Korean religions and Korean shamanism.-- "Journal of Religion"

Demonstrates Laurel Kendall's rigorous and masterful observation that the aboriginal belief system and its practices can serve as a lens through which we can see modernity and social life as they continually unfold in South Korea. [This book] is a paragon of work written by a mature ethnographer having built a long-term engagement in the field, in this case in exploration of issues relating to Korean religion and modernity.-- "Anthropological Quarterly"

A tour-de-force of cultural specificity, narrative sophistication and historical insight. . . . Kendall's account is most remarkable for capturing the last quarter century of Korean development history, while relying almost solely on the prognostications and performances of a handful of spirit mediums. . . . Most notable perhaps is Kendall's seamless integration of 30 years of fieldwork and research into a meaningful, and almost timeless, narrative. Her book will be an invaluable source for students and scholars of globalization and folk religion in Korea and throughout the greater Pacific.-- "Pacific Affairs"

[Kendall's] book, which will remain authoritative for years to come, will be one of the first read by scholars and students of Korean religions and Korean shamanism.-- "Journal of Religion"

Demonstrates Laurel Kendall's rigorous and masterful observation that the aboriginal belief system and its practices can serve as a lens through which we can see modernity and social life as they continually unfold in South Korea. [This book] is a paragon of work written by a mature ethnographer having built a long-term engagement in the field, in this case in exploration of issues relating to Korean religion and modernity.-- "Anthropological Quarterly"

A tour-de-force of cultural specificity, narrative sophistication and historical insight. . . .

Kendall's account is most remarkable for capturing the last quarter century of Korean development history, while relying almost solely on the prognostications and performances of a handful of spirit mediums. . . . Most notable perhaps is Kendall's seamless integration of 30 years of fieldwork and research into a meaningful, and almost timeless, narrative. Her book will be an invaluable source for students and scholars of globalization and folk religion in Korea and throughout the greater Pacific. (Pacific Affairs)[Kendall's] book, which will remain authoritative for years to come, will be one of the first read by scholars and students of Korean religions and Korean shamanism. (Journal of Religion)Demonstrates Laurel Kendall's rigorous and masterful observation that the aboriginal belief system and its practices can serve as a lens through which we can see modernity and social life as they continually unfold in South Korea. [This book] is a paragon of work written by a mature ethnographer having built a long-term engagement in the field, in this case in exploration of issues relating to Korean religion and modernity. (Anthropological Quarterly)

On time and good quality

fun

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Shamans, Nostalgias, and the IMF: South Korean Popular Religion in Motion Easy Korean Cookbook: 50 Unique and Authentic Korean Recipes (Korean Cookbook, Korean Recipes, Korean Food, Korean Cooking, Easy Korean Cookbook, Easy Korean Recipes, Easy Korean Cooking Book 1) Korean: Korean Recipes - The Very Best Korean Cookbook (Korean recipes, Korean cookbook, Korean cook book, Korean recipe, Korean recipe book) I Love My Dad (korean childrens books, korean baby book): korean for kids, korean for children, kids books in korean (Korean English Bilingual Collection) (Korean Edition) I Love to Brush My Teeth (english korean books,korean childrens books ): korean bilingual books , korean kids books,bilingual korean books (English Korean Bilingual Collection) (Korean Edition) I Love My Mom (English Korean, korean childrens books): korean kids books,bilingual korean books, children ESL books (English Korean Bilingual Collection) (Korean Edition) I Love My Dad (English Korean Bilingual books, korean kids books): korean childrens books, english korean books for kids (English Korean Bilingual Collection) (Korean Edition) I Love to Share (english korean bilingual books): korean kids books, korean childrens books, hangul for kids (English Korean Bilingual Colleciont) (Korean Edition) I Love to Share (korean english bilingual books, korean baby book, korean kids book ): korean for kids (Korean

Edition) Welcome to Korean Food World: Unlock EVERY Secret of Cooking Through 500 AMAZING Korean Recipes (Korean Cookbook, Korean Cuisine, Korean Cooking Pot, Asian Cuisine...) (Unlock Cooking, Cookbook [#8]) South Beach Diet: South Beach Diet Recipe Book: 50 Delicious & Easy South Beach Diet Recipes (south beach diet, south beach diet recipes, south beach diet beginners guide, south beach diet cookbook) South Beach Diet: The South Beach Diet Beginners Guide to Losing Weight and Feeling Great! (south beach diet, south beach diet beginners guide, south beach diet recipes) Korean Cookbook: A Comprehensive Cookbook to Enjoy Korean Food and Special Korean Flavors Korean Cookbook - A Collection of Simple and Delicious Korean Recipes: Enjoy Korean Cuisine in the Comforts of Your Home! Learn Korean With Big Bang: Big Bang Songs To Learn Korean (Learn Korean With K-Pop Book 2) I Love My Dad: Korean English Bilingual Edition (Korean English Bilingual Collection) (Korean Edition) I Love to Keep My Room Clean: Korean English Bilingual Edition (Korean English Bilingual Collection) (Korean Edition) My Mom is Awesome: Korean English Bilingual Edition (Korean English Bilingual Collection) (Korean Edition) Teach Me Korean & More Korean, Bind Up Edition (Korean Edition) (Teach Me) I Love to Tell the Truth: Korean English Bilingual Edition (Korean English Bilingual Collection) (Korean Edition)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)