



# The Awakening of the West: The Encounter of Buddhism and Western Culture

*Stephen Batchelor*

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*The Awakening of the West* is an insightful and elegantly written history chronicling the developing relationship between Buddhism and Western culture. As anyone familiar with the work of Stephen Batchelor (best-selling author of *Buddhism Without Beliefs*) would expect, *The Awakening of the West* is presented in a fresh and lively way and backed by thorough research. Using the innovative approach of starting with the present and working back in time, Batchelor makes it easy to connect familiar contemporary Buddhist teachers to their historical roots. He breathes life into history by capturing the personalities and times of famous and lesser-known but important Buddhist figures. After absorbing these stories and their context, readers will not only have a greater appreciation of Buddhism as a religion but can gain insights that can help them develop their own discerning wisdom. *The Awakening of the West* is a unique, engaging and important book for anyone seeking a greater understanding of Buddhism.

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