

Dominik Schröder: Aus der Volksdichtung der Monguor. 2. Teil: In den Tagen der Urzeit. (Ein Mythos vom Licht und vom Leben). Aufgenommen und übersetzt von Dominik Schröder. Asiatische Forschungen, Band 31. Otto Harrassowitz, Wiesbaden 1970. 158 pages, 2 photos, 9 drawings.

We received the above named monograph when printing of the present volume of our journal was already in an advanced stage. Dominik Schröder, for many years professor of anthropology at Nanzan University in Nagoya (Japan), had already earlier introduced himself with several publications on the Tujen, or Monguor, in the Chinghai province, among whom he had done fieldwork for several years. Some bibliographical notes on Schröder's research results will interest our readers.

Einige Hochzeitslieder der Tujen. In: *Folklore Studies*, Supplement No. 1, pp. 306-354, Peking, 1962.

Zur Religion der Tujen des Sininggebietes (Kukunor). In: *Anthropos* 47 (1952), pp. 1-79, 620-658, 822-870; 48 (1953), pp. 202-249.

Aus der Volksdichtung der Monguor. 1. Teil. Das weisse Glücksschaf (Mythen, Märchen und Lieder). Asiatische Forschungen, Band 6. Wiesbaden, Otto Harrassowitz, 1959.

Of this latter volume the present volume 31 of *Asiatische Forschungen*, dealing again with popular poetry of the Monguor, is as part 2 a continuation under the heading "In the days of the primeval time. A myth on Light and Life." In a systematic way the author proceeds by first taking the reader through the complex of those Indian and Buddhist concepts which form the matrix into which the Monguor cosmogonic myths are embedded. Then follows the presentation of the myth in its original text with parallel literal translation and exhaustive linguistic notes, and finally a version of it in smooth German. In an appendix a treatise follows on the Monguor farmhouse in which we see religion intimately interwoven with the daily and annual life cycle, a microcosmos in the macrocosmos. The myth on Life and Light was sung for the author by an expert native singer, the author finds that in it the Hainuwele and the Prometheus type of mythologeme are combined. M.E.

Schüttler, Günter; Die letzten tibetischen Orakelpriester. Psychiatrisch-neurologische Aspekte. Forschungen zur Ekstase. Monographien und Expeditionsberichte. Franz Steiner Verlag, Wiesbaden 1971, xi + 163 pp. mit 22 Abbildungen.

The present book is the account of an expedition the author had undertaken with a small group of experts to explore the phenomenon of the oracle-priests of Tibet. But for well-known reasons he could approach only those priests who are living among the Tibetan emigrants on the southern slopes of the Himalaya and in South India.

As it is suggested in the subtitle the author takes up mainly the psychological and neurological aspects of the priests' life, their predisposition for the task of an oracle-priest and their falling into trance and ecstasy.

After a few remarks on Tibetan religious beliefs the author describes a number of meetings he was able to have with about five oracle-priests. The highest ranking among them was the state oracle of Netschung. Yet the liveliest description of a priest's behavior as well as of his trance and prophecies is the