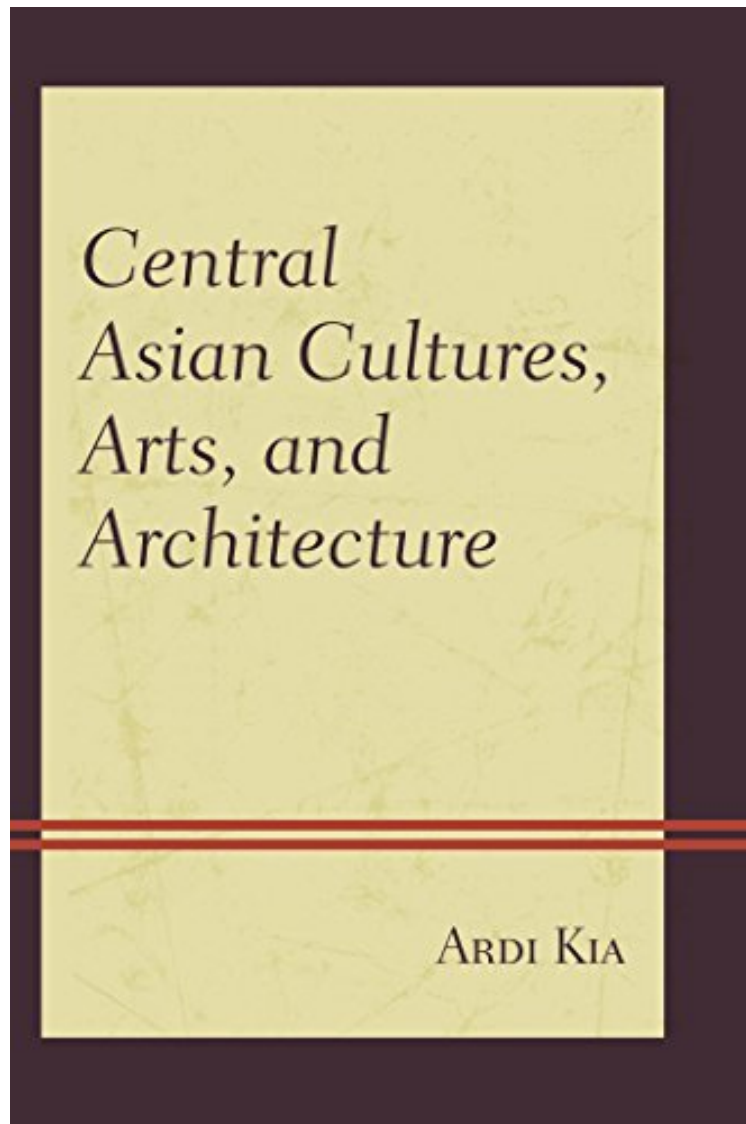


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Central Asian Cultures, Arts, and Architecture

Ardi Kia

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Ardi Kia : Central Asian Cultures, Arts, and Architecture before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Central Asian Cultures, Arts, and Architecture:

This book invites readers on a journey through time, to explore the multifaceted history of Central Asia. Through transcontinental passages such as the Silk Road, the book provides links among the major civilizations of China, India, Persia, and the Mediterranean, which in turn influences the characteristics of the region and beyond. For over seven thousand years, Central Asian residents have left a record of distinguished cultural artifacts. Like creators and

innovators of any age or period, they sought to respond as creatively as possible to the necessities of their societies as a whole, and those of their individual patrons. In doing so they have given us a timeless source through which we can detect the dynamic stages of their creativity throughout history, as well as the breadth of our own rich cultural and artistic heritage.

Professor Kia provides a valuable resource with numerous bibliographic references for the student of Central Asian history and culture. (N. Brian Winchester, Indiana University)An erudite and elegant study through archival and archaeological sources on Central Asia; it is one that highlights the cultural pluralism and vibrant traditions of this important region. (G.G. Weix, University of Montana)Prof. Ardeshir Kia's introduction to the arts, cultures, and architecture of Central Asia provides a comprehensive overview concentrating on Central Asian cultures from prehistory to the early medieval period and beyond. Students will appreciate the breadth of information provided about modern and contemporary archaeological explorations, myriad forms of artistic endeavors and material culture, especially "animal style"; jewelry, wall murals, and ceramics, the colossal architecture of royal palaces, and the variety of Central Asian religious traditions. A rich and varied bibliography will lead students to further resources. (Paul A. Dietrich, University of Montana)About the AuthorDr. Ardi Kia is the award winning cofounder and codirector of Central and Southwest Asian Studies Program, (CSWA Center), at The University of Montana.