

Exploring Buddhist Social Work" Series Completed

The Asian Research Institute for International Social Work (ARIISW) is pleased to announce that the last three books of the research series entitled “Exploring Buddhist Social Work” have been published. Volume No. 9 (Japanese version) and volume No. 10 (Japanese and English versions) were published simultaneously in March 2024 to add the last three pieces to the mosaic, which reflects the present state of various activities provided by Buddhists and Buddhist monasteries in all mainly Buddhist countries in the Asian region. The book series is finally completed, composed of a total of 22 books (11 books each in English and Japanese versions).

“Buddhism and Social Work in Nepal and Bhutan” Research Series No.9 (Japanese)

“Buddhism and Social Work in East Asia: South Korea and Japan” Research Series No.10 (English and Japanese)

In volume No. 9, the authors focused on Nepal, the birthplace of Buddha, a symbolic place in Buddhist culture, and during the journey, we followed in the research project on Buddhist social work. Nepal is not only the starting point and symbol, Buddhist teachings and practices are deeply rooted in daily life even today. The same might be said about Bhutan. Holder of the Honorary Doctorate of Shukutoku University and High Priest, Reverend Acharya Lama Karma Sangbo is one of the authors, analyzing the philosophical background underpinning Buddhist social work activities in Nepal. In Bhutan, Ms. Dechen Doma, who earned her Ph.D. title at the Visiting Researcher Program leading to the Ph.D., provided by the ARIISW, played a central role as one of the authors, too.

In volume No. 10, the authors highlighted many features that are important to understanding the historical background of the spread of Buddhism in East Asia. This book introduces Buddhist social work practices in South Korea, highlighting the role Japanese Buddhism played during the recovery process after the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011. This book provides readers with many examples of social work activities, results of the on-site hearings, and surveys, shared by practitioners and experts from both countries.



◆ News from ARIISW is available on the following website:

<https://www.shukutoku.ac.jp/en/about/facilities/asiancenter.html>