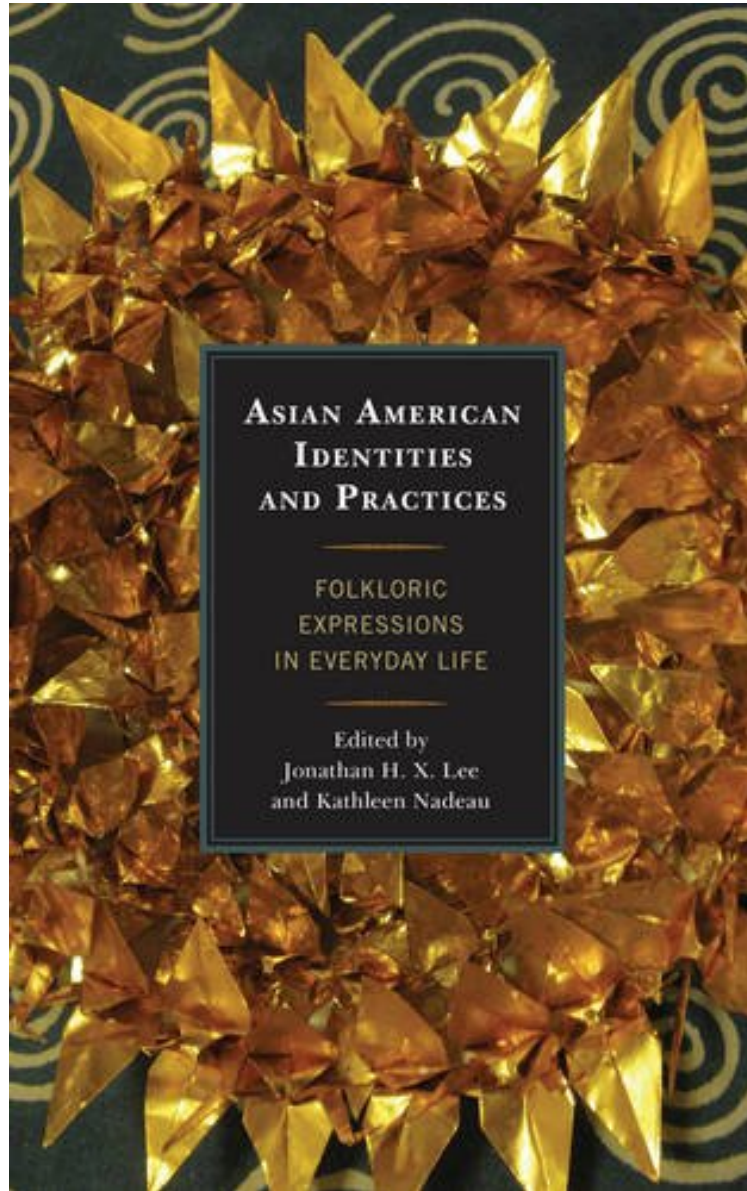


(Ebook free) Asian American Identities and Practices: Folkloric Expressions in Everyday Life

# Asian American Identities and Practices: Folkloric Expressions in Everyday Life

From Lee Jonathan H X

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**From Lee Jonathan H X : Asian American Identities and Practices: Folkloric Expressions in Everyday Life**  
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Asian American  
Identities and Practices: Folkloric Expressions in Everyday Life:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Large collection of Asian American essays in one: Is it worth it? By Harry Mary. If you have the time and effort to study about Asian American history, you really don't need this book. All the material in the book is outsourced to various authors' essays and a total of 13 contributors for this book. Big question is, does all the outsourced material into one book make it worthy of being over \$80? In my eyes, maybe. Many, if not all of the material can be found through self researching. A lot of the essays are well written. However I'm novel reader, and a lot of the material's outsourcing and references were giving me an eye-sore. Some of the photos and illustrations were extremely dark and hard to read and was probably not worth being printed as many of them were irrelevant to the content. What I really liked was that the editors tried to capture a broad spectrum of Asian American. From Chinese American, Korean Americans, Japanese American and most importantly Asian American women. But I still don't think the content is worthy of the price. If indeed the book is offered w/ a e-book or Kindle edition at half the price then I'm all in. I couldn't find the table of contents of this book so here it is for reference (will help you make a buying decision): 1. Folklore and Asian American Humor: Stereotypes, Politics, and Self 2. Folklore and the Visual Culture of Burmese America: Domestic Buddhist Practices and the Dhammananda Monastery 3. The "Movement" as Folklore: Asian American College Youth and Vernacular Expressions of Asian Pacific American Heritage, 4. One Upon a Time in Chinese America: Literary Folktales in American Picture Books, 5. Things Matter: Chinese American Culture Work and Gods of Marysville, 6. Finding the Missing Pieces: Korean American Adoptees and the Production of Ritual, 7. Filipino Folklore, Space, and Performance, 8. Forging Transnational Folklore: Cambodian American Hip Hop, 9. Japanese American Appropriation of Folkloric Symbols through Origami and Hip Hop, 10. Igorot American Folk Dance: Performance, Identity, and the Paradox of Decolonization, 11. Guangong: The Chinese God of War and Literature in America: From Celestial Stronger to Common Culture, 12. Folklore as a Sacred Heritage: Vietnamese Indigenous Religions in California, 13. Of Flying Brooms and Sorcerers: Spell-castings, Love Potions, and Supernatural Plants, 14. Korean Folklore in the Lives of Korean American Christian Women, 15. Late-life, Mortuary, and Memorial Rituals in the Japanese American Community

*Asian American Identities and Practices: Folkloric Expressions in Everyday Life* probes the intersection, interplay, and interconnection of Asian and Asian American folklore and folklife in globally fluid and culturally creative landscapes among Asian American communities and subjects. Asian American folklore, as a way of life and practice, has emerged and continues to emerge as Asian Americans lay claim and take root in the American mosaic. As such, the contributors in this volume all show how the Asian American historical experiences and continued international migration inform the production of new folkloric practices, subjectivities, and ideologies, which in turn strengthen specific Asian American ways of life while normalizing folklore that are squarely produced in Asian America. This collection illustrates that Asian American folklore and folklife is interwoven with social relationships, the creation of various types of ethnic, cultural, and national identities, and adaptive strategies within the particular historical periods, communities, and shifting boundaries and demographics of Asian America. The global context of Asian American folklore and folklife, especially in the racially charged post-9/11 context, bespeaks how Asians, past and present, maneuver the cultural spaces of their host society and old traditions to create new sites and new opportunities for cultural folkloric production and expression in everyday life.

This collection on the diverse experiences of Asian American communities and the shaping of new identities in the contemporary US deserves careful consideration by cultural studies scholars. Both in methodology and research, the essays present new perspectives on religious activities, dance, children's stories, hip-hop, humor, horror stories, and vernacular expression. The editors define folklore as those everyday habits or activities that make meaning out of life. Asian American communities use these practices to negotiate life in the US, redefine what it means to be American, and even resist dominant notions of citizenship. **Summing Up: Recommended. All academic levels/libraries.** (CHOICE) Lee and Nadeaus volume is an engaging anthology of essays from a group of scholars whose work focuses on Asian America. The editors decision to focus on folklore is an excellent one, as folklore highlights individuals negotiation of ethnic identity through the dynamic and meaning-making process of informal cultural expression.... The anthology will be of interest to those who are interested in the informal cultural processes that shape (and reshape) the concepts of what it means to belong in the many groups that self identify as Asian American. Similarly, it provides worthwhile ideas for future studies centered on the traditional expressive forms found throughout Asian America. One of the clear lessons of the anthology is how difficult it is to do ethnography in the diverse communities of Asian America. The anthology should find a place on reading lists for courses in American Studies, Asian American Studies, Folklore, and Anthropology. The volume is handsomely presented and...is a welcome addition to Asian American Folklore Studies. (Asian Ethnology) Jonathan H. X. Lee and Kathleen Nadeau provide a marvelously broad and fluid collection that demonstrates convincingly how valuable folkloric approaches can be in understanding the Asian American experience. The books value for scholars and for students lies especially in the range of topics and groups covered, and in the deftly balanced attention to issues of tradition and modernity, individual creativity and cultural durability, mundane habits and deep personal commitments. (David W. Haines) *Asian American Identities and*

Practices: Folkloric Expressions in Everyday Life is valuable to anyone interested in the Asian American heritage, transnational cultural expression, vernacular artforms/folklore, and related topics. The introduction to the work contextualizes its subjects (ranging from religion to rap) both socially and intellectually. As a result, the ideas contained therein are not only informative, but accessible to a wide audience. At least as important is the fact that the authors write with the authentic voices of insiders rather than as outside observers. In the words of the editors, 'the scholars contributing to this collection have deliberately taken a dialogic and engaged bottoms-up approach to the study of folklore and folklife.' This collection is long overdue. (Thomas Green, Texas AM University) These essays demonstrate the exciting possibilities for new insights into Asian American communities through the study of folklore. The thoughtful and stimulating introduction provided by Jonathan Lee and Kathleen Nadeau provides a firm theoretical basis by which the joining of folklore and Asian American Studies can be of mutual benefit to the two disciplines. (Franklin Ng, California State University, Fresno) This edited volume is a pioneering work in exploring Asian American identities and practices through folklore and its relationship to the preservation of ethnic identity and cultural values, religious concepts, material artifacts and the imaginary world, and the adjustments that are made to these folk beliefs as they are modified by the American situation and the influx of new immigrants into the community. The essays are enlightening and well organized by editors Jonathan H.X. Lee and Kathleen Nadeau. (Sue Fawn Chung, University of Nevada Las Vegas) About the Author Jonathan H. X. Lee is associate professor of Asian American studies at San Francisco State University. He is the editor of *Cambodian American Experiences: Histories, Communities, Cultures, and Identities* and co-editor with Kathleen M. Nadeau of the *Encyclopedia of Asian American Folklore and Folklife*. Kathleen Nadeau is a professor of anthropology at California State University, San Bernardino. She is the author of *Liberation Theology in the Philippines: Faith in a Revolution*, *The History of the Philippines*, and co-editor with Jonathan H. X. Lee of the *Encyclopedia of Asian American Folklore and Folklife*.