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The worship of Bhima

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During the Majapahit Period (14th to 15th centuries) Bhīma representations, statues as well as reliefs, were found on mountain sanctuaries in East en Central Java. Given the number of statues there was a worship of Bhīma during this period.

This study deals with the motives and the spread of the worship, its relation to other gods, its origin, and the influence of wayang on the worship. The study concentrates on the iconography of Bhīma, examines Bhīma in literature, narrative relief scenes and inscriptions, and studies the material and historical context of the Bhīma representations.

Bhīma is one of the main protagonists of the well-known Sanskrit epic Mahābhārata. The protagonists of this epic feature since the 10th century in wayang performances, literature and on reliefs on Java and Bali.

Marijke Duijker (1944) studied Indonesian Languages and Cultures at Leiden University from 1984 to 1988. Between 1992 and 1998 she did fieldwork in Java, Cambodia and Nepal, which is the basis of this PhD thesis.

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THE WORSHIP OF BHĪMA

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THE WORSHIP OF BHĪMA

VOLUME I: TEXT



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