

Woman in Early Buddhist Literature by Meena Talim. Pp.xvi,242.

University of Bombay, Bombay 1972. Rs.30/-.

Though this book assembles a lot of material, most of it from Pali literature, both author and printer are so inaccurate that ~~x~~ it is virtually worthless. The comments are generally fatuous. The standard works on this subject remain B.C.Law's Women in Buddhist Literature and Miss I.B.Horner's Women under Primitive Buddhism; both are listed in the bibliography, the former even twice.

Richard Gombrich.

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28 November 1974.

Dear Editor,

The book you asked me to review is so bad that I see no point in going into detail; brevity will be more economical, and also kinder. But if you find the above review inadequate I could go on. Another solution might be not to publish any review at all; if that is what you prefer, I shall not be offended. Perhaps I should add that I have not read right through the book; under the circumstances, that is hardly called for.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Gombrich.