

Contents

Introduction	1
A 'Critical Religion' Approach to Japanese 'Religion(s)'	23
Critical Reflections on the Category 'Religion' in Japan	53
'Religion' in the Popular Discourse	87
Temple Buddhism and the Japanese Social Classification: A Brief Historical Overview	123
The Construction of <i>Shūkyōka</i>	145
Life Stories and Identities of Nichiren-shū Priests	171
Negotiating with ' <i>Shūkyō</i> ' in the Context of the 'Religious Corporation'	201

Conclusion	239
Appendix: Methodological Notes: Sampling, Access, and Interviews	259
Bibliography	263
Index	279