

Antonina Łuszczkiewicz

**India's Cultural Heritage in Pancha Shila
and Its Role in the China-India Agreement (1954–2014)**

This thesis is dedicated to the political and cultural discourse based on Pancha Shila – also known as the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence – embodied for the first time in the China-India agreement signed on April 29th, 1954. The dissertation's core consists of critical analysis of governmental texts, speeches, articles and politicians' memoirs, publications in prestigious journals as well as scientific works that express how the Five Principles reflect traditional Indian ideas and values such as love of peace, non-violence, and tolerance towards different philosophical and religious systems. Consequently, the monograph's main aim is to analyze a process of a sort of secondary, cultural sense-giving by politicians, journalists, and even scientists. The thesis also tries to explain, why in this specific resemantization and recontextualization, these politicians, journalists and scientists referred only to selected historical and cultural issues, and how over the last six decades they have been using this narrative manipulation to achieve ideological and PR goals. As a result, the dissertation might be considered as a case study of legitimizing political constructs by supposed links with mythologized and sanctified past.

Key words: India, China, Pancha Shila

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