Member Book, Assandri, The Daode jing Commentary of Cheng Xuanying.

Discussion published by Friederike Assandri on Thursday, November 11, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce that my translation of the Daode jing Commentary of the Tang dynasty Daoist Cheng Xuanying 成玄英 has been published:


Series: Oxford Chinese Thought
Oxford University Press, Nov. 9th 2021
440 pages
ISBN-10 : 0190876468

In this book I present a complete translation of the Expository Commentary to the Daode jing 道德經義疏 by the Daoist monk Cheng Xuanying (7th century CE), accompanied by a substantial introduction offering information on Cheng Xuanying, his life and times, as well as a discussion of the question of the adoption of Buddhist concepts in the commentary. Cheng Xuanying's Daode jing commentary is a quintessential text of Tang dynasty Daoist philosophy and of Chongxuanxue or Twofold Mystery teachings. Cheng Xuanying proposes a reading of the ancient Daode jing that aligns the text with Daoist practices of his times. His philosophical outlook ties together the ancient text of the Daode jing and contemporary developments in Daoist thought which occurred under the influence of an intense interaction with Buddhist ideas. The commentary is a vivid testimony of the integration of Buddhist thought into an exegesis of the ancient classic of the Daode jing, and thereby also into Chinese philosophy.

A translation of the elaborate Preface to this commentary by Cheng Xuanying, which is not included in the book, will be posted on the Companion Website to the book by Oxford University Press. A link should be posted in the near future on the website of the publisher linked below.

For further information:

https://global.oup.com/academic/product/the-daode-jing-commentary-of-cheng-xuanying-9780190876