summary, references and notes to give the reader a more complete picture of each topic. The topics serve multiculturalism well and the contributors succeed in communicating a view of the intersectionality that many women in the world experience life through every day. In a chapter about intersectionalities within women’s leadership, the author explains, “viewing the world from the intersections of various social identities—including race, gender, class, ability, nationality, sexuality, among other locations—has given way to a paradigm shift in terms of how we understand women’s leadership” (31). This theme of the importance of intersectionality is carried through both volumes and the authors and editor are not shy about acknowledging the long road ahead before we see equality for women.

Additional details about the handbook that add to its stand-alone quality include “Spotlight” sections covering specific events or discussions, diagrams, charts, data analysis, references and notes for each chapter, and an index that spans over 60 pages and lists both individual entries and mentions while also including the main topics in bold. The twelve sections of the handbook, and each section’s overview and chapter entries, are listed in the table of contents and with the contributing author. Overall, the handbook is easy to use and organized clearly.

In her “Introduction” the editor makes the bold claim that the “depth of work in this handbook proves that complaints that ‘there is no literature on,’ or no reason to examine, women’s leadership can no longer be sustained” and after reviewing the handbook, I can state that her claim is completely accurate and supported (xiii). An academic library, even one at a university with no leadership studies program, would find this handbook to be a necessary addition to their collection.—Melia Erin Fitch, Multicultural Literacy Librarian, Kansas State University Libraries, Manhattan, Kansas


The Jews of Capitol Hill is an updated and rearranged edition of Rabbi Stone’s earlier volume, The Congressional Minyan: The Jews of Capitol Hill (KTAV Publishing House in association with American Jewish Society, 2000). Where The Congressional Minyan employed a strictly alphabetical ordering of names, The Jews of Capitol Hill follows a chronological arrangement according to Congresses, bringing the older work current to the 111th Congress (2009–10). Some biographies included in both works remain much the same (see Neuberger, Richard Lewis) while others have been substantially revised and rewritten (see Yulee, David Levy).

Like its predecessor, The Jews of Capitol Hill is a work of popular biography, entertaining, lively, and interesting. It is not a work of meticulous scholarship. Although references are provided at the end of each individual’s biographical sketch Rabbi Stone is inconsistent in supplying the reader with complete citations.

Examination of a number of Rabbi Stone’s biographical sketches leaves this reviewer with the impression that he has depended heavily on various editions of the Almanac of American Politics (Gambit, 1972–), various editions of the American Jewish Year Book (American Jewish Committee, 1900–), the Universal Jewish Encyclopedia (The Universal Jewish Encyclopedia 1939–43.10v.), the first edition of the Encyclopaedia Judaica (Encyclopaedia Judaica/Macmillan, 1971–1972.16v.), the Bicentennial edition of the Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774–1989 (U.S. G.P.O., 1989), and the Dictionary of American Biography (Scribner, 1928–37.20v. and Index; Reprint: Scribner, 1943.24v.), as well as newspaper and journal articles, individual works of biography, Congressional Quarterly and National Journal publications and, in the case of the most recent Jewish members of Congress, interviews.


Another serious concern for students and scholars is Rabbi Stone’s inconsistent citation style as previously noted. He neither indicates from which of his references he gathered specific pieces of information nor does he provide in most instances a full and complete bibliographic entry. Black and white photographs that accompany each biographical sketch also lack identification as to their source.

In his “Acknowledgements” Rabbi Stone cites the first edition of the Almanac of American Politics (Gambit, 1972) as his inspiration for undertaking what is clearly a labor of love. “What I was looking for back in 1972 was a Jewish version of that book. That is why I decided to write The Jews of Capitol Hill; it was the one book that ‘wasn’t on the shelf’” (vii).

In that light The Jews of Capitol Hill may be seen as a collection of entertaining success stories about a group of elected Congressional representatives who share in common the fact that they are Jewish, born either of a Jewish mother or converted according to Jewish rituals and rites, though Rabbi Stone makes an exception to this for Barry Goldwater whom he considers “Jewish enough” (xv). Family backgrounds and life experiences are given as much or more emphasis in Rabbi Stone’s lively telling as each Senator’s or Representative’s congressional career.

Libraries with strong collections of Judaica may want to add The Jews of Capitol Hill to their reference shelves, providing as it does a singular and up-to-date compendium of Jewish members of Congress. Others may want to add The Jews of Capitol Hill to their circulating collections and depend for information about the legislative and political activities of members of Congress on such standard reference works as the previously cited Almanac of American Politics, American National Biography, and Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774–2005, as well as the recent edition (111th
Congress, December 2009) of the Official Congressional Directory (U.S. G.P.O., 1887—), also online at the U.S. Government Printing Office’s Federal Digital System site.—Sally Moffitt, Reference Librarian and Bibliographer for Anthropology, History, Philosophy, Political Science; Africana Studies, Asian Studies, Judaic Studies, Latin American Studies, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; Cohen Enrichment Collection Langsam Library, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio


Coming less than a decade after the publication of the first edition, this second edition of Martial Arts of the World may initially seem extraneous. Because of the increase in interest and continued research on the topic, however, this well-written set should prove a valuable source for libraries despite some organizational decisions that may lessen their appeal.

The editors of this second edition have created this set not only to provide avenues in which to convey the results of new research on the topic, but also to update many of the entries that had become outdated. It may seem unlikely to non-experts that a great deal could change regarding many topics like taekwondo, or pugilism in the UK, but it is obvious from the references included at the end of many entries that a great deal of new martial arts research has been conducted over the past decade.

Organized in two volumes, “Regions and Individual Arts,” and “Themes,” the volumes featured about 125 entries, almost all of which are extensive. Some may be only a few pages long, but many are in the 10–15 page range and there are no half-page entries to be found. While the entries may be introductory, they definitely provide a great deal of information. Further, they are written in a very straightforward manner that will be appreciated by both students and the public. Some entries may seem rather long initially, but this makes more sense when one considers that topics such as “Woman’s boxing” or “Japan: Sumo,” do not lend themselves to brief entries.

Because of the non-alphabetical arrangement of the volumes, the index is a critical tool in using this title. The editors have done an outstanding job in this regard by creating a very comprehensive index that is included in both volumes. The references affixed to the entries are excellent, including not only old and new titles but a good mix of books and periodicals. It is notable that a large number of sources from the past decade have been used in updating many entries from the original.

One drawback for the casual user of this set is that the arrangement may cause some confusion. If someone picks up either volume and flips through to find a popular martial arts topic like karate, they are going to be unsuccessful. The topic may be found easily in the index, but some students or other users may not make the leap to flipping to the back of the book. The editors consciously made the decision to move away from the alphabetical format of the first volumes to what they feel is a more logical one, but there is definitely a risk of confusion for those expecting alphabetical order.

This two-volume set may not be necessary for all libraries holding the first edition, but the number of updated entries and the relatively low price for a reference title lend credence to the argument for its purchase. This would be a good selection for academic libraries, as well as school and public libraries serving populations interested in the topic. Given the growing popularity of MMA and by extension various individual martial arts, the potential audience has grown.

—Craig Shufelt, Fort McMurray Public Library, Alberta, Canada


The latest in Schlager’s Milestones series, this title presents primary sacred documents from the world’s faith traditions. Editor David M. Fahey has interpreted “religion” in the broad sense, so along with the expected writings from Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and other major world religions are contributions from African religions, Neopaganism, Humanism, and Freemasonry; for example, as well as texts from ancient Egypt, the Near East, Greece, and Rome. Each article includes an overview section that gives the historical and religious context of the document, a timeline; information about the “author” or the authorship of the text, explanation and analysis of the text, a discussion of the intended audience, the historical and religious impact of the document, key quotes, and questions for further study, to help guide readers and their teachers in discussion and analysis. The document itself is presented, in English translation when needed, either in full or in large excerpts, and a bibliography and glossary accompany each signed article. Black and white photos throughout enhance each document and a list of documents and index help navigate the three volume set.

The idea for these volumes is a great one—to collect primary documents in world religions and present them in a context that helps students and general readers understand their purpose and meaning. However, the execution is problematic. Although Fahey, the editor, is a professor emeritus from Miami University specializing in world religious history, many of the contributors to this volume, touted as “esteemed scholars” in the introduction, are listed as either high school teachers or “independent scholars.” One wonders why, for example, an Assyriologist was not asked to write the entries on ancient Mesopotamia, or a Biblical scholar the entry on Exodus. The articles are competent enough but many are not specialists in that particular area. Fahey addresses this in the introduction, mentioning “the difficulty of locating authentic versions of ancient texts and the scholars to write about them and acquiring permission to reprint copyrighted items” (xvi). However, a minimal amount of research would uncover many specialist scholars in the relevant areas.

More troubling, however, is the presentation of the texts