

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I WISH TO express my gratitude to the Dharma Drum Foundation for their dedication to the series Columbia Readings of Buddhist Literature, and to the series editor, Stephen F. Teiser, for his kind and clear guidance. I am grateful also to Columbia University Press, especially to our executive editor, Wendy Lochner, and to our copyeditor and production editor, Leslie Kriesel. I also want to voice my thanks to Ashley Messenger, whose meticulous work as my editor was crucial in the preparation of the manuscript. Many thanks also to Özüm Üçok-Sayrak, who prepared the index with care and expertise. I also extend my thanks to our contributors for their generosity in sharing their insights and experience. To our families we remain grateful, as always, for their patience and support.