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## Pursuits of Happiness: Well-Being in Anthropological Perspective (Hardback)

By -

Berghahn Books, United Kingdom, 2009. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Anthropology has long shied away from examining how human beings may lead happy and fulfilling lives. This book, however, shows that the ethnographic examination of well-being--defined as the optimal state for an individual, a community, and a society --and the comparison of well-being within and across societies is a new and important area for anthropological inquiry. Distinctly different in different places, but also reflecting our common humanity, well-being is intimately linked to the idea of happiness and its pursuits. Noted anthropological researchers have come together in this volume to examine well-being in a range of diverse ways and to investigate it in a range of settings: from the Peruvian Amazon, the Australian outback, and the Canadian north, to India, China, Indonesia, Japan, and the United States. Gordon Mathews is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He has written *What Makes Life Worth Living? How Japanese and Americans Make Sense of Their Worlds* (1996) and *Global Culture /Individual Identity: Searching for Home in the Cultural Supermarket* (2000), and co-written *Hong Kong, China: Learning to Belong to a Nation* (2007);...



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