Contents

Acknowledgements vi
List of map and figures viii
Notes on language ix

1. Meditation and monasticism: making the ascetic self in Thailand 1
2. Meditation and religious reform 26
3. The monastic community: duty and structure 51
4. Meditation as ethical imperative 70
5. Language and meditation 96
6. Monastic duty, mindfulness and cognitive space 116
7. Money, mae chee and reciprocity 135
8. Hierarchy, gender and mindfulness 151
9. Monasticization and the ascetic interiority of non-self 173

Appendix Ordination transcript for an eight-precept nun (mae chee) 195
Bibliography 198
Index 210