

Hinduism Special Times

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Hinduism a Scientific Religion - Pon Kulendiren 2012-10

Hinduism, the Truth is not a sect of a faith or a man-made religion. The Cosmic Truth of Hinduism is non denominational and universal and its founder is unknown. However, ancient Rishis and Saints have nurtured and revived it into what it is today. Hinduism's basic concept is unique with its link to Cosmic Energy, its traditions and culture is also linked to nature. A diagram explaining the distribution of Cosmic energy is explained, is given in this book. Lord Shiva is the Cosmic dancer. It is depicted that Brahma is the creator, Vishnu the Preserver and Shiva is in charge of evolution, for easy understanding by the people. This book deals with speculations about the origin of Hinduism and its association with nature. The design and energy of the Hindu temple and how the energy is associated with the power of Yantras, and Chakras in the human body, mantras and their connection with sound waves, Solar system, and Time. Idol / Deity worship and rituals etc. The book covers the five Ishwarams temples of Shiva, Sakthi, Karthigeya, Vishnu, Kannagi in Sri Lanka, worshipped by Hindus and Buddhists. Hinduism had its origin in the Indus valley civilization. The word Hindu is derived from the Indus river and dates back to over 5,000 years or more. This book also touches the link between the Hinduism and Buddhism. Kannagi (Pathini) and her worship by Sri Lankan Tamils and Sinhalese is also explained in the book.

Hinduism for Today - Carrie Mercier 1998

This book offers an introduction to the beliefs and practices of Hindus in the world today. A complete topic on each double-page spread. Activities to encourage students to make links between their own experiences and those encountered in religions. Factual information to ensure depth as well as breadth of knowledge. Colourful illustrations, diagrams and stunning photographs bring religions to life.

What is Hinduism? - Mahatma Gandhi 1994

A selection of Gandhiji's articles drawn mainly from his contributions to young India, the Harijan and the Navjivan on Hinduism. Written on different occasions, these articles present a picture of Hindu dharma in all its richness, comprehensiveness and sensitivity to the existential delimitations of human existence.

Hinduism - Ritual, Reason and Beyond - Ashok Mishra 2019-08-03

The book is a journey through 5000 years of evolution of Hinduism, and is the outcome of seven years of study to understand the roots of Hinduism. Tracing the genesis of Hinduism to the pre-Indus Valley period, the book explains Hinduism and Sanatana Dharma, before it takes one through Hinduism's oldest scriptures - the four Vedas, the four components of each Veda, and what they contain. How all original translations of Vedic texts were done by Western Sanskrit scholars, and why their works have left scope for doubt about the fidelity of translations. The yajnas (yagya) like Ashvamedha, Rajsooya, Vajpeya, etc., about which we only hear on TV serials and talk shows, have been demystified. The reader will be taken aback reading the sheer size and scale of Soma yajna, described step by step, in great detail. Hinduism's journey to the Age of Reason, the Upanishads, its encounter with Buddhism, and its transformation into idol-worshipping society with many gods and a multitude of stories about its millions of gods is lucidly explained. Puranas, what they contain and what was the reason they were created, has been described and explained next. Hinduism's journey to its modern form - idol-worship, the modern puja, detailed description of puja and Sanskaras like Vivaha, their detailed description, the meaning of each action and how they are conducted, the gift to the priest, types of idols, their consecration, all are explained to help a reader understand the why and the how of what we do as a Hindu. The book concludes with a discussion of - Do mantras have power? & Do rituals have meaning?

Hinduism - Axel Michaels 2004

In this text, Axel Michaels examines the traditions, beliefs and rituals Hindus hold in common through the lens of what he deems its 'identificatory habitus', a cohesive force that binds Hindu religions

together and fortifies them against foreign influences.

Hindu Rites and Rituals - K. V. Singh 2015

Why is the tulsi considered sacred? What is the significance of namaste? Why do Hindus light a lamp before performing a ritual? Why is it forbidden to sleep facing the south? Why do Hindus chant 'shanti' three times after performing a rite? Millions of Hindus the world over grow up observing rites, rituals and religious practices that lie at the heart of Hinduism, but which they don't know the significance of. Often the age-old customs, whose relevance is lost to modern times, are dismissed as meaningless superstitions. The truth, however, is that these practices reveal the philosophical and scientific approach to life that has characterized Hindu thought since ancient times; it is important to revive their original meanings today. This handy book tells the fascinating stories and explains the science behind the Hindu rites and rituals that we sometimes follow blindly. It is essential reading for anyone interested in India's cultural tradition.

On Hinduism - Wendy Doniger 2014-03

On Hinduism is a penetrating analysis of many of the most crucial and contested issues in Hinduism, from the Vedas to the present day. In a series of 63 connected essays, it discusses Hindu concepts of polytheism, death, gender, art, contemporary puritanism, non-violence, and much more.

Hinduism - Axel Michaels 2021-08-10

Hinduism is currently followed by one-fifth of humankind. Far from a monolithic theistic tradition, the religion comprises thousands of gods, a complex caste system, and hundreds of languages and dialects. Such internal plurality inspires vastly ranging rites and practices amongst Hinduism's hundreds of millions of adherents. It is therefore not surprising that scholars have been hesitant to define universal Hindu beliefs and practices. In this book, Axel Michaels breaks this trend. He examines the traditions, beliefs, and rituals Hindus hold in common through the lens of what he deems its "identificatory habitus," a cohesive force that binds Hindu religions together and fortifies them against foreign influences. Thus, in his analysis, Michaels not only locates Hinduism's profoundly differentiating qualities, but also provides the framework for an analysis of its social and religious coherence. Michaels blends his insightful arguments and probing questions with introductions to major historical epochs, ample textual sources as well as detailed analyses of major life-cycle rituals, the caste system, forms of spiritualism, devotionalism, ritualism, and heroism. Along the way he points out that Hinduism has endured and repeatedly resisted the missionary zeal and universalist claims of Christians, Muslims, and Buddhists. He also contrasts traditional Hinduism with the religions of the West, "where the self is preferred to the not-self, and where freedom in the world is more important than liberation from the world." Engaging and accessible, this book will appeal to laypersons and scholars alike as the most comprehensive introduction to Hinduism yet published. Not only is Hinduism refreshingly new in its methodological approach, but it also presents a broad range of meticulous scholarship in a clear, readable style, integrating Indology, religious studies, philosophy, anthropological theory and fieldwork, and sweeping analyses of Hindu texts.

The Many Colors of Hinduism - Carl Olson 2007

Conventional approaches to Hinduism typically stress its classical religious tradition with an emphasis on the Brahmin texts and practices. Frequently neglected are the practices of lower caste Indians, the role of women in the culture, the religious life of village folk, devotion to the deity Rama, and the Sant tradition of North India. The Many Colors of Hinduism is the first introductory text to provide a balanced view of this rich religious tradition, acknowledging the full range of its many competing and even contradictory aspects. Utilizing a thematic-historical approach, Carl Olson draws on a wide array of textual evidence, the fieldwork of anthropologists in close contact with insiders, and voices of thinkers ranging from Indologist Alf Hiltebeitel to Cambridge scholar

Julius Lipner. The result is a narrative approach that offers a view of Hinduism that emulates the storytelling nature of the religion itself. Covering ancient times to the present and explaining important cultural metaphors, symbols, and narratives not generally found in other introductory textbooks, Olson offers students a new perspective of a religion that is more varied than most Westerners realize. The Many Colors of Hinduism will be essential reading for undergraduate courses in world or Asian religions.

A Tribute to Hinduism - Sushama Londhe 2008

Since times immemorial, India has been synonymous with spiritual knowledge and people have been drawn to her sacred land. Some were philosophers, poets, writers, historians, scientists and travelers. Some came to India; others read translations about her rich and imaginative literature and felt genuine enthusiasm for her. The fourth Caliph in the 7th century is reported to have said: The land where books were first written and from where wisdom and knowledge sprang is India. Despite the wars and imperialism, ancient India's spiritual influence and wisdom has had considerable impact on the West, especially on its imagination, science, and literature: English Romantic poetry in particular, Scientists, scholars, poets, writers and philosophers all have paid the highest compliment to India's wonderful metaphysical, religious, artistic, linguistic, and cultural genius by imitating and incorporating some of these ideas and theories into their own work.

Essence of Hinduism - Hiro G. Badlani 2014-09-09

The book contains 260 pages and is divided in 57 small easy-to-read chapters, containing authentic information about all the important aspects of Hindu religion, culture, and philosophy. It is designed to entice the young reader; in particular, the youthful Hindu Diaspora in America and other countries where Hindus are now settling in large numbers. At the same time, many others, including also the non-Hindus who would like to learn about Hindu philosophy and India may find the book useful. The book is written in story-telling method and it is easy to read and understand. It is presented with the fewest controversies, complex theories, and critical judgment. Hinduism is a dynamic and evolutionary religion, making periodic changes as the instance and circumstance demanded, over the millennia, without sacrificing the essential principles. The book is presented in chronological order, starting from the 'Origin of Creation' 18 billion years ago, 'Proto-Human creature in Africa' 6 million years, 'Modern Human Brain' 100,000 years, arrival of first human tribal race in Indian subcontinent 50,000 years, the pre-historic roots of Hinduism or the Sanathan Dharma tracing back up to almost 10,000 years, and then covering the different times from the Vedic era till the present one, describing the Hindu populations and Hindu temples in all five continents of the world now! Religion-dharma-is basically like a classroom, a school, or a university, where we get the instruction for the moral and virtuous pedagogy. Ultimately it becomes our responsibility to learn and understand these spiritual teachings properly and put them into use in everyday living. Even more than that, we must imbibe dharma deep into our mindset (antahkaran), so that we think in a moral and spiritual manner, harboring no hatred, ill will, or harm to others. 'Spiritual Teachings' as such form the core of the book; without imparting and propagating the spiritual teachings, what other role any religion may have? It is a book on religion but every effort is made so it may pass the acid test of reason and rationality as far as possible. Also it is a book on religion that may be applicable to everyday living. The main purpose of religion is to impart moral guidance. It has been said repeatedly that Hinduism is not so much a set of dogmas but it is a way of life. There are many pearls of wisdom offered as guiding principles though not as dos and don'ts. More important, Hinduism is a living faith of nearly one billion people and is regarded as the most ancient religion in the world. Extensive coverage to religious teachings and principles is therefore given in the book. Perhaps a great number of diverse tribal and ethnic groups converged together on the sacred land of India, and some of the highly evolved souls among them meditated profoundly in the quest of many enquiries. They discovered that all beings of creation, human as well as nonhuman, are connected with each other through eons of birth cycles as one large family of the divine, Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam. Hindu thought repeatedly emphasizes this concept of spirituality. Across millennia, Hindu seers have propagated the idea of harmony of all mankind regardless of faith and place. They perceived the Divine as the transcendental universal being pervading all the creation Ota-prota; they called it Brahman. Hindu sages have believed that there is an essential unity and homogeneity of all the religions; the 'spiritual teachings' are very similar, if not the same. All religions lead to the same destination. Sincere and truthful endeavor is

made to pursue this philosophy in the book.

A Year of Hindu Festivals - Flora York 2008

Hindu religion.

The Hindus - Wendy Doniger 2010-09-30

An engrossing and definitive narrative account of history and myth that offers a new way of understanding one of the world's oldest major religions, The Hindus elucidates the relationship between recorded history and imaginary worlds. Hinduism does not lend itself easily to a strictly chronological account: many of its central texts cannot be reliably dated even within a century; its central tenets karma, dharma, to name just two arise at particular moments in Indian history and differ in each era, between genders, and caste to caste; and what is shared among Hindus is overwhelmingly outnumbered by the things that are unique to one group or another. Yet the greatness of Hinduism - its vitality, its earthiness, its vividness - lies precisely in many of those idiosyncratic qualities that continue to inspire debate today. Wendy Doniger is one of the foremost scholars of Hinduism in the world. With her inimitable insight and expertise Doniger illuminates those moments within the tradition that resist forces that would standardize or establish a canon. Without reversing or misrepresenting the historical hierarchies, she reveals how Sanskrit and vernacular sources are rich in knowledge of and compassion toward women and lower castes; how they debate tensions surrounding religion, violence, and tolerance; and how animals are the key to important shifts in attitudes toward different social classes. The Hindus brings a fascinating multiplicity of actors and stories to the stage to show how brilliant and creative thinkers - many of them far removed from Brahmin authors of Sanskrit texts - have kept Hinduism alive in ways that other scholars have not fully explored. In this unique and authoritative account, debates about Hindu traditions become platforms from which to consider the ironies, and overlooked epiphanies, of history.

Hinduism For Dummies - Amrutur V. Srinivasan 2011-06-15

Your hands-on guide to one of the world's major religions The dominant religion of India, "Hinduism" refers to a widevariety of religious traditions and philosophies that have developed over thousands of years. Today, the United States is home to approximately one million Hindus. If you've heard of this ancient religion and are looking for a reference that explains the intricacies of the customs, practices, and teachings of this ancient spiritual system, Hinduism For Dummies is for you! Provides a thorough introduction to this earliest and popular world belief system Information on the rites, rituals, deities, and teachings associated with the practice of Hinduism Explores the history and teachings of the Vedas, Brahmins, and Upanishads Offers insight into the modern daily practice of Hinduism around the world Continuing the Dummies tradition of making the world's religions engaging and accessible to everyone, Hinduism For Dummies is your hands-on, friendly guide to this fascinating religion.

Homo Ritualis - Axel Michaels 2015-12-15

Is the richness and diversity of rituals and celebrations in South Asia unique? Are Indians or Hindus more involved in rituals than people of other faiths and other places? If so, what makes them special? Can we speak of a homo ritualis when it comes to India or Hinduism? Drawing on extensive textual studies and fieldwork in Nepal and India, Axel Michaels demonstrates how the characteristic structure of Hindu rituals employs the Brahmanic-Sanskritic sacrifice as a model, and how this structure is one of the distinguishing features of Hinduism more generally. Many religions tend over time to develop less ritualized or more open forms of belief, but Brahmanical Hinduism has internalized ritual behavior to the extent that it has become its most important and distinctive feature, permeating social and personal life alike. The religion can thus be seen as a particular case in the history of religions in which ritual form dominates belief and develops a sweeping autonomy of ritual behavior. Homo Ritualis analyzes ritual through these cultural-specific and religious contexts, taking into account how indigenous terms and theories affect and contribute to current ritual theory. It describes and investigates various forms of Hindu rituals and festivals, such as life-cycle rituals, the Vedic sacrifice, vows processions, and the worship of deities (puja). It also examines various conceptual components of (Hindu) rituals such as framing, formality, modality, and theories of meaning. *Hinduism And Brotherhood* - Dr Srinivasan Gandhi 2018-09-05 Congratulations and all the best Dr Srinivasan Gandhi for your wonderful book "Hinduism and Brotherhood" - Dr Sashi Tharoor The feelings, beliefs and customs of brotherhood among the Hindus represents a unique system of its own, the principles of which are not found in the same measure in any other social system of the world. Hinduism involves

expressive and symbolic performances, religious utterances and theological gestures about brotherhood. The feelings of brotherhood represent the basic ideals of the Hindu religion and their beliefs, though they may vary from region to region, and are aimed to secure all religious people and the developments of the security feeling of the recipient. This illustrated book familiarizes with cooperation and collaboration of all social systems of people such as the way of life, education, economic system, relation to the daily way of common life, from creation to cremation, and will be of great knowledge for the readers of all religions for mutual understanding about the brotherhood.

Hinduism - Anita Ganeri 2017-07-13

What do Hindus believe? What festivals do they celebrate? This book introduces young readers to Hinduism.

Hinduism - Kim Knott 2016

Hinduism is practised by about 80% of India's population, and by about 30,000,000 people outside India. But how is Hinduism defined, and what basis does the religion have? This work gives concise insights into the central preoccupations of Hinduism.

Indian Philosophy in Modern Times - M. B. Chande 2000

This Book Is Unique And Singular Of Its Kind. Its Speciality Lies In Its Contents Of The Various Philosophical Thoughts Monism, Dualism, Pluralism, Atheism, Theism, Primordially Expounded And Analytically Studied To Form Into A Single Concise Book, Which Could Save The Troubles Of The Readers From Referring To Other Literary Sources In Order To Quench Their Curiosity About The Vedantic Literature Of The Country. Various Factors, Influencing The Socio-Political-Philosophical Concepts Since Several Centuries, Have Been Taken Into Consideration With Erudite Documentation. Some Of Them Can Be Succinctly Listed : Geo-Historical Indus Valley Civilisations, Formation, Development And Progression Of The Vedic Literatures With Religious Influence During Their Propoundings, Effects Of Bhakti Movement During The Medieval Period Including Sufism, Religious, Language Conflicts And Patriotic Movements, Materialism Of Charvakas Lokayatikas And Sankhya, Yogas, Development Of Socio-Philosophical Thought Initiated By Swami Dayanand Sarasvati, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Swami Vivekananda And Several Others Of The Modern Times, Such As Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, The Former President Of The Republic Of India. All These Have Been Considered In Their Proper Perspectives In This Book, And That Too Not In Isolation, But Keeping In View That Philosophy Is The Most Important Organ Of Social Consciousness, And Its Principal Functions Are Cognitive, Worldview, Methodical And Ideological. In Short, It Is A Hand-Book . It Is One World Or Two Words Of Indian Philosophy, In Which Views And Conceptions Of Most Of The Indian Philosophers Have Been Mediated Through Their Personal Experiences, Thus, Acquiring A Definite Direction For The Individual S Practical And Cognitive Activities And Behaviour.

The Power of the Dharma - Stephen Knapp 2020-08-11

The Power of the Dharma: An Introduction to Hinduism and Vedic Culture offers a concise and easy-to-understand overview of the essential principles and customs of the Hindu tradition. It also provides many insights into the depth and value of the timeless wisdom of Vedic spirituality and reveals why the Dharmic path has survived for thousands of years. Author Stephen Knapp reveals why the Dharma is presently enjoying a renaissance among an increasing number of people who want to explore its teachings and see what its many techniques of self-discovery have to offer. In The Power of the Dharma, you will find: Quotes by noteworthy people on the unique qualities of Hinduism; Essential principles of the Vedic spiritual path; Particular traits, customs, and explanations of Hindu worship and daily practice; Descriptions of the main yoga systems; Significance and legends of the colorful Hindu festivals; Benefits of Ayurveda, Vastu, Vedic astrology, and gemology; Important insights of Dharmic life and how to begin. The Dharmic path can provide you the means for attaining your own spiritual realizations and experiences. This is the power of Vedic Dharma's universal teachings which have something to offer everyone! This was expanded and republished in July, 2020. Stephen Knapp has studied the major Vedic Texts of India and practiced yoga and the Eastern teachings for over 40 years. He has traveled throughout India many times and has authored nearly 50 well-received books on Vedic culture and its philosophy, and still gives lectures on the topics. Stephen has also been the past president of the Vedic Friends Association and is Chairman of the Detroit Krishna temple. You can find out more about Stephen, his many books and articles at: www.stephen-knapp.com.

Hinduism - Cassie Coleman 2020-03-08

A Survey of Hinduism - Klaus K. Klostermaier 1989-01-01

This book provides a comprehensive survey of the Hindu tradition, dealing with the history of Hinduism, the sacred writings of the Hindus, the Hindu worldview, and the specifics of the major branches of Hinduism--Vaisnavism, Saivism, and Saktism. It also focuses on the geographical ties of Hinduism with the land of India, the social order created by Hinduism, and the various systems of Hindu philosophical-theological thought. Klostermaier describes the new development of Hinduism in the 19th and 20th centuries, including present-day political Hinduism and the efforts to turn Hinduism into a modern-world religion. A unique feature of this book is its treatment of Hinduism in a topical fashion, rather than by chronological description of the development of Hinduism or by summary of the literature. The complexities of Hindu life and thought are thus made real to the reader. Hindus will recognize it as their own tradition. A glossary and a chronological table are useful additional features.

The Origins & Development of Classical Hinduism - A.L. Basham 2016-01-01

Modelled on A.L. Basham's monumental work The Wonder That Was India, this account of the Origins and Development of Classical Hinduism represents a lifetime of reflection on the subject, and offers an intriguing introduction to one of the richest of all Asian traditions. The late A. L. Basham was one of the world's foremost authorities on ancient Indian culture and religion. Modelled on his monumental work The Wonder That Was India, this account of the origins and development of classical Hinduism represents a lifetime of reflection on the subject, and offers an intriguing introduction to one of the richest of all Asian traditions. Synthesizing Basham's great knowledge of the art, architecture, literature, and religion of South Asia, this concise history traces the spiritual life of India from the time of the Indus Culture through the crystallization of classical Hinduism in the first centuries of the common era, and includes a final chapter by the editor, Kenneth G. Zysk, on Hinduism after the classical period. Uniquely comprehensive, it chronicles as well the rise of other mystical and ascetic traditions, such as Buddhism and Jainism, and follows Hinduism's later incarnations in the West. With its vivid presentation of Hinduism's sources and its clearly written explanations and analyses of the major Hindu texts--among them the Rg-veda, the Brahmanas, Upanisads, and the Mahabharata and Ramayana--The Origins of Classical Hinduism clarifies much of Hinduism's enduring mystique. Offering an especially helpful bibliography, numerous illustrations of Hindu art never before published, and a lucid, accessible style, this book is a must reading for anyone who has ever been intrigued by this fascinating religion.

Imagined Hinduism - Geoffrey A. Oddie 2006-04-14

This is an exploration of the emergence and refinement of the idea of Hinduism as it developed among British Protestant missionaries in the late 18th and 19th centuries. The text traces the growing use of the term 'Hinduism' as a category and label that has come to dominate the way scholars think about Indian religions.

An Introduction to Hinduism - Gavin D. Flood 1996-07-13

This book provides a much-needed thematic and historical introduction to Hinduism, the religion of the majority of people in India. Dr Flood traces the development of Hindu traditions from their ancient origins, through the major deities of Visnu, Siva and the Goddess, to the modern world. Hinduism is discussed as both a global religion and a form of nationalism. Emphasis is given to the tantric traditions, which have been so influential; to Hindu ritual, which is more fundamental to the life of the religion than are specific beliefs or doctrines; and to Dravidian influences from south India. An Introduction to Hinduism examines the ideas of dharma, particularly in relation to the ideology of kingship, caste and world renunciation. Dr Flood also introduces some debates within contemporary scholarship about the nature of Hinduism. It is suitable both for the student and for the general reader.

Worship and Ceremonial - James Henry Bryant 1869

American Veda - Philip Goldberg 2013-05-14

A fascinating look at India's remarkable impact on Western culture, this eye-opening popular history shows how the ancient philosophy of Vedanta and the mind-body methods of Yoga have profoundly affected the worldview of millions of Americans and radically altered the religious landscape. What exploded in the 1960s, following the Beatles trip to India for an extended stay with their new guru, Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, actually began more than two hundred years earlier, when the United States started importing knowledge--as well as tangy spices and colorful fabrics--from Asia. The first translations of Hindu texts found their way

into the libraries of John Adams and Ralph Waldo Emerson. From there the ideas spread to Henry David Thoreau, Walt Whitman, and succeeding generations of receptive Americans, who absorbed India's "science of consciousness" and wove it into the fabric of their lives. Charismatic teachers like Swami Vivekananda and Paramahansa Yogananda came west in waves, prompting leading intellectuals, artists, and scientists such as Aldous Huxley, Joseph Campbell, Allen Ginsberg, J. D. Salinger, John Coltrane, Dean Ornish, and Richard Alpert, aka Ram Dass, to adapt and disseminate what they learned from them. The impact has been enormous, enlarging our current understanding of the mind and body and dramatically changing how we view ourselves and our place in the cosmos. Goldberg paints a compelling picture of this remarkable East-to-West transmission, showing how it accelerated through the decades and eventually moved from the counterculture into our laboratories, libraries, and living rooms. Now physicians and therapists routinely recommend meditation, words like karma and mantra are part of our everyday vocabulary, and Yoga studios are as ubiquitous as Starbucks. The insights of India's sages permeate so much of what we think, believe, and do that they have redefined the meaning of life for millions of Americans—and continue to do so every day. Rich in detail and expansive in scope, *American Veda* shows how we have come to accept and live by the central teaching of Vedic wisdom: "Truth is one, the wise call it by many names."

Hinduism - Sue Penney 2008

Provides an introduction to Hinduism, covering the main tenets of its doctrine, its gods and goddesses, rituals of worships, temples, and the ways in which family occasions are celebrated.

The Everything Hinduism Book - Kenneth Schouler 2009-01-17

Yoga. Karma. Reincarnation. Most Americans are familiar with a few basic ideas of Hinduism, but are unfamiliar with the big picture. This beginner's guide covers the major Hindu thinkers and their philosophies as well as the dharma, the moral way of life that Hindus practice. In a straightforward style, the authors explain the philosophy, gods, texts, and traditions of the world's third-largest religion, including: the power of karma; Yoga as a path to God; the authority of the Vedas; the development of Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism; the legacy of Mohandas Gandhi; Hinduism in popular culture; and more. This guide is stimulating reading for westerners who want to learn the basics of this ancient and mystic religion.

Contemporary Hinduism - P. Pratap Kumar 2014-09-11

Most overviews of Hindu belief and practice follow a history from the ancient Vedas to today. Such approaches privilege Brahmanical traditions and create a sense of Hinduism as a homogenous system and culture, and one which is largely unchanging and based solely on sacred texts. In reality, modern Hindu faith and culture present an extraordinary range of dynamic beliefs and practices. 'Contemporary Hinduism' aims to capture the full breadth of the Hindu worldview as practised today, both in the sub-continent and the diaspora. Global and regional faith, ritualised and everyday practice, Brahmanical and non-Brahmanical belief, and ascetic and devotional traditions are all discussed. Throughout, the discussion is illustrated with detailed case material and images, whilst key terms are highlighted and explained in a glossary. 'Contemporary Hinduism' presents students with a lively and engaging survey of Hinduism, offering an introduction to the oldest and one of the most complex of world religions.

A History of Hinduism - R. Ramachandran (retd) 2018-03-19

A novel approach to Indian history of Hinduism, which in turn is told as the story of Brahmanas over three millennia

Religions of the World - Charles River Charles River Editors 2018-01-19

*Explains the history and origins of Hinduism. *Discusses important figures and teachings among different Hindu sects. *Includes pictures. *Includes Book 1 of the Hymns of the Sama Veda A lot of ink has been spilled covering the lives of history's most influential figures, but how much of the forest is lost for the trees? Throughout time, people have been religious by nature, and billions today adhere to unique faiths across the world. In Charles River Editors' *Religions of the World*, readers can get caught up to speed on today's religions and yesterday's religions in the time it takes to finish a commute, while learning interesting facts long forgotten or never known. In the West, Hinduism is a religion that everyone has heard of but one that few non-practitioners truly understand. Today it is widely regarded as one of the world's great religions and considered the indigenous religion of India, with practices and beliefs stretching back thousands of years. However, many of these so-called facts are actually erroneous. Hinduism as it is conceived of today is a conglomerate of a number of indigenous Indian religions; in

fact, prior to the migration of Islam and the corporate invasion of the British, Hinduism may not have existed at all. Rather, a number of local religious traditions had very old belief systems dating back hundreds or thousands of years, depending on the tradition, and many worshiped gods that are no longer worshiped today. In essence, it was only through the non-indigenous populations in India, namely the Turks and later the British, who defined what Hinduism was. The British in particular asked only a certain subset of native informants from Bengal "what their religion was" and got a very particular answer, giving rise to the West's perception of a singular religious Indian tradition known as Hinduism. If the British had not centered their investments in Calcutta, they may have asked a different group of Indians what their religion was and received a different answer, thus changing the popular conception of Hinduism altogether. In other words, Hinduism is as much defined by the non-native "Other" as it is by the so-called native. Hinduism as a religion spans more than 3,000 years, and today it includes nearly 1 billion people. At the same time, it is not a specific term, since there are clear sectarian boundaries, the same way there are differences between Protestantism and Catholicism, and even differences between the various Protestant sects and the various Catholic sects, Hinduism may be broken down into many major sub-groupings that may or may not have much in common at all. Additionally, in the same way Christianity contains many smaller, spirituality heterodox groups like Gnostic Christianity (which are sometimes called cults), Hinduism also contains many groups that have beliefs that do not fit easily within the common corpus of Hindu belief systems. All of these divisions came well after the time of the Aryans, and Hinduism likely began to divide around the 1st century A.D., about 1,000 years after the arrival of the Aryans into the Indian subcontinent. *Religions of the World: The History of Hinduism* examines the history and main tenets of Hinduism, explaining the way the religion has evolved over time, the similarities it shares with other religions and the differences that make it unique. Along the way, it clears up some of the common misconceptions about the religion, and it includes pictures of important figures and places that will help you learn about Hinduism like you never have before, in no time at all.

The Position of Women in Hindu Civilization - A.S. Altekar 2016-01-01

There are some monographs that deal with the position of Hindu women in particular periods of Indian history, but no work has as yet been written which reviews their position throughout the long history of Hindu civilisation. An attempt has been made in this book to describe the position of women in Hindu civilisation from prehistoric times to the present day, and to indicate the general lines on which the various problems that confront Hindu women (and therefore men also) should be tackled in order to get a fairly satisfactory solution. The opening chapter deals with the problems relating to the childhood and education of women. Then follow two chapters (II and III), which deal with the numerous complex problems connected with marriage and married life. In the next two chapters (IV and V), the position of the widow in society has been considered. The place of women in public life and religion has been dealt with in chapters VI and VII. In chapters VIII and IX various questions connected with proprietary rights have been discussed. Fashions of dress, ornaments and coiffure are described in chapter X and illustrated with eight plates. Chapter XI deals with the general attitude of society towards women, both in normal and abnormal times and situations. *The Position of Women in Hindu Civilization* will enable the reader to understand the subject from a true perspective, as it is based upon a critical and impartial survey of all the available data. The work not only surveys the position of Hindu women during the last four thousand years but also indicates the general lines on which the present-day problems confronting them should be solved. The treatment is quite impartial; the limitations of the Hindu Civilization have not been passed over nor its excellences exaggerated, nor vice versa. The subject has never been treated with such realism, accuracy, impartiality and comprehensiveness. The general reader will find the book absorbingly interesting. The scholar will find it original and illuminating. The student of sociology will find it stimulating and indispensable.

Hinduism - Margaret Stutley 1985

Special Times: Hinduism - Jane A.C. West 2009-07-10

A contemporary and diverse picture of the journey through life in each world religion.

The Experience of Hinduism - Maxine Berntsen 1988-01-01

This book presents multi-faceted images of religious experience in the Marathi-speaking region of India. In addition to Irawati Karve's classic, "On the Road," about her pilgrimage to Pandharpur, there are three

essays by Karve that appear in English for the first time. Here is possession by gods and ghosts, an actual sermon by an inspired saint in the traditional bhajan style, and an autobiographical account of the religious nationalism of the militant R.S.S. These are engaging, true-to-life accounts of the lives of individual Hindus. Essays and imaginative literature, a poem, and a short story interplay the ideas, concepts, personalities, practices, rituals, and deities of Hinduism in a surprisingly coherent manner.

Hinduism - David R. Kinsley 1993

Examines the Hindu religious tradition, surveying its history and central beliefs, women's religious experiences, Hindu social structure, and other topics

The Hindu Tradition - Ainslie T. Embree 2011-03-09

This book, compiled from basic Hindu writings, is an exploration of the essential meaning of the Hindu tradition, the way of thinking and acting that has dominated life in India for the last three thousand years. Selections from religious, literary and philosophic works are preceded by introductory material that summarizes historical developments and cultural movements. While much attention is given to religion, many selections deal with social life, political relationships, and the Indian attitude to human love and passion. The arrangement of the material suggests the growth and development of Indian life through the centuries, and makes clear that Indian culture has never been static, but rather has been characterized at all times by a remarkable vitality and creativity. The selections range in time from the Rig Veda, composed around 1000 B.C., to the writings of Radhakrishnan, formerly the President of India. They illustrate both the continuity of the Hindu tradition and its vitality, for Hinduism is probably more vibrant and alive at the present time than it has been for many centuries. The ideals and values, the unquestioned assumptions and the persistent doubts that are presented here from the literature of the past are the fundamental ingredients of the life of modern India.

The Sacred City of the Hindus - Matthew Atmore Sherring 1868

The History of Hindu India - Satguru Bodhinatha Veylanswami
2011-10-01

A book for kids, teenagers, parents and teachers, the history of today's Hindus, one-sixth of our human race, extends back beyond recorded history. In this book, we pick up the threads of Hindu practice evident in the Indus-Sarasvati civilization, which was the largest and in many ways the most advanced of the ancient civilizations. From there we trace the development of Hinduism through the early empires of India, a time of great advances in science, architecture, art and literature—during which Europe was experiencing the Middle Ages. Then came the years of trial by invasion, followed by colonization and finally, in the 20th century, independence from the British Crown. Throughout these periods of history, we highlight the people, philosophical ideas and religious practices that are key to the Hindu religion today. While the text is written for sixth grade social studies classes in US schools, it is also suitable for high school classes. It has even been used in college course work, due to its refreshingly accurate, terse but comprehensive presentation of the world's most ancient faith. Review: from amazon.com: 5.0 out of 5 stars Great reference book for travel to India..., October 23, 2011 By MilsP - See all my reviews This review is from: *The History of Hindu India (Hardcover)* I picked up this book (*History of Hindu India*) on a whim. I really enjoyed the photographs throughout the book; I would read further and further just to find out what the picture was depicting. The book is true to its title, the authors give us a much better understanding of the Hindu religion from its origins to present day and how the multitude of invaders left their mark on the religion. An aspect of this book that I found surprising and wonderful was the way the authors linked the history of the religious teachings with modern day "heroes" if you will, such as Martin Luther King and Gandhi. Overall I really enjoyed the book and I felt that it is a great reference book and would be very useful to anyone who may be considering a trip to India as well.