



Hinduism and Ecology: The Intersection of Earth, Sky, and Water (Religions of the World and Ecology)

From Center for the Study of World Religions

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Hinduism and Ecology: The Intersection of Earth, Sky, and Water (Religions of the World and Ecology) From Center for the Study of World Religions

This fourth volume in the series exploring religions and the environment investigates the role of the multifaceted Hindu tradition in the development of greater ecological awareness in India.

The twenty-two contributors ask how traditional concepts of nature in the classical texts might inspire or impede an eco-friendly attitude among modern Hindus, and they describe some grassroots approaches to environmental protection. They look to Gandhian principles of minimal consumption, self-reliance, simplicity, and sustainability. And they explore forests and sacred groves in text and tradition and review the political and religious controversies surrounding India's sacred river systems.

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Editorial Review

Review

This book opens with the startling statement that India boasts the world's largest environmental movement, involving over 950 nongovernmental organizations...The central issue is whether the mores and tenets of Hinduism are compatible with the protection of the environment. The writers examine epics and sacred texts, arts and rituals, and the thoughts of Gandhi for what they show about the human use of nature in India...The quality of writing and scholarship is high. The writers are aware of parallels with the ecological crisis in the West; thus the book should be valuable to those interested in the global crisis. These lucid explanations of Indian thought and customs will help the Westerner to better understand India.

--W. C. Buchanan (*Choice* 2001-04-01)

[This] book is a major contribution to an important and expanding academic area, and it will be much appreciated by university audiences.

--David Gosling (*Times Higher Education Supplement* 2002-05-17)

About the Author

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