

## Recent Books of Religion - February 2008

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Sanskrit Studies – Vol. 2, Samvat 2063-64 (CE 2006-07) / Edited by Wagish Shukla

New Delhi : D.K. Printworld (P) Ltd.,(in association with Special Centre for Sanskrit Studies Jawaharlal Nehru University), 2007  
xii, 307 p. ; 23 cm.  
Includes Index  
81-246-0433-9  
\$ 12.50

[This volume is collection of articles that throws light on various aspects of the Sanskrit tradition. The scholarly writings deal with schools of interpretation of the Vedas like the Niruktas and the Itihasas and evidences and arguments for a pre-Harappan date of composition for the Rgveda. They examine atomistic doctrines in Indian thought tradition, the charms and spells that constitute the Atharvaveda, the place of the Hindu women vis-à-vis ancient Indian society and traditions, and the philosophy and the aesthetics of rasa. Throughout they cite ancient Indian epics and mythologies, religious thoughts, literary works, philosophical traditions and scientific achievements to carry out a throughout and comprehensive study of the subject. There is an interesting articles on issues involved in comparative studies of philosophies of two different traditions, as of the East and the West.]

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A textbook of logic / Krishna Jain  
New Delhi : D.K. Printworld (P) Ltd., 2007  
xv, 348 p. ; 22 cm  
Includes Bibliography  
81-246-0426-6  
\$ 6.00

[The book attempts to present a clear perspective on Logic as a science of correct reasoning. In the introductory chapter the aim of Logic and the task of a Logician are elaborated. Other topics covered here are Terms, Propositions, Immediate Inference, Syllogism Boolean Equations, Venn Diagrams, Anti-Logism Theorem, Truth Functions, Truth Table, Deductive Method, Predicate Calculus, Scientific Inductions, Causation, Mill's Methods and informal Fallacies to mention a few. All the topics are explained with the help of diagrams and lucid examples.]

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Ways to truth : a view of Hindu tradition / Ananda Wood  
New Delhi : D.K. Printworld (P) Ltd., 2007  
x, 269 p. ; 23 cm.  
Includes Bibliography and Index  
81-246-0435-5 (HB)  
81-246-0439-8 (PB)  
\$ 14.00 (HB)  
\$ 8.00 (PB)

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La Victoire de la deesse Manasa : Traduction française du Manasa Vijaya, poème Bengali de Vipradasa (XVe) / France Bhattacharya  
Pondichery : Institut Français de Pondichery (Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient, France), c2007

xxxi, 468 p. ; 24 cm

Includes Bibliography

Collection Indologie: No.105

9782855396651

ISSN : 0073-8352

\$ 17.25

[By way of some surprising episodes that involve a multifarious range of characters, the Manasa Vijaya or Victory of Manasa (1495) portrays the cruel manner in which the Goddess of Serpents established a tradition of her worship in the world. This Bengali Poem, intended for singing and recitation, belongs to the literary genre of the mangalkavya. Alongside Vedic, epic and Puranic Myths, it borrows themes from the literature of Nath yogins, painting a large and vivid tableau of medieval Bengali society. This complete translation, the first into a European language, is accompanied by an introduction, notes, a bibliography and glossaries.]

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Tantric studies in memory of Helene Brunner = Melanges tantriques a la memoire d'Helene Brunner / Edited by Dominic Goodall & Andre Padoux

Pondicherry : Institut Français De Pondichery, & Ecole Française D'Extrême-Orient, France, 2007

582 p. ; 24 cm.

Includes Bibliography.

Collection Indologie : No. 106

9782855396668

ISSN : 0073-8352

\$ 25.00

[Theological and philosophical aspects of tantric literature are addressed in the contributions of Gerhard OBERHAMMER (emeritus Professor, Vienna), Francesco SFERRA (Professor, Università degli Studi di Napoli L'Orientale), and Raffaele TORELLA (Professor at << La Sapienza >>, Rome). Peter BISSCHOP (Lecturer, Edinburgh) and Marion RASTELLI (Austrian academy of sciences) throw light on connections between the tantric and puranic religious worlds. Diwakar ACHARYA (Lecturer, Kyoto) has uncovered and published primary source material about initiation in pre-tantric Saivism. Iconography and tantric ideas that underly it is the subject of the article of Pierry-Sylvain FILLIOZAT (Membre de l'Académie des Inscriptions & Belles-Lettres). Leslie C. ORR and Richard H. Davis (Professors of Religion at Concordia University and Bard College respectively) combine the evidence of inscription and and tantric literature to present what we know of the participants in South Indian temple festivals in medieval times. Tantric speculations about the alphabet, particularly its written form at the time of redaction of the scriptures of the Trika, is the focus of Somdev VASUDEVA (Editor, Clay Sanskrit Library). A scriptures of the Siddhanta, the 100-verse recension of the Kalottara, is edited for the first time by Dominic GOODALL (Head of the Pondicherry Centre of the EFEO). Judit TORZSOK (Lecturer, Charles-de-Gaulle University, Lille 3) examines explanations given in the tantras of the "meaning" of ritual.

The largest contribution of all, taking up a third of the book, is the magisterial survey of Kashmirian Saiva exegetical literature by Alexis SANDERSON (Spalding Professor of Eastern Religious and Ethics, All Souls, Oxford).]

Indian Languages and Texts Through the Ages : Essays of Hungarian Indologists in Honour of Prof. Csaba Tottossy / Edited by Csaba Tottossy  
New Delhi : Manohar Publishers and Distributors, c2007  
xxviii, 385 p. ; 22 cm.  
81-7304-749-9  
\$ 28.50

[Professor Csaba Tottossy is one of those scholars who played a crucial role in establishing Indological studies in Hungary. This volume of essays is offered as a token of respect and gratefulness by his former students. The wide range of subjects treated in the essays reflects Professor Tottossy's manifold interests in the field of comparative linguistics and Indology. The subjects dealt with in the volume included Indo-European linguistics, Indian philosophy and religions, classical Indian poetics and dramaturgy, mediaeval Hindi poetry and Urdu ghazal. Prefaced to the volume is a biographical sketch of Prof. Tottossy, as well as a complete list of his published works.]

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Siva Mahapurana: An Exhaustive Introduction, Sanskrit Text, English Translation with Photographs of Archaeological Evidence (In 3 Volumes) / Shanti Lal Nagar  
New Delhi : Parimal Publications, 2007  
2064p., Plates; Map; 25cm.  
8171102980  
\$ 83.50

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The Oxford India Hinduism Reader / Vasudha Dalmia (ed.) Heinrich Von Stietencron (ed.)  
New Delhi : Oxford University Press, 2007  
vi+397p., Notes; References; 23cm.  
0195684451  
\$ 18.00

[The essays in this collection seek to set up the genealogy of modern Hinduism. They trace key moments in the formation of Hindu traditions, in their relations as well as in major shifts in their configurations. The endeavour is not only to dismantle colonial and nationalist constructions, but also to seek viable models to reconstruct past traditions. The first section begins with an engagement with early medieval traditions and with the relationship of the Sanskritic to the non-Sanskritic, of the centripetal to the powerful centrifugal forces, which diversified and regionalized constantly. While connected to each other by a shared cultural context and numerous common features, the post-Vedic Indian religions insisted on sharply demarcated theological boundaries. They defined themselves each in terms of superior access to divine grace and salvation. The state of affairs was to change radically from the late eighteenth century on, when Hinduism came to be used as a collective term for the non-Muslim religious formations in the subcontinent. Colonial legislation, including the census, transformations in historiography as also the performative traditions contributed to the nationalization and unification of monolithic notions of Hinduism. The politicization of Hinduism in contemporary times forms the concern of the last section. It discusses the creation of the other and analyses gendered aspects in the formation of modern Hindu political discourse. Vasudha Dalmia in a comprehensive introduction locates these essays as part of an engagement in understanding the processes moulding modern Hinduism. With its contemporary relevance and broad range of perspectives, the volume will attract a wide readership including students and scholars of anthropology, history, philosophy, politics, religion, sociology, and the interested general reader.]

The Prajna-Sutra: Aphorisms of Intuition / Subhash Kak  
New Delhi : D K Printworld Pvt. Ltd., 2007  
xi+82p., Index; 22cm.  
812460410X  
\$ 4.50

[The Prajna Sutra presents a bridge between the cosmologies of Vedic knowledge and modern science. The ideas are presented as 18 sutras on the nature of reality, language, art, mind, transformation, and freedom on which explanatory commentaries are provided. The sutras tie together common symbols of the Vedic tradition and their deeper intuitions using contemporary vocabulary. The synthesis presented in the sutras is wide-ranging and it not only deals with abstract ideas but also with question of meaning, aesthetics, love, war, and suffering. Although some consider only linguistic problems to be worthy of study, linguistic expressions ultimately are about things and they cannot properly address the mystery of consciousness. The sutras consider issues that go to the core of philosophy, namely the nature of reality and the relationship of the experiencing subject to it. They speak of the complementary domains of rationality and paradox that underlie ordinary experience. They explain how the mystery of consciousness relates not only to the individual's cognitive capacity to know but also his ability to transform both himself and his environment.]

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Garland of Visions: Darsanamala of Narayana Guru / Swami Muni Narayana Prasad  
New Delhi ; D K Printworld Pvt. Ltd., 2007  
x+326p., Figures; Glossary; Index; 24cm.  
812460391X  
\$ 12.50

[In his most important Sanskrit work Darsanamala, Narayana Guru adopts a hitherto uncharted method of viewing the non-dual Brahman from ten different philosophical vantage points and leaving the student-seeker to intuitively perceive on one's own the one ineffable Reality. The ancient Upanisadic wisdom is thus condensed and restated by the Guru in terms comprehensible to the mind-set of the Age of Science. How brahmavidya naturally becomes the Science of all sciences (Sarva-vidya-pratistha) is also implicit in the Guru's restatement of Vedantic wisdom. The present commentary explicates how a genuine seeker could make use of the text for the realization of Brahman as the Reality that constitutes the being of himself or herself, and how each of its ten chapters lay bare a particular facet of Brahman fully resonant with the frame of reference of the chapter concerned.]

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Ramayana Through the Ages: Rama-Gatha in Different Versions / Avadhesh Kumar Singh  
New Delhi : D K Printworld Pvt. Ltd., 2007  
x+374p., Index; 23cm.  
8124604169  
\$ 25.00

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Emergence of Hinduism and Human Face of God / Kalyanbrata Chakraborty  
Kolkata : Firma KLM Private Ltd., 2007  
xii+324p.  
8171021468  
\$ 16.00

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Yoga as Philosophy and Religion / Surendranath Dasgupta  
New Delhi : Motilal Banarsidass Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 2007

x+200p.  
Includes Index  
9788120802186  
\$ 7.00

[Yoga is the steadiness of the mind, with the annihilation of the mental states, into a particular type of graduated state leading to Self-realization. The earliest exponent of this system called Rajayoga, the highest of all yogas as distinguished from Hathayoga and Mantrayoga was Patanjali who wrote Aphorisms on Yoga in 150 B.C. The present treatise related to the system of Rajayoga as enunciated by Patanjali and explained by his commentators Vyasa, Vacaspati, Vijnanabhiksu and others. It deals with the foundation of the yoga practices-their philosophical, psychological, cosmological, ethical and religious doctrines. It compares the essential features of the yoga system with other systems of philosophical thought and establishes, in particular, its affinity to the system of Samkhya. The work consists of fifteen chapters divided into two parts bound in one volume. Part I deals with Yoga Metaphysics, delineating mainly the characteristics and functions of Prakriti and Purusa, the reality of the external world and the process of evolution. Part II expounds Yoga Ethics and Practice with emphasis on Yoga method, stages of samadhi and kindred topics. This study is documented with a preface giving an outline of the topic, an appendix on Sphota the relation of words with their ideas and things, and a general index.]

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An Investigation into the Nature of Consciousness and Form: Mechanistic and Non-mechanistic Science / Richard L. Thompson  
New Delhi : Motilal Banarsidass Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 2007  
254p.

Includes Bibliography and Index  
9788120819207  
\$ 14.00

[A Genuine system of spiritual knowledge should have all the characteristics of a scientific theory. It should provide a logically consistent description of reality, and it should entail procedures which can be used to verify important features of this description. The system should be in agreement with existing mechanistic theories insofar as they are valid, but it may be expected to clash with many elements of the modern scientific world view that rest on unsound speculation and extrapolation. Most importantly, the system should contain practical methods of obtaining absolute information about the ultimate meaning and purpose of life. In this book the author tries to make a positive contribution by describing such a system of spiritual knowledge. This means that he introduces a specific system of theory and practice that has been expressed in a particular cultural tradition. Since a practical science must exist in concrete form, it is not possible to avoid these details, Nonetheless, his concern is with general principles that are universally applicable. He demonstrates the possibility of a scientific system of spiritual knowledge by describing an actual example of such a system. The author does not pass judgement on other systems or become embroiled in any kind of sectarian controversy.]

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The Prajna-Sutra: Aphorisms of Intuition / Subhash Kak  
New Delhi : D K Printworld Pvt. Ltd., 2007  
xi+82p. ; 22cm.  
Includes Index  
812460410X  
\$ 4.50

[The Prajna Sutra presents a bridge between the cosmologies of Vedic knowledge and modern science. The ideas are presented as 18 sutras on the nature of reality, language, art, mind, transformation, and freedom on which explanatory commentaries are provided. The sutras tie together common symbols of the Vedic tradition and their deeper intuitions using contemporary vocabulary. The synthesis presented in the sutras is wide-ranging and it not only deals with abstract ideas but also with question of meaning, aesthetics, love, war, and suffering. Although some consider only linguistic problems to be worthy of study, linguistic expressions ultimately are about things and they cannot properly address the mystery of consciousness. The sutras consider issues that go to the core of philosophy, namely the nature of reality and the relationship of the experiencing subject to it. They speak of the complementary domains of rationality and paradox that underlie ordinary experience. They explain how the mystery of consciousness relates not only to the individual's cognitive capacity to know but also his ability to transform both himself and his environment.]

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A Concise Dictionary of Philosophy / K. Srinivas Vampaty Kutumba Sastry  
New Delhi : D K Printworld Pvt. Ltd., 2007  
xii+426p., 24cm.  
8124604002  
\$ 20.50

[This dictionary serves as an immediate reference book to the teachers and the students of philosophy and also to the general readers. It covers as many as seventeen hundred entries that include the most commonly used philosophical terms of the East and the West and the brief biographies of prominent philosophers of the Orient as well as the Occident.]

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Wittgensteinian Philosophy and Advaita Vedanta: A Survey of the Parallel / Ravindra K.S. Choudhary  
New Delhi : D K Printworld Pvt. Ltd., 2007  
xxi+262p. ; 24cm.  
Includes Bibliography and Index.  
8124604193  
\$ 20.00

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Patient-Physician Relationship / Edited by Ratna Dutta Sharma (et all)  
New Delhi : Decent Books, 2007  
xiii+257p. ; 24cm.  
Includes Index  
8186921419  
\$ 17.00

[The papers presented at a workshop on "patient-physician relationship," organized by Department of Philosophy, Jadavpur University, have thinkers from various disciplines like religion, philosophy and law discussing a range of issues involved in patient-physician understanding. The concept is viewed in the modern context as well as keeping the indigenous thought tradition in mind. The papers examine the nature and limits of the patient-physician relationship, issues relating to medical ethics, the working of consent and confidentiality, and the link between law and medicine. They look into the role of culture as a determining factor in the patient-physician relationship and the impact of religious beliefs and values on the relationship. They stress the need for a harmonious and balanced relation between the patient and the physician and importance of communication in patient-physician relationship. The experts specially throw light on feminist concerns about medical

practice, such as the need for treatment referring to gender-related differences, and examine the way individual characteristics of doctors and patients affect the way they related to each other. They emphasise on patients being educated and enlightened to be able to exercise their rights. The volume will prove interesting and informative to medical practitioners and researchers as well as general readers.]

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Sabda: A Study of Bhartrhari's Philosophy of Language / Tandra Patnaik  
New Delhi : D K Printworld Pvt. Ltd., 2007  
xvii+228p. ; 24cm.  
Includes Bibliography and Index  
8124604088  
\$ 15.00

[It is the first ever study of the fifth century scholar, Bhartrhari's Vakyapadiya in an altogether modern: the post-Fregean, perspective on the Philosophy of Language. A uniquely original thinker in India's splendid grammarians' tradition, Bhartrhari overreached the limits of language analysis set by his predecessors, like Panini and Patanjali, constructing, as he did, a brilliant philosophy of language that sought to spell out, among other aspects, the subtle distinctions between the 'knowable' and the 'sayable', between 'what is said' and 'what is meant', between the semantics of 'everyday speech' and 'literary discourse'. Sadly, Bhartrhari has, through the centuries, suffered neglect, largely because the Grammarian School never figured in the six major systems of traditional Indian philosophy. For the first time, this monograph tries to reinterpret Bhartrhari's position-"as a philosopher," emphasizing the high relevance of his Vakyapadiya to modern Western thought. A reputed scholar of grammar, philosophy and Sanskrit studies, the author presents Bhartrhari's analyses of language methodically, unbiasedly. And, significantly, in contemporary philosophical idiom-with contextual focus on the views of modern Western philosophers: Frege, Wittgenstein, Grice, Austin, Davidson, Searle, Strawson and the like. Also offered here is a lucid exposition of the Sphota Theory. Growing from Dr. Patnaik's a-decade-long research on Bhartrhari's philosophy, the volume highlights not only ancient Indian contribution to the study of language, but the interconnectedness among its indigenous approaches to linguistics, philosophy, logic, and aesthetics as well.]

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Classical Indian Philosophy Reinterpreted / Victoria Lysenko Michel Hulin  
New Delhi : Decent Books, 2007  
vii+155p. ; 23cm.  
Includes Index.  
8186921362  
\$ 10.50

[Classical Indian Philosophy Reinterpreted consists of articles written by Victoria Lysenko and Michel Hulin-two distinguished scholars of international repute-on some basic concepts of classical Indian Philosophy such as paramanu (atoms), samanya (universal), ahamkara (ego principle), and karma. These essays address important debates and issues that have arisen centering around Indian philosophical texts. In an essay an attempt has been made to resolve the apparent contradiction between the psychological and cosmic aspects of tattva in the scheme of the Samkhya dualism. One of the major contributions of this volume consists in situating Indian concepts from a comparative perspective as well. A comparative account of Aristotle's Means (Mesotes) and Buddha's Middle path (Majjihima Patipada) is illuminating. The notion of Christian reincarnation has also been compared and contrasted with the Indian concept of karma. The karmic principle has been interpreted as a mechanism for retribution and the link between karmic causality and

the role of Ayurveda, the classical Indian science of medicine, has been explored and analysed. These essays share a common perspective in looking at philosophy from within the cultural traditions in which it grows. This book will be useful to researchers, academicians and other interested persons. Even a reader who is not familiar with classical Indian philosophical texts can form some idea about the rigour and thoroughness of Indian philosophical approach.]

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The Philosophy of Vivekananda / Edited by Rekha Jhanji

New Delhi : Aryan Books International, 2007

8173053200

\$ 17.50

[This volume brings together sixteen essays written by philosophers and social scientists on different aspects of Swami Vivekananda's thoughts. Well researched and lucid in their style, the essays cover Swamiji's views on religion, society, ethics, nature of man, creativity, language and art. They also seek to contextualise his ideas within the broader framework of Indian philosophical systems. The essays reflect Vivekananda's emphasis on harmony between theoria and praxis. Since Swamiji saw no dichotomy between the sacred and the profane, his sources of philosophising did not lie merely in religion and religious doctrines, or rituals and modes of worship, but extended to fields as diverse as aesthetics, sociology, ethics, musicology, psychology, and science.]

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Samvidullasah: Manifestation of Divine Consciousness / Bettina Baumer Sarla Kumar

New Delhi : D K Printworld Pvt. Ltd., 2007

xiv+238p. ; 29cm.

Includes Index.

8124604142

\$ 32.50

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Philosophy of Numbers / Jayant Burde

New Delhi : Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 2007

xi+251p. ; 24cm.

Includes Bibliography and Index

8121511763

\$ 16.00

[This book is about numbers and so many questions relating to them. What is the nature of numbers? Are they discovered or invented? What is mystical about them? Mathematicians develop a hierarchy of numbers in which mysterious dichotomies appear. For example, the integer 5 is not the same as the rational 5 which in turn is different from the real 5. The author explains how this conceptual maze does not affect the layperson's arithmetic. He also discusses such fascinating topics as primes, perfect numbers, inaccessible numbers and many other unsolved problems relating to the treacherous terrain of infinity, which have baffled mathematicians and philosophers alike.]

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Beyond Bhakti: Steps Ahead.... / G. Rajagopal

New Delhi : B.R. Publishing Corporation, 2007

xviii+235p. ; 23cm.

Includes Bibliography and Index

8176465100

\$ 19.50

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[Much has been written on Tamil Bhakti Movement and on its literature by scholars with divergent agendas. However, the present work tries to highlight the aspects of 'beyond bhakti', i.e. other than the so-called Bhakti sentiments and practices. It attempts to study the unique bhakti sentiment of folk people with the first hand knowledge and information to highlight its specific nature To our interest, the book questions certain aspects of age old socio-cultural conventions of South India, documented in the siva bhakti literature and earnestly exposes its flaws by citing the relevant facts and figures. It also analyses the common features of the Virasaiva Saranas of Karnataka and Siddhas of Tamil nadu in general and Basavesvara and Ramalinga Swami in particular. It extensively reviews the myth of one peculiar Saiva Dalit Nayanar called Nandanar to understand the past as well as the present socio-cultural issues of Tamil Nadu.]

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Paksata: The Nature of the Inferential Locus / N.S. Dravid  
New Delhi : Indian Council of Philosophical Research, 2007  
xxxxi+174p. ; 24cm.  
8185636990  
\$ 9.50

[The topic of Paksata is a unique contribution of neo-Indian logicians to a psycho-epistemological analysis of the nature of the minor term in inference. Giving a technical twist to the commonly-accepted meaning of the term, Raghunatha Siromani, the greatest Indian logician, has construed this meaning in terms of the definition of what may broadly be called a psychological condition of inference. The simple commonsensical fact that a non-inferentially if it is so desired, is the basis of the definition. Various combinations of inferential desires and non-inferential cognitions resulting in or preventing the relevant inferences are considered in the discussion of the definition to arrive at a perfect fit of these factors in the definition. Many important issues connected with causality which bear upon the subject are also considered in the course of the discussion.]

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The Paradox of Being Human / Ramakant Sinari  
New Delhi : Indian Council of Philosophical Research, 2007  
xvii+254p. ; 23cm.  
Includes Index  
8185636974  
\$ 11.00

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Philosophy of Thought: Dialectics and Polylectics / Ratnamuthu Sugathan  
New Delhi : Shubhi Publications, 2007  
xii+344p. ; 23cm.  
Includes Bibliography and Index.  
8182900751  
\$ 22.00

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Nirvana in Candrakirti's Prasannapada / G.C. Nayak  
New Delhi : Indian Institute of Advanced Study, 2006  
107p. ; 23cm.  
Includes Bibliography and Index.  
8179860663  
\$ 6.50

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Musings of Philosophy: Perennial and Modern / Edited by Manjulika Ghosh  
New Delhi : Sundeep Prakashan, 2007

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xviii+463p. ; 23cm.

Includes Index.

8175741783

\$ 30.50

[The volume contains revised and edited papers presented at the 78th Session of the Indian Philosophy Congress held at Muzaffarpur, Bihar. They discuss perennial and modern philosophical problems. The volume is divided into five sections. The first section contains five papers on history of philosophy. The second section contains two papers on logic and scientific method. The third section, comprising 13 papers, focuses on metaphysics and epistemology. The fourth section also contains 13 papers which discuss various aspects of ethics and social philosophy. The last section has five papers which provide reflections on religion. The volume provides new perspectives on both perennial and modern philosophical issues.]

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Ethics and the History of Indian Philosophy / Shyam Ranganathan

New Delhi : Motilal Banarsidass, c2007

xviii, 402 p.

Includes Bibliography and Index.

81-208-3193-3

\$ 23.00

[Shyam Ranganathan presents a compelling, systematic explication of the moral philosophical content of history of Indian philosophy in Contrast to the received wisdom in Indology and comparative philosophy. His critical thesis is that the arguments for this received wisdom are based upon an inadequate grasp of the history of moral philosophy in the West, against which the Indian tradition is compared, and an unworkable methodology, which could not even show that Western philosophers were particularly interested in ethics or that "good" is a value term. His novel, positive thesis is that "dharma" in all of its uses in the classical Indian tradition is a thin moral term, which is employed by authors to articulate their particular philosophies on morality ethics. This book makes a case for the positive place of ethics in the history of Indian philosophy by drawing upon recent work in meta-ethics and meta-morality, and by providing a thorough analysis of the meaning of moral concepts and philosophy itself-in addition to explicating the texts of Indian authors. In Ranganathan's account, Indian philosophy shines with distinct options in ethics that find their likeness in the writing of the Ancients in the West, such as Plato and the Neo-Platonists, and not in the anthropocentric or positivistic options that have dominated the recent Western tradition.]

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Commingleing of two oceans : Majam -'Ul-Bahrain : A Discourse on Inter-religious Understanding / Prince Muhammad dara Shikoh

Gurgaon : Hope India Publications, c2006

187 p. ; 22 cm.

81-7871-083-X

\$ 9.00

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Beyond Bhakti: Steps Ahead.... / G. Rajagopal

New Delhi : B.R. Publishing Corporation, 2007

xviii+235p. ; 23cm.

Includes Bibliography and Index.

8176465100

\$ 19.50

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'beyond bhakti', i.e. other than the so-called Bhakti sentiments and practices. It attempts to study the unique bhakti sentiment of folk people with the first hand knowledge and information to highlight its specific nature To our interest, the book questions certain aspects of age old socio-cultural conventions of South India, documented in the siva bhakti literature and earnestly exposes its flaws by citing the relevant facts and figures. It also analyses the common features of the Virasaiva Saranas of Karnataka and Siddhas of Tamil nadu in general and Basavesvara and Ramalinga Swami in particular. It extensively reviews the myth of one peculiar Saiva Dalit Nayanar called Nandanar to understand the past as well as the present socio-cultural issues of Tamil Nadu.]

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Nirvana In Candrakirti's Prasannapada : A Study in the Madhyamika concept of Nirvana in the Context of Thought / G.C Nayak

Shimla : Indian Institute of Advanced Study Rashtrapati Nivas, 2006

107 p. ; 23 cm.

Includes Bibliography and Index.

81-7986-066-3

\$ 6.50

[The present work is an analytical philosophic enterprise dealing with a specific topic, viz. nirvana, in Chandrakirti's Prasannapada, which represents and is a standing testimony to the Buddhist critical philosophy par excellence. A unique revolution in the world of thought has been brought about by Acarya Chandrakirti, the great Prasangika Madhyamika thinker of 7th century C.E., through his theory of nirvana as sarva/nirvasesa Kalpanaksaya (cessation of essentialist thought-constructions/speculative picture-thinking) developed in his magnum opus, Prasannapada, thus giving the idea of nirvana a novel turn, viewing it from a fresh perspective.

The idea may have had its basis in Mula Madhyama Karika/Madhyamaka Sastra of Nagarjuna, the unique philosophical master-mind of the world of 2nd century C.E., and of course in the enlightenment of the Buddha, the credit goes to the author of this volume, however, for bringing to the fore the genius of Chandrakirti in working out the theoretical and practical implications of this idea by a rigorous analysis of the logic of essence (Svabhava) and allied concepts. A critical and comparative study of nirvana of Prasannapada with that of early Buddhism on the one hand and of nirvana with the concept of Vedantic moksa on the other as well as points of comparison and contrast brought out with such pioneers of Western thought as Aristotle and Wittgenstein are features of special interest in the volume, meant for promoting a greater clarity in understanding.

The Volume, primarily aiming at an understanding of the Buddhist concept of nirvana in its proper perspective, through eradication of certain earlier misconceptions, highlight for this purpose Chandrakirti's unique critical philosophy advocated and worked out so diligently in Prasannapada which is a significant milestone in the development of the Buddhist thought. It is expected to be of interest for all scholars of Indian thought. At the same time it is likely to prove itself to be of value for further intensive research in the field.]

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Consciousness, Society and Values / Edited by A.V.Afonoso

Shimla : Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Rashtrapati Nivas, 2006

ix, 304 p. ; 22 cm.

81-7986-059-0

\$ 12.00

[Reflection on consciousness, society and values may take the individual through myriad of theoretical considerations, ranging from purely speculative to the concrete

and substantially observable. Such reflections are justified from purely phenomenological perspective and/or from empiricistic and quasi scientific standpoint, Whether consciousness as a property of matter, as a property of protoplasm, as learning, as metaphysical presupposition, as emergent evolution, as property of behaviour or even as a metaphor, it keeps finding place in philosophical and non-philosophical discussions.

The present volume, the result of a seminar on "Consciousness, Society and Values" is a representation (of almost a fractal kind) that is available in the larger debate on the theme. The discussions of consciousness do not immediately bring the normative dimension, it does surface at the societal level, namely as society having norms. But a full and detailed discussion of the normative aspect of consciousness is possible in juxtaposing consciousness and values. This volume attempts to bring to the forefront the normative and interdisciplinary domains of consciousness.

The volume present papers that deal the consciousness as manifested in the conscious experience, brain-Independent or otherwise and methodologically, the contribution represent both the analytic and phenomenological approach on the one hand, and an attempt to go beyond the "exclusive" approaches on the other. Scholarly contributions that deal with consciousness as embodied in one's introspection and reflected in social and moral values, constitute the next set of papers. Studies that reflect on consciousness as expressed in collective consciousness as well as resonated in the communities and specific groups, find a substantial space in the volume. Studies of moral values reflected both in the philosophical and scientific consciousness of mankind, both from the Indian as well as western perspective, constitute, constitute the last set of papers of the present volume.]

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Samvidullasah: Manifestation of Divine Consciousness / Bettina Baumer Sarla Kumar

New Delhi : D K Printworld Pvt. Ltd., 2007

xiv+238p., Plates; Appendix; Glossary; Index; 29cm.

8124604142

\$ 37.50

[Swami Lakshman Joo Raina, also called Lakshman Brahmacharin and Ishvara Svarupa (1907-1991) was one of the greatest saints of 20th century India, who was at the same time an extraordinary scholar who relived and revived the almost forgotten tradition of Kashmir Shaivism. His high spiritual state was matched by his profound knowledge of the Shaiva scriptures and of the great thinkers and commentators of the tradition - Abhinavagupta, Kshemaraja and others. Swami Lakshman Joo lived a secluded life in his ashram in Kashmir, but he taught the texts of Kashmir Shaivism to Pandits and scholars from different countries, besides giving spiritual guidance to a number of seekers and disciples. On the occasion of his Birth Centenary, a volume in his memory is being brought out containing articles by scholar-disciples, devotees and relatives which throw light on the extraordinary life of this saint and on his contribution to reviving and continuing the tradition of Kashmir Shaivism. Articles on his life by his close disciple Prabha Devi and his scholar-disciples Jaideva Singh and Jankinath Kaul 'Kamal', an exhaustive article on his place in the Kashmirian Shaiva tradition by Professor Alexis Sanderson of Oxford, to mention only a few, provide an insight into his saintly personality and his great qualities as a teacher. Even scholars and seekers who have never met him and have been deeply influenced by his spiritual presence have contributed an account of their experience. The volume is richly illustrated by historical photographs which provide a visual testimony of the life of Swami Lakshman Joo. A list of his published works is an important complement.]

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History and Heritage: In Honour of Prof. Kiran Kumar Thaplyal (In 3 Volumes) / R.S. Bisht (Ed.) S.P. Shukla (ed.) M.P. Joshi (ed.) Prashant Srivastava (ed.)

New Delhi : Agam Kala Prakashan, 2007

lvi+765p., Tables; Figures; Plates; References; 29cm.

817320067X

\$ 187.50

[As a humble tribute to their esteemed teacher and a great human being, Prof. Kiran Kumar Thaplyal, this book, History and Heritage, is brought out by his proud students as a guru-dakshina. All his students of successive generations have always held him high in great admiration, respect and love for his erudition, for his self-effacing nature and for his ever-charged enthusiasm that he has shown ungrudgingly whenever someone sought his help, guidance, interaction, or exchange of ideas. Truly, Prof. Thaplyal is born for Indology and Indology, in turn, benefited itself indeed from his contributions. It became obvious by the prompt and overwhelming response that we received from a wide spectrum of scholars whom we approached for their learned research contribution. At the same time, we confess that the publication of this volume has got inordinately delayed for various reasons, of which, some were beyond our control and some were due to our own frailties and foibles. It may be appreciated that articles when written on diverse themes of diverse periods or on general subjects covering a larger time period by different scholars, as in this felicitation work, are difficult to be arranged chronologically or thematically. However, an effort has been made to the best of our abilities, knowing fully well that much could have been done to make it better.]

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Sanatana Scriptures in Chronology / Binod Man Rajbhandari

Kathmandu : Geeta Rajbhandari, 2006

256 p. ; 22 cm.

99946-958-2-7

\$ 10.00

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Nirvana in Candrakirti's Prasannapada : A Study in the Madhyamika Concept of Nirvana in the context of Indian Thought / G.C. Nayak

Shimla : Indian Institute of Advanced Study, c2006

107 p.; 22 cm.

Includes Bibliography and Index

81-7986-066-3

\$ 5.00

[The volume, primarily aiming at an understanding of the Buddhist concept of nirvana in its proper perspective, through eradication of certain earlier misconceptions, highlights for this purpose Candrakirti's unique critical philosophy advocated and worked out so diligently in Prasannapada which is a significant milestone in the development of Buddhist thought. It is expected to be of interest for all scholars of Indian thought. At the same time it is likely to prove itself to be of value for further intensive research in the field.]

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Consciousness, Society and Values / Edited by A.V. Afonso

Shimla : Indian Institute of Advanced Study, c2006

ix, 304 p.; 23 cm.

81-7986-059-0

\$ 9.50

[The volume presents papers that deal with consciousness as manifested in the conscious experience, brain-independent or otherwise methodologically, the contributions represent both the analytic and phenomenological approach on the one hand, and an attempt to go beyond the "exclusive" approaches on the other. Scholarly contributions that deal with consciousness as embodied in one's introspection and reflected in social and moral values, constitute the next set of papers. Studies that reflect on consciousness as well as resonated in the communities and specific groups, find a substantial space in the volume. Studies of moral values reflected both in the philosophical and scientific consciousness of mankind, both from the Indian as well as western perspective, constitute the last set of papers of the present volume.]

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Ganitavali / Compiled by Bibhuti Bhushan Bhattacharya  
Kolkata : The Asiatic Society, 2005  
v. ; 21 cm.  
Bibliotheca Indica Series No. 327  
\$ 10.00

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Art and Religion of the Bhairavas : Illumined by Two Rare Sanskrit Texts Sarva-Siddhanta-viveka and Jnana-siddhi / Dr. R. Nagaswamy  
Chennai : Tamil Arts Academy, 2006  
v. ; 27 cm.  
Includes Bibliography and Index.  
\$ 70.00

[A Pathbreaking new approach to the study of Indian Art and Religion, this work bases its analysis on two rare Sanskrit texts, Sarava-siddhanata-viveka, (Critical understanding of all religious systems) and Jnana-siddhi (Achievement of Knowledge), through which the meaning and identification of some of the immortal sculptures of India like Elephanta Trimurti are discussed. After introducing as many as thirty various Schools of Saivism and "Sakta-Vama tantras", the date authorship of the Sanskrit texts are detailed.

The Jnana-siddhi is an unknown Sakta-tantra while the other text is a 11th cent one giving extraordinary insight into various Saiva systems. No other text so far known gives such detailed information on Bhairava, Kapalika, Kalamukha, Soma, and other schools of Saivism as this one. Both the texts are given in original. The Savacchanda Bhairava tantra is cited extensively that gives a clear picture of Vama-Sakta ideology and Bhairava school of thought.

It is seen that Madhya Pradesh (Central India) and other regions including Kashmir leaned very heavily on Bhairava worship and so their temples and sculptures are studied from that angle. The study also reinterprets and corrects many doubtful identifications of Tantric and other sculptures displayed in great museums of the world like USA, UK, Germany, France and other Western countries, and also in Indian museums. All the revisions are based on texts and inscriptions. The art and history of the ancient city of Ujjaini, which seemed to have played a leading role in Bhairava Saivism is lucidly explained.]

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Essays on Vedanta / Edited by Dr. D. Nesy  
Kerala : Department of Philosophy University of Kerala, 2006  
164 p. ; 23 cm.  
\$ 20.00

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Sramanism in Early Indian Religions and Religious Life / S.R. Goyal  
Jodhpur : Kusumanjali Book World, c2007

xiv, 186 p.; 22 cm.

Includes Bibliography and Index.

\$ 17.50

[The present monograph seeks to study the emergence and early growth of the Sramanism in India's religions and religious life. Its author Professor S.R. Goyal is a well-known scholar of ancient Indian religious history. His present work is divided into ten chapters in which the history of Sramanism and its role in ancient Indian religions and religious life has been delineated in detail. The first chapter of the monograph discusses the main features of Sramanism while the next four chapters deal with the various aspects of early Sramanism with special reference to the place of Sramanic ideas in the Vedic society. The next two that is the sixth and seventh chapters deal respectively with the lives and thought of the first twenty-three Jaina Tirthankaras and Sramana Mahavira. The two chapters following them are devoted to the life and thought of Sramana Gautama, the founder of Buddhism. The last, that is the tenth chapter discusses the data found in the early Dharmasastras, including the Manusmṛti, the Indica of Megasthenes, the Arthashastra of Kautilya and the inscriptions of Asoka on the Sramanas of the Maurya period. Thus the present monograph seeks to provide a comprehensive picture of Sramanism and Sramana religious of India upto c.300 B.C.]

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Rajamahendri Ramayana Paintings / Nayanabhiramanuselana Sistla Srinivas

Visakhapatnam : Drusya Kala Deepika, 2005

xxvii, 200 p. : ill. ; 26 cm.

\$ 20.00

[Rajamahendri Ramayana Paintings presents, for the first time, all the 53 paintings on the Ramayana along with the corresponding Telugu text translated into English by Sistla Srinivas.]

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Vedic bibliography / Louis Renou

New Delhi : Akshaya Prakashan, 2007

vii, 339 p. ; 22 cm.

978-81-88643-22-6

\$ 28.50

[The vedic tradition of the Samhitas enshrines the most ancient millenarian concepts, forms, doctrines and images of the living and the divine of the Indian people in particular, and of the entire Western Indo-European thought and creativity through the common roots of linguistic expression. Vedic studies carried out by Western scholarship in the 19<sup>th</sup> century thus acquire a historic importance in our century when biospheres of our inheritance are being threatened by the technospheres of our creation.]

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The mystery of the Mahabharata – 5 volumes / N.V. Thandani

New Delhi : Bharatiya Kala Prakashan, 2007

1600 p. : ill.

Includes Index

81-8090-131-9

\$ 125.00

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Srivacanabhusanam of Pillai Lokacarya: Translation and Commentary of Manavalamamuni; Critical Evaluation of the Theo-Philosophy of the Post-Ramanuja Srivaisnavism / J. Rangaswami

New Delhi : Sharada Publishing House,

xviii, 792 p. ; 25 cm

81-88934-40-2

\$ 50.00

[Srivacanabhusanam, the magnum opus with its authentic commentary exhaustively elucidates the intrinsic means and teachings of the three Rahasya Mantras of Tirumantra. Dvaya Mantra and Caramasioka. The Book explicitly condenses the metaphysical and theological doctrines of the Alvars; dialectical views of Vedantic order; devotional attitudes of Itihasa puranas; and the socio-cultural and linguistic textures of indigenous literature of the Tamil Country.]

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Sanskrit inscriptions of Tamilnadu : a literary study (500 AD-1310 AD) / Charu Madhavan

New Delhi : Sharada Publishing House, 2007

81-88934-44-5

\$ 10.00

[This book highlights the literary beauty contained in the Sanskrit epigraphs of Tamil Nadu belonging to the Pallava, Pandya and Chuola times (upto c. 1310 A.D). It offers a fascinating and detailed study of the numerous metres, similes, rhetoric and poetical style employed by the composers of these epigraphs. The way in which the Ramayana of Valmik and the numerous works of Kalidasa, especially the Raghuvamsa (have influenced the style of the poets of ancient Tamil Nadu is also clearly seen here. This book is indeed a distinct and valuable contribution to the field of epigraphy as well as Sanskrit studies.]

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Sankalpasuryodaya : a literary analysis / R. Laxmi

New Delhi : Sharada Publications, 2007

81-88934-48-8

\$ 22.50

[The present research work "The Sankalpasuryodaya- A literary Analysis" highlights the basic concepts of Ethics and philosophy of the Visistadvaita School of thought of Ramanuja. The Sankalpasuryodaya an Allegorical drama is composed by Vedanta Desika (1268-1369 AD) a great exponent in the history of the field of Visistadvaita School. "The chapters on Rasa and Alankaras are especially very illuminating and exhaustive. A lot of accessory materials are contained in the early chapters, introducing the play in its proper philosophical, poetic and dramatic perspective.]