

In This Issue Iskcon Durban

Life's Final Exam is an inclusive treatment for one's last days of life that gives readers the resources to face death squarely and deal successfully with that often fearful and painful but also saving moment. Down-to-earth and practical as well as scriptural, both fresh and mature, it draws us in with superb narratives and also answers tough questions about death and dying.

Hinduism in the Modern World presents a new and unprecedented attempt to survey the nature, range, and significance of modern and contemporary Hinduism in South Asia and the global diaspora. Organized to reflect the direction of recent scholarly research, this volume breaks with earlier texts on this subject by seeking to overcome a misleading dichotomy between an elite, intellectualist "modern" Hinduism and the rest of what has so often been misleadingly termed "traditional" or "popular" Hinduism. Without neglecting the significance of modern reformist visions of Hinduism, this book reconceptualizes the meaning of "modern Hinduism" both by expanding its content and by situating its expression within a larger framework of history, ethnography, and contemporary critical theory. This volume equips undergraduate readers with the tools necessary to appreciate the richness and diversity of Hinduism as it has developed during the past two centuries.

Eleven Lessons in the Ancient Science of Bhakti-yoga Across five centuries and half the globe comes this compact guidebook of essential spiritual teachings. How to choose a guru, how to practice yoga, even where to live — you'll find it all in this invaluable work originally written in Sanskrit by Srila Rupa Gosvami, the greatest spiritual genius of medieval India. Now translated and illuminated by Rupa Gosvami's modern successor, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, the Nectar of Instruction is the key to enlightenment for all seekers on the path of spiritual perfection.

The quality of our consciousness can go up or down based on how we see the world and act in it. When we act like the eternal spiritual beings that we are — small parts of a supreme whole — makes us happy. But if we focus our attempts at happiness on the temporary body and mind — on matter — and make those our life's priority, our consciousness will shrink and we'll be miserable. Spiritual elevation — raising our consciousness to higher levels — happens quickly when we revive our God consciousness. In this compact book, Srila Prabhupada recommends seeing the world as it is — a temporary place full of anxiety — and then taking the road to higher consciousness by rediscovering our relationship with the Supreme Person, Krishna. Anyone can become elevated; the journey begins with a single step up.

The end of apartheid in 1994 signaled a moment of freedom and a promise of a nonracial future. With this promise came an injunction: define yourself as you truly are, as an individual, and as a community. Almost two decades later it is clear that it was less the prospect of that future than the habits and horizons of anxious life in racially defined enclaves that determined postapartheid freedom. In this book, Thomas Blom Hansen offers an in-depth analysis of the uncertainties, dreams, and anxieties that have accompanied postapartheid freedoms in Chatsworth, a formerly Indian township in Durban. Exploring five decades of township life, Hansen tells the stories of ordinary Indians whose lives were racialized and framed by the township, and how these residents domesticated and inhabited this urban space and its institutions, during apartheid and after. Hansen demonstrates the complex and ambivalent nature of ordinary township life. While the ideology of apartheid was widely rejected, its practical institutions, from urban planning to houses, schools, and religious spaces, were embraced in order to remake the community. Hansen describes how the racial segmentation of South African society still informs daily life, notions of race, personhood, morality, and religious ethics. He also demonstrates the force of global religious imaginings that promise a universal and inclusive community amid uncertain lives and futures in the postapartheid nation-state.

The Chaitanya Vaishnava tradition is famous for its depth of devotion to Krishna, the blue-hued Deity. Chaitanya Vaishnavas are known for having refined the practice and aesthetics of devotion into a sophisticated science. This imposing devotional edifice was constructed upon a solid foundation of philosophical argument and understanding. In this book, Ravi Gupta sheds new light on the contribution of Chaitanya Vaishnavism to the realm of Indian philosophy. He explores the hermeneutical tools employed, the historical resources harnessed, the structure of the arguments made, and the relative success of the endeavor. For most schools of Vaishnavism, the supporting foundation consists of the philosophical resources provided by Vedanta. The Chaitanya tradition is remarkable in its ability to engage in Vedantic discourse and at the same time practice an ecstatic form of devotion to Krishna. The prime architect of this balance was the scholar-devotee Jiva Gosvami (ca. 1517 - 1608). This book analyses Jiva Gosvami's writing concerning the philosophy of the Vedanta tradition. It concludes that Jiva's writing crosses 'disciplinary boundaries', for he brought into dialogue four powerful streams of classical Hinduism: the various systems of Vedanta, the ecstatic bhakti movements, the Puranic commentarial tradition, and the aesthetic rasa theory of Sanskrit poetics. With training in and commitments to all of these traditions, Jiva Gosvami produced a distinctly Chaitanya Vaishnava system of theology.

Widely read, The Bhagavad Gita is a classic of world spirituality while The essential companion to The Bhagavad Gita, The Uddhava Gita has remained overlooked. This new accessible and only English translation in print of The Uddhava Gita offers a previously unexplored path to understanding Hinduism and Krishna's wisdom. Written centuries apart, the ideas of the two dialogues are similar although their approach and contexts differ. The Bhagavad Gita is filled with the urgency of battle while The Uddhava Gita takes place on the eve of Krishna's departure from the world. The Uddhava Gita offers the reader philosophy, sublime poetry, practical guidance, and, ultimately, hope for a more complete consciousness in which the life of the body better reflects the life of the spirit.

A detailed case study of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) in Britain. The book studies the particular development of a new religious movement within the context of Britain, and issues relating to minority religions' place within a multicultural but still hegemonically Christian society.

This collection of articles by Srila Prabhupada from Back to Godhead magazine covers knowledge of the soul and the practice of bhakti-yoga. These interviews, lectures, and essays cover topics such as the goal of human life, seeking a true spiritual teacher, reincarnation, super-consciousness, Krishna and Christ, and spiritual solutions to today's social and economic problems.

I have come to understand, that even though one may be born into a Krishna Consciousness family or home, or even if a person has realized the Absolute Truth at death, Lord Krishna, reveals his potency into your soul and you need not a life time but a moment of deep surrender in devotion , and that is when Lord Krishna , is ready to walk with you in Bhakti Yoga. Lord Krishna says “ a devotee is a person who always thinks of me.”

Religious procession is a significant dimension of religion in South Asia. Processions are central not only in Hinduism, but also Islam, Christianity, Jainism and Sikhism, which have large procession rituals. The last years have seen an increase in processions and ritualizations of space both in South Asia and in the South Asian Diaspora. Processions are religious display events and the increase in processions are functions of religious pluralism and competition about public space as well as economic prosperity and a revival of religious identities. Processions often bring together religion and politics since they are about public space, domination and contestation. Written by leading specialists on religious processions

and ritualization of public space in South Asia and in the Diaspora, this volume presents current research on the interpretations of the role of processions, the recent increase in processions and changes in the procession traditions. South Asian Religions on Display will appeal to students and scholars of Asian studies, anthropology, religion and political science.

Through the long 20th century, Indian South Africans lived under the whip of settler colonialism and white minority rule, which saw the passing of a slew of legislation that circumscribed their freedom of movement, threatened repatriation, and denied them citizenship, all the while herding them into racially segregated townships. This volume chronicles the broad outlines of this history. Taking the story into the present, it provides an analysis of how Indian South Africans have responded to changes wrought by the remarkable collapse of apartheid and the holding of the first democratic elections in 1994. Drawing upon archival records, in-depth interviews, and ethnography, this study examines the ways in which Indian South Africans define themselves and the world around them, and how they are defined by others. It tells of the incredible journey of Indian South Africans, many of whom are fourth and fifth generation, towards being recognized as citizens in the land of their birth and how, while often attracted by and seeking to explore their roots in India, they continue to dig deeper roots in African soil.

Describes the features of Hinduism in one of the world's largest Hindu communities outside India - South Africa. This book examines the beliefs and practices common to all Hindus, and those aspects which distinguish the main groups. It also looks at the teachings and doctrines, and aims to provide an understanding of the practice of the religion.

VEDA explores the secrets of spirituality found in the ancient writings of the East. Probing into topics such as the soul, karma, reincarnation, and meditation, this book will help awaken within you the spiritual insights great teachers have spoken of for thousands of years. What lies beyond death, and what would you do if you had only a few days left to live? Despite an abundance of comforts and conveniences, why do many still feel dissatisfied, empty, and lacking in purpose? Are day-to-day occurrences predestined, or is life an interplay of fate and free will? In this book, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada and his followers address the most crucial questions of our existence.

The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to African Religions brings together a team of international scholars to create a single-volume resource on the religious beliefs and practices of the peoples in Africa. Offers broad coverage of issues relating to African religions, considering experiences in indigenous, Christian, and Islamic traditions across the continent

Contributors are from a variety of fields, ensuring the volume offers multidisciplinary perspectives Explores methodological approaches to religion from anthropological, philosophical, and historical perspectives Provides insights into the historical developments in African religions, as well as contemporary issues such as the development of African-initiated churches, neo traditional religions, and Pentecostalism Discusses important topics at the intersection of culture and religion in Africa, including the arts, health, politics, globalization, gender relations, and the economy

In his book, Watering the Seed, Giriraj Swami shares his realizations with honesty, wisdom, and humility. He recounts how Lord Krishna's beloved gardener, Srila Prabhupada, took such great care to water the seed of devotion within his heart. You will be transported into Prabhupada's association during some of the most historic moments of Iskcon's development. You will be given entrance into his private quarters to witness his gentle fatherly love toward his young and sometimes perplexed spiritual child. Prabhupada's innocent childlike humor will bring joy to your heart. Prabhupada's compassion for the conditioned souls overcomes all opposition with unrelenting determination and faith. You will hear Prabhupada's spontaneous philosophical perspectives both in times of crisis and in everyday life.

The Author, Shashika Singani Devi Anguth, is an International Samaya-Yoga Graduate and continues her spiritual studies since 2012 in Guru Diksa, with the Himalayan Sri Vidya School - Kashmir, India. An International Ayurvedic Graduate at National Library of Ayurved Medicine Mumbai India & Vedic Shastra with Bhaktivedanta College Online Campus, Radhadesh Belgium, and Durban South Africa, during the years 2011 to 2015. She has also graduated in 2017 with Shaw Academy Ireland, with Diplomas in Web Development and Web Design. Previously graduating in 1998, with Damelin Management School, Durban in Public Relations. Currently (2019) embarking into an MBA Leadership Spiritual & Emotional Intelligence degree with Regenesys Business School, Internationally. Shashika is a humanitarian and philanthropist. During 2016, she contested on a social platform, with the Zee Cinema Mrs.India South Africa pageant, as a finalist. Promoting Women Empowerment and uplifting Women from abuse. As a psychic healer, she is able to heal together with her spiritual knowledge of Ayurveda, Vedic Shastra, and Astrology. Her purpose is to integrate the different fields of study including her innate healing empath spiritual gifts, into understanding, whilst promoting self-healing and wellness.

The Author, Shashika Singani Devi Anguth, is an International Classical Yoga Graduate and continues aspiring into her spiritual Yoga-Vedic studies and practices since 1981. She began her spiritual practices at the age of 6 years old, at the Divine Life Society in Merebank, Durban with Swami Sivananda. She continued through till the age of 23 years old. Thereafter she began Karma, Bhakti and Jnana Yoga at the Sri Sri Radha Radhanath Temple of Understanding, ISKCON Chatsworth Durban, from 1998 to 2015 with Srila Prabhupada. An International Yoga - Vedic Graduate in 2015, at National Library of Ayurved Mumbai India. A Yoga Vedic graduate with Bhaktivedanta College Online Campus, Radhadesh Belgium during the years 2011 to 2015. She has also graduated in 2017 with Shaw Academy, Ireland, with Diplomas in Web Development and Web Design. Previously graduating in 1998, with Damelin Management School, Durban in Public Relations. Shashika Singani Anguth has taken initiation since 2012 in Classical Yoga with an International Sri Vidya Yoga Vedic School, originally from India. She studies and practices through her Gurudev Yadhuvanshi since 2012. Currently studying, practising and teaching Yoga-Veda Therapy, Meditation, Pranayama, Ayurvedic Nutrition and Yoga Philosophy through YogaVeda International, USA. Shashika is a humanitarian and philanthropist. During 2016, she embarked on a social platform with the Zee Cinema Mrs.India South Africa pageant, as

a finalist. Promoting Women Empowerment and uplifting Women and children from abuse. She continues in her own capacity with efforts to encourage and promote Women Empowerment. As a psychic healer, empath and classical yoga therapist she is able to heal with her spiritual knowledge of Yoga, Ayurveda, Shastra, Vaastu and Astrology. Her purpose is to integrate the different fields of Yoga with her healing, into understanding and promoting self-healing and wellness. Renunciation Through Wisdom is a collection of essays originally written in Bengali and published by Srila Prabhupada in India during the 1940s. They were later translated into English by his disciples. In these essays Srila Prabhupada expands on themes found in the Bhagavad-gita, discussing such topics as why people are averse to God, the ultimate causes of suffering, and how the world's troubles are extraordinarily fleeting when seen from the standpoint of eternity. Students of Srila Prabhupada will recognize the same common-sense writing style in Renunciation Through Wisdom as in his later, well-known works such as Srimad-Bhagavatam and Bhagavad-gita As It Is, as well as his expertise at distilling the essence of India's ancient Vedic wisdom into powerful, convincing, practical, and easily readable directives.

Mostly revised version of papers presented at the Second World Congress for the Synthesis of Science and Religion, held at Calcutta in January 1997. It also contains articles and messages contributed by other luminaries of the world.

Presents a complete edition of the spiritual classic offering a summary of India's Vedic wisdom.

Vanity Karma Ecclesiastes, the Bhagavad-gita, and the meaning of life The Bhaktivedanta Book Trust

The founder Acharya of the Hare Krishna movement, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, was respected and loved by all his disciples. This love they had for him was not simply a formality, but a deep bond built on his kindness, compassion, and the loving dedication he showed to them, even while seriously training them in the science of Bhakti Yoga. A Bond of Love is a compilation of over 300 of his female disciples' memories about their personal interactions with Srila Prabhupada and how he influenced the rest of their lives. From an idea spawned by one of his early female disciples in 2008, the book slowly took form through the dedicated work of some of his spiritual daughters, and even some grand-daughters. Rarely does one find books written from the female disciples' perspective. As a result, this book gives a deeper understanding into how a bonafide and chaste sannyasa guru interacts lovingly yet properly with his female disciples. This is an inspiring retrospective showing how, while his female disciples' lives unfolded in numerous ways, their bond of love with their guru never wavered. Readers are quickly pulled into the heartfelt memories of these female disciples. While enlightening and uplifting to devotees of Srila Prabhupada, A Bond of Love is also an interesting sociological study of the minds of young women in the late 60s and how those who chose this spiritual path weathered the next fifty years.

What is life for? What may give it meaning? Does it have any meaning at all? A sage in ancient Israel brooded over these questions. In ancient India, too, such questions drove a despairing warrior to seek answers from his divine friend Krishna. The thoughts of the sage became the wisdom book Ecclesiastes; those of Krishna, the Bhagavad-gītā. Their wisdom speaks to our deepest concerns. In Vanity Karma, wisdom meets wisdom as these two perennial classics come together, both offering us profound understanding. And a deep and authentic spiritual understanding, we may find, can infuse our lives with meaning and with joy. Vanity Karma brings you on a journey through the full text of Ecclesiastes, a journey illuminated by traditional biblical scholarship, insights from the Bhagavad-gītā, a dash of autobiography, and a steady spiritual focus.

Is there life after death? Follow the soul's journey through this universe and beyond. The past decade has seen an increase in the number of people who believe in reincarnation. This small but powerful book answers questions like • Who am I? • What happens after death? • What's it like to incarnate in one body after another? • Is it possible to break the cycle of samsara, of repeated birth and death? • Is there an eternal place where my soul can live?

This book is a compilation of the articles written for Back to Godhead magazine to date by Lokanath Swami.

Amid the parched desert of materialism, The Journey of Self-Discovery offers a sure pathway to the oasis of higher, spiritual awareness. Book jacket.

We long for boundless love as we long for home. But how can we find our home our meaning and purpose if we don't know our self? Wise-Love is an exploration of the self, or consciousness, guided through the meditative eyes of saints, sages, seers, and mystics. We discover that the self's most charming characteristic -- part of its unchanging nature is that it is a lover, a lover only when ordinary love evolves into wise-love. Pranada, a devoted pilgrim and teacher, illuminates bhakti's wisdom school of heartfulness and shows why mindfulness can never satisfy the self. Joy comes from an awakened heart not a stilled mind. The first part of Wise-Love explores the nature of self/consciousness and how we interface in the world with our physical and subtle body (mind, intelligence, and ego). Understanding the distinctions between our real and false selves, we can answer the questions Who am I? What is my purpose? How can I be happy? The second half examines the nature of matter, the world of consciousness, karma, faith, mysticism, the efficacy of sacred sound, the maha-mantra, kirtan, humility, depth compassion, and how to culture wise-love. Each chapter unfolds with an understanding of matter and consciousness to present a key that unlocks our eternal nature so that we can experience the unbounded joy of the self in our daily lives. When we encounter the self, we're automatically introduced to our Divine Inner Suitor and our loving relationship. Filled with insight and fresh perspectives, Wise-Love offers a map for the journey to our home of eternal affection, where a porch light is always lovingly lit, and a warm embrace from our Divine Other awaits. Secretly nestled in the Upanishads and extolled in the Bhagavad Gita, bhakti yoga shines as the crown jewel on the head of India's timeless wisdom about consciousness and how to live one's meditation. Often oversimplified as devotion, bhakti is the method of experiencing the self and its Essence/Source. This concise, comprehensive handbook exploring the meaning of bhakti's sophisticated philosophy promises to enrich you wherever you are on the spiritual path.

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