

Handbook Of Hindu Gods Goddesses And Saints

For thousands of years, spiritual seekers as well as ordinary people have immersed themselves in the sacred writings of Hinduism, finding there the answers to life's deepest questions. As relevant today as ever, these scriptures, breathtaking in their beauty and transforming power, are still undiscovered by most Westerners, who find their complexity daunting. *Windows into the Infinite: A Guide to the Hindu Scriptures* has come to the rescue. In a highly readable style, the author takes the readers step-by-step through each of the major Hindu scriptures, clarifying the principal themes, figures and terms as well as demonstrating their significance. While this unique book is of enormous value to spiritual aspirants as well as people with a general curiosity about Hinduism, it is also ideal for the academic environment. With its systematic format, extensive glossary, cross-referenced index and diagrams, it is an invaluable reference source.

It Is A Collection Of Thirty Essays On Various Aspects Of Hindu And Buddhist Art And Iconography Contributed By Indian And Foreign Scholars. These Represent Deep Insight And New Interpretation Based On Sound Scholarship And Accounts. While Intended To Commemorate The Loving Memory Of Professor Kalyan Kumar Dasgupta, The Book Is A Fitting Tribute To The Great Savant. Professor P.K. Mishra And Publisher M/S Abhinav Publications Have Spared No Pains To Make It An Outstanding Publication Of The Year

Many Hindus today are urban middle-class people with many religious values in common with their professional counterparts in America or Europe. Just as so many modern professionals continue to build new churches, synagogues, and mosques, contemporary Hindus attend to the construction and maintenance of their religious institutions wherever their work and life takes them. In *Diaspora of the Gods*, Joanne Punzo Waghorne traces the changing religious sensibilities of the Hindu middle class. Waghorne leads her readers on a journey through the world of the new Hindu middle-class, focusing on their efforts to build and support places of worship. She invites the reader into the neighborhoods of Chennai to view often-innovative new and renovated temples constructed in a sometimes seemingly incongruous urban environment. Her journey, however, does not end there. The cousins and brothers--literal and figurative--of temple patrons and devotees in Chennai are constructing divine houses abroad that are remaking the religious panorama of the United Kingdom and the United States. Waghorne leads us into the London neighborhood of Tooting, climbing upstairs in a former warehouse to see a Goddess temple constructed from plywood painted in trompe l'oeuil to create all of the features of a proper temple. Elsewhere in London, we meet the God Murugan in an almost hidden temple immured within the stone shell of a former Church and another Goddess whose temple is tucked inside a lovely white church on a quiet street. In Washington, a multiplicity of Gods shares a glorious white temple in an otherwise ordinary suburban neighborhood.

Waghorne offers detailed comparisons of these temples, and interviews temple priests, devotees, and patrons. In the process, she illuminates the interrelationships between ritual worship and religious edifices, the rise of the modern world economy, and the ascendancy of the great middle class. This is the first comprehensive portrait of Hinduism as lived today by so many both in India and throughout the world.

The Palgrave Handbook of Radical Theology is the definitive guide to radical theology and the commencement for new directions in that field. For the first time, radical theology is addressed and assessed in a single, comprehensive volume, including introductory and historical essays for the beginner, essays on major figures and their thought, and shorter articles on various themes, concepts, and related topics. This book is a seminal work for the radical theology movement. It clarifies origins and demonstrates the exigency and utility of current figures and issues. A useful and essential guide for newcomers and veterans in the field, this volume serves as both a reference work and an introduction to omitted or forgotten topics within contemporary discussions.

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.

Hindu theology views rivers as goddesses who confer blessings and spiritual purification and their release from the grip of the demon of drought is a recurring theme in the mythology. India is a country blessed with many rivers, but of these, seven are considered to be particularly important. Known collectively as Saptaganga, Sapta Sindhu or Saptapunyanadi, the Ganges, Yamuna, Sindhu, Sarasvati, Godavari, Narmada and Kaveri rivers are invoked at the start of every ritual. They weave through sacred narratives about gods, sages and heroes and define the physical, spiritual and cultural landscape of Bharatavarsha.

Did Brahma create the universe? Was it born out of the sacrifice of Prajapati? Did his wife Shatarupa create animals while being pursued by him? Or was it all a product of Manu? A Vedic poet says that for anything to be created in the universe, it must be preceded by desire. If desire is the seed, the cosmos is its fruit. A Shaiva story says that in the beginning there was a golden woman in the shape of a lotus, and when it bloomed, Brahma was in it, and he then divided into Shiva and Shakti. The Vaishnava tradition says that in the beginning, everything

was asleep – and then Vishnu awoke, and the first creation was born of the fear of loneliness. The Shakta tradition says that before the earth was born, Shiva was doing tapasya and there was pralaya – everything was frozen and barren. Then Parvati emerged from the mountain and seduced and married him. The heat or energy within him was then released and the snow started to melt and the earth became fertile. Which is it? Discover all these origin myths and more in this short, sweet read from Devlok.

High above the sky stands Swarga, paradise, abode of the gods. Still above is Vaikuntha, heaven, abode of God. The doorkeepers of Vaikuntha are the twins, Jaya and Vijaya, both whose names mean 'victory'. One keeps you in Swarga; the other raises you into Vaikuntha. In Vaikuntha there is bliss forever, in Swarga there is pleasure for only as long as you deserve. What is the difference between Jaya and Vijaya? Solve this puzzle and you will solve the mystery of the Mahabharata. In this enthralling retelling of India's greatest epic, the Mahabharata, originally known as Jaya, Devdutt Pattanaik seamlessly weaves into a single narrative plots from the Sanskrit classic as well as its many folk and regional variants, including the Pandavani of Chattisgarh, Gondhal of Maharashtra, Terukkuttu of Tamil Nadu, and Yakshagana of Kamataka. Richly illustrated with over 250 line drawings by the author, the 108 chapters abound with little-known details such as the names of the hundred Kauravas, the worship of Draupadi as a goddess in Tamil Nadu, the stories of Astika, Madhavi, Jamini, Aravan and Barnareek, the Mahabharata version of the Shakuntalam and the Ramayana, and the dating of the war based on astronomical data. With clarity and simplicity, the tales in the elegant volume reveal the eternal relevance of the Mahabharata, the complex and disturbing meditation on the human condition that has shaped Indian thought for over 3000 years.

Handbook of Hindu Gods, Goddesses, and Saints Popular in Contemporary South India Handbook of Hindu Gods, Goddesses, and Saints South Asia Books Handbook Of Hindu Gods, Goddesses And Saints Handbook of Hindu Mythology Oxford University Press A Decoding Of Hindu Mythology Hindus Have One God. They Also Have 330 Million Gods: Male Gods, Female Gods, Personal Gods, Family Gods, Household Gods, Village Gods, Gods Of Space And Time, Gods For Specific Castes And Particular Professions, Gods Who Reside In Trees, In Animals, In Minerals, In Geometrical Patterns And In Man-Made Objects. Then There Are A Whole Host Of Demons. But No Devil. In This Groundbreaking Book Dr Devdutt Pattanaik, One Of India S Most Popular Mythologists, Seeks An Answer To These Apparent Paradoxes And Unravels An Inherited Truth About Life And Death, Nature And Culture, Perfection And Possibility. He Retells Sacred Hindu Stories And Decodes Hindu Symbols And Rituals, Using A Unique Style Of Commentary, Illustrations And Diagrams. We Discover Why The Villainous Kauravas Went To Heaven And The Virtuous Pandavas (All Except Yudhishtira) Were Sent To Hell; Why Rama Despite Abandoning The Innocent Sita Remains The Model King; Why The Blood-Drinking Kali Is Another Form Of The Milk-Giving Gauri; And Why Shiva Wrenched Off The Fifth Head Of Brahma. Constructed Over Generations, Hindu Myths Serve As Windows To The Soul, And Provide An Understanding Of The World Around Us. The Aim Is Not To Outgrow Myth, But To Be Enriched And Empowered By Its Ancient, Potent And Still Relevant Language.

The world's creator, Brahma; the warrior-goddess Durga; and the snake-like nagas are important subjects of Indian mythology. Indian Gods, Heroes, and Mythology explores the gods, heroes, creatures, and stories of Indian mythology, in addition to examining their influence today. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards. Core Library is an imprint of Abdo Publishing, a division of ABDON.

Goddess worship has long been a significant aspect of Hinduism. In this book David Kinsley, author of "The Sword and the Flute--Kali & Krsna: Dark Visions of the Terrible and the Sublime in Hindu Mythology," sorts out the rich yet often chaotic history of Hindu goddess worship. Poojas and Remedies are certain belief system of angelic invocation & worship to attain

siddhi or some goals to be achieved in life with the help of divine and blessings from the almighty. As per Hindu traditional belief systems; there are so many angelic presences like Lord Ganapathy, Lord Hanuman, Lord Shiva, Lord Vishnu, Lakshmi Devi, Gowri Devi, Saraswathi Devi and so on. Every angelic presence having a particular power to help the people in certain ways; for example if Goddess Saraswathi is worshiped, then people would get good education. Similarly for getting prosperity the Goddess Lakshmi to be worshiped. Worship or prayers to attain certain siddhis/ powers, or achieving some goals in life like good job/ business, education, marriage, travel etc; could be in many ways as follows. -Simple prayers by chanting the particular angelic name and saying your wish. (can be done anywhere)-By chanting gayatri mantras/ moola mantras or chanting 108 or 1008 names of a particular devta or angelic presence. (can be done anywhere)-Offering flowers, fruits and some holy food like sweet pongal, rice etc at temple or home and do some mantras chanting. (Poojas)-Doing poojas with picture or kalasam (vessel containing holy water) by chanting mantras.-Yagam or Yagnam - holy fire ritual performed to invoke angelic presence in fire and do the worship by offering ghee and holy herbals etc. (Havan/ Yagnam)-Requesting others to do the above prayers on behalf of you. (Guru)Gayatri mantra is the first and best chanting method of invoking angelic presence. Each presence has its own gayatri mantra and that has the most power of invocation. Next one is moola mantra of that particular god or goddess. This with some beeja mantras can give expected results as per Hindu vedic belief system. Again ashtotram (108 names) or Sahasra-namam (1000/1008 names) of that particular angel or god would give the best result for prayers and answered. Among all the mantra meditation practices in the world, after "Om" beejam chanting power, the Gayatri mantra plays vital role to attain spiritual & material growth. Gayatri Devi is an angel who owns the mantra and able to help everyone who follows this mantra and gives all the benefits in life. Gayatri Mantra or Beejam produces more than one lakh sound waves per second. This is most powerful hymn or sound wave in the world. The combination of sound or sound waves of this mantra is claimed capable of developing specific spiritual abilities. As many people wanted to do remedy pooja or parigaram; they depend on some people or Guru to perform the same for them with desired sangalpam (intentions); sometimes they do not get. To help these people or the people who wants to perform their own remedy; this book would certainly help mainly for Kalathra dhosham, Mangalya dhosham, Chevvai (Angaraga) dhosham/ Kala Sarpa dhosham/ Bad karmic effect removal etc. As of now it gave 100% good results for everone. I personally learned from my Guruji and performed this for many people. Without keeping it with me; I would like to release as a book for others. This book is guiding everyone who believes in Hinduism and prayers or poojas worship to do certain practices for different god or goddesses / angelic presence to achieve all said benefits above. The chapters are explaining how to do the poojas for many divine powers and which are mandatory / optional. Maha Parigara Poojas - for Kalathira dhosham, Kalasarpa dhosham, Mangalya dhosham, Angaraga dhosham (Manglik), Suba Kathri dhosham, Shabam remedies. Also guidance to do Saptha Kaali Pooja, Navrathri Pooja & Yagam/Yagnam.....more!

Unlike many other ancient mythologies, Hinduism thrives in the modern world. One billion followers and countless others have been captivated by its symbolic representations of love, karma, and reincarnation. Handbook of Hindu Mythology offers

an informative introduction to this dauntingly complex mythology of multifaceted deities, lengthy heroic tales, and arcane philosophies—all with a 3,000-year history of reinterpretations and adaptations. Williams offers a number of pathways by which to approach Hinduism's ever-changing gods and goddesses (e.g., Brahmī, Vishnu, Siva), spiritual verses (such as the vedas), secular epics (including the Rāmāyana and the Mahābhārata), myths within myths, devotional and esoteric traditions, psychic and yogic disciplines, and magical practices. With this handbook, readers can explore the history of Hindu mythology, follow a detailed timeline of key episodes and historical events, and look up specific elements of historical or contemporary Hinduism in a beautifully illustrated reference work. It is the ideal introduction to the origins of Hinduism, the culture that shaped it from antiquity to the present, and the age-old stories, ideas, and traditions that speak to the human condition as eloquently today as ever. Including annotated bibliographies, a glossary of cultural and mythological terms, and numerous illustrations, here is a gold mine of information on Hindu mythology.

- Olympus is the home of the Greek gods, much like Amravati of the Hindu devas.
- Zeus, leader of Olympians, wields a thunderbolt like Indra, and rides an eagle like Vishnu.
- The feats of the Greek hero Heracles, known to Romans as Hercules, reminded many of Krishna, as did his name, 'Hari-kula-asha' or lord of the Hari clan.
- The Greek epic of a husband sailing across the sea with a thousand ships to bring his wife, Helen, back from Troy seems strikingly similar to the story of Ram rescuing Sita from Lanka. Is there a connection between Greek and Hindu mythology then? Does it have something to do with a common Indo-European root? Or maybe an exchange of ideas in the centuries that followed the arrival of Alexander the Great, when Greek emissaries travelled to the kingdoms of Mathura and Magadha? In this book, mythologist Devdutt Pattanaik turns his attention to ancient Greek tales, and explores a new world of stories. Long have Europeans and Americans retold Indic mythologies. It is time for Indians to reverse the gaze.

This treatise is an early attempt for a diligent search into the origin, descriptions, symbols, mythological background, meaning and moral aims of Hindu images. The book is in two volumes, each volume again in two parts. Vol. I, Part I contains a long Introduction discussing among other things the origin of Hindu image worship in India, explanatory description of the terms employed in the work, Ganapati, Visnu and his major and minor avatars and manifestations, Garuda and Ayudha-Purushas or personified images of the weapons and emblems held by gods. Vol. I, Part II deals with Aditya and Nava Grahas (nine planets) and their symbolic features and images worshipped, Devi (Goddesses), Parivara-devatas, and measurement of proportions in images. Vol. II, Part I begins with an Introduction discussing the cult of Siva which is followed by such important topics as Siva, Lingas, Lingodbhavamurti, Chandrasekharamurti, Pasupatamurti and Raudrapasupatamurti, other Ugra forms of Siva, Dakshinamurti, Kankalamurti and Bhikshatanamurti, and other important aspects of Siva. Vol. II, Part II contains descriptions of Subrahmanya, Nandikesvara and Adhikaranandi, Chandesvara, Bhaktas, Arya or Hariharaputra, Kshetrapalas, Brahma, the Dikpalakas, and demi-gods. In addition the book contains 5 Appendices including Sanskrit texts of Parivaradevatah, Uttamadasatalavidhih and Pratimalaksanani. The treatment has been made interesting by profuse illustrations, the two volumes containing as many as 282 photographs of sacred images.

Why is Ganesha such a popular god despite being only 1500 years old? Did you know he is the god associated with the maximum number of symbols? Why is his vehicle a rat? Why does he carry an axe? Because of Ganesha, the terrifying Kali becomes the maternal Gauri, and the sanyasi Shiva becomes a father and householder – Ganesha is the god of domestic life. His devotees can represent him as they wish – these days his potbelly has been replaced with six-pack abs! Ganpati's own history, his changing roles, indicate how Indian society has changed over time – in Mumbai, Ganpati has taken on a form which didn't exist 100 years ago! Find out more about this beloved god of good luck and auspiciousness this festive season in this short, sweet read from Devlok.

This handbook is the result of the authors experience in solving crosswords (almost exclusively from the New York Times) for a period of over 10 years and is designed to help puzzle solvers of all abilities. It covers such strategic subjects as themes in puzzles and what a clue is attempting to elicit, as well as such tactical subjects as what, precisely, is to be written in the squares in a puzzle. Thus, the scope of the handbook ranges from the general to the detailed. Some of the subjects covered are foreign languages (French is the most popular, by far), mythology, the Old Testament, literature (including poetry and drama), classical music, sports (baseball is the crossword favorite), entertainment (comics, movies, television, and pop music), art and architecture, geography (Ireland wins out here), science and math, travel and transportation, computers and the internet, as well as a list of those special words that are favorites of puzzle constructors (and hardly used by anyone else). Crosswords are fun, and this handbook helps you to enjoy them. To quote from the acknowledgments, The author and his readers are in the debt of all those puzzle makers and their editors, who give us such pleasure every day. Our lives are greatly enriched by them, and they help show us what a wonderful legacy we have in the English language.

Revered the world over, the Indian Himalaya provide a unique experience and stunning backdrop for any explorer and have been capturing the imagination of travelers for centuries. The 3rd edition Indian Himalaya Handbook will help travellers get the most from this diverse and sometimes demanding region.

Footprint's completely updated travel guide to the Indian Himalaya is indispensable to visitors who want to be wowed by rugged beauty and inspired by the unique culture of the people that live here. • Great coverage of responsible travel and the Himalayan Environment Trust Code of Practice, as well as essential advice on the best time of year to travel • Loaded with information and suggestions on how to get off the beaten track, from trekking and climbing to cycling and yoga • Includes comprehensive listings from From Garhwal and Kumaon in Uttar Pradesh, to the Himalaya in Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh and Zaskar, to Darjeeling and Sikkim, in the Eastern Himalaya. • Plus all the usual accommodation, eating and drinking listings for every budget • Full-colour planning section to inspire travellers and help you find the best experiences Fully updated, Footprint's Indian Himalaya Handbook is packed with all the information you'll need to get the best out of this spectacular region.

Presents brief entries describing the gods and goddesses from the mythology and religion of a wide variety of cultures throughout history.

Hinduism Is Not Merely A Religion But A Way Of Life. Hinduism, In Its Traverse Of Four Thousand Years, Has Accumulated Many A Belief And Practice, Which Encompass The Whole Socio-Religio-Cultural Life Of A Devout. Since The Mythological Past, Hinduism Is Studded With Varied Signs And Symptoms, Which Are Mystic In Character And Symbolic In Nature, And Are Also Sacred Symbols Of Spiritualism As Well. These Symbols Are The Sacred Rivers; Mystic Mantras Like Om And Gayatri; The Auspicious Symbol Of Swastika; The Shivalinga, Salagram Shila Or Sacred Stone Objects; Tripundra Tilaks Or Urdhapundra Tilaks- The Process Of Besmearing The Body With Different Marks Of Sandal Pastes; The Sacred Conch Or Sankha And Venerated Trees Which Have Medicinal Value And Spiritual Ethos Like Tulsi, Vata, Rudraksha, Etc. All These Are Part Of Modern Hinduism But To Many Devouts And Observers These Symbols Stand Enigmatic! Thus This Book Attempts To Explore And Unearth The Hidden Philosophy Of These Signs And Gauge The Socio-Scientific Base And Tries To Find Out The Real Meaning Of Ritualistic Methodologies Of These Symbols, Which Are The Great Objects Of Veneration Of The Hindus Down The Ages.

For the first time, the work *Genealogy of the South Indian Deities* of the first Protestant missionary to India, Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg (1682-1719), is made accessible to an English readership. Originally published in 1713, the text reveals Ziegenbalg's ethos in the emerging European Enlightenment and his willingness to learn from the South Indians. The text contains the original voices of knowledgeable South Indians from various religious backgrounds and presents South India in a vivid, direct and unfiltered way. In this volume Daniel Jeyaraj edits and presents the German original in an English translation. This is followed by a detailed textual analysis, a glossary and an appendix. This book is invaluable for anyone interested in reliable information about the interactions of Europeans with Hindu and Tamil religion and culture.

Why do we offer Vishnu butter, but Shiva milk? Why is Krishna offered the chappanbhog—fifty-six items of food—during Annakuta? Do the goddesses not like bhog? Where does the custom of hanging a lemon and seven chillies come from? Is there a legendary male cook among the gods? Anna is called Brahmin, the way bhasha is called Brahmin. Food and the action of eating maintain life. And yet, traditionally the devis remind you that whenever you eat, you've killed something, sacrificed someone, even plants which come from farms, decimating forests and rivers. The devi reminds one that to build your civilization—sanskriti—you destroy your nature—prakriti. Feast your mind on intricate details behind how we offer food to the gods, and why certain foods are part of the Indian tradition, in this short, sweet read from Devlok.

Covering all aspects of Hinduism, this encyclopedia includes more ethnographic and contemporary material in contrast to the exclusively textual and historical approach of earlier works.

We are told to follow the path of ahimsa (non-violence), but our devis and

devatas are always ready for war. What is the reason for this? How does Shiva hold space and time in the same hands in which he holds his bow Pinak? Who made all these weapons? And what do our scriptures say about using weapons for mass destruction? Devdutt explores the dramatic, fantastic weapons of the gods. From Indra's Vajra made of bones of a sage, to the bow of Kama, made of sugarcane, butterflies and bees with flowers for arrows, read all about the intricacies of ancient weaponry and their symbolic meaning in this short, sweet read from Devlok.

This two-volume work presents a comprehensive survey of all the ways people celebrate religious life around the globe. • More than 800 A–Z entries on religious holidays and calendars • Photographs of people celebrating various holidays around the world • A bibliography with each entry that offers sources for further research

In 2015, a historic panel discussion took place at the global Festival of Theology held in Sweden. Its objective was to examine what the sacred texts of the Abrahamic faiths - Judaism, Christianity and Islam - had to say about human sexuality. By bringing in perspectives from the Karmic faiths of Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism and Hinduism, which together represent the beliefs of almost a third of the world's population, *I Am Divine. So Are You* expands this conversation between world religions and human sexuality to a truly global level. The theology of Karmic faiths is revealed at the intersection of scripture, culture, rituals and lived realities. And hence they are dynamic and amenable to a multiplicity of perspectives. They lend themselves more easily to a recognition and acceptance of fluidity in human sexuality. This is a landmark book as it recasts religion - especially Karmic faiths - as an ally and not an adversary of queer emancipation and thus significantly informs the secular and legal movements for LGBTQ rights around the world.

The handbook offers interreligious and multicultural perspectives on women's studies in religion in conversation with specific contextualized gender-biased justice challenges. Contributing authors address 25 current and trending themes from their diverse socio-cultural-religious backgrounds. Themes move across the spectrum of women's studies in religion, blurring the boundaries beyond "religious studies" to include perspectives from ethics, philosophy, sociology, economics, and law as. Religious diversity addresses challenges for women's studies through the lens of Wicca, Buddhist, Asian Trans Pacific, Hinduism, Judaism, Muslima, and Christian. The handbook is practical, contemporary, and relevant as it moves theory to practical application in the section on challenging and changing system gender injustice with chapters on sexual violence and the #MeToo movement, femicide and feminicide, a Mohawk response to colonial dominion and violations to Indigenous lands and women, and a religio-politico witness for love and justice, include how to engage the theories of women's studies in religion in the public square through civic engagement to create empowerment for actual, practical change. It shows the future movement of the

becoming of women's studies with chapters digital activism, reimagining women's mosque spaces online, minoritized sexual identities, and spiritual homelessness, and charges readers to see "hope now" by challenging and changing gender injustice.

Excerpt from South-Indian Images of Gods and Goddesses This little book owes its origin to a suggestion made by His Excellency Lord Carmichael, when he was Governor of Madras in the year 1912. He felt that, while there was a multitude of books dealing with Hindu religion and incidentally with Hindu iconography, there was no popular handbook which would give information about the images one commonly sees in temples or museums in Southern India, and that it would be a distinctly useful thing to supply that want. The Madras Government entrusted the task to me, presumably because my official duties bring me very often to visit the various temples in the Province and to study and classify the images found therein. When I accepted the task, I was not fully aware of the difficulties that lay before me. In the first place, there were very few printed books, in Sanskrit or in translations, that gave the orthodox description and significance of the images set up in temples. And when I managed to collate notes from a few old manuscripts treating of this subject, it was almost impossible in several instances to reconcile the discrepancies which they showed or even to understand the technical terms which abounded in them. In some cases, the description of a particular image found in the local chronicles or Sthala-Puranas could not be traced in the Agamas. I am not altogether sanguine that I have steered clear of these difficulties and succeeded in presenting a clear and readable account to the average reader. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

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