

Willard Oxtoby World Religions Eastern Traditions

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this second edition of the introductory text world religions eastern traditions examines in detail the major eastern religious traditions hinduism sikhism jainism and buddhism each tradition is explored in depth from its origins through its development to the religion s meaning and practice in today s society

based on the bestselling two volume world religions eastern and western traditions a concise introduction to world religions fourth edition is ideal for single semester courses renowned expert contributors trace the origins and evolution of the major traditions explain their essential teachings outline their practices and examine their interactions with modern culture and society while insightful introductory and concluding essays suggest countless avenues for further reflection and study engaging pedagogy throughout helps students appreciate and understand world religions focus boxes provide insight into rituals or practices that are specific to each religion tradition at a glance boxes offer an insightful overview of each tradition facilitate comparative analysis and serve as quick review references sites boxes indicate locations of special significance to each tradition document boxes highlight key passages from each tradition s sacred texts sacred texts tables outline the process of compiling and revising the fundamental texts for each tradition as well as their oral legal and ritual uses chapter study questions and glossaries detailed maps timelines and recommended websites and further readings provide students with additional support password protected instructor resources that include the instructor s manual test bank and lecture outlines are available on the book s ancillary resource center visit the book s free open access companion website for the student resources featuring self quizzes and study guides teaser he message a pedagogically rich introduction to the world s major religious traditions from their origins through their development to their meaning and practice in today s society

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of faiths throughout the world based on the best selling two volume world religions eastern and western traditions recognized scholars trace the origins and evolution of the major traditions explain their essential teachings outline their practices and examine their interactions with modern culture and society while insightful introductory and concluding essays suggest countless avenues for further reflection and study with extracts from each tradition's most important thinkers both ancient and modern as well as timelines maps glossaries guides to key geographic sites annotated reading lists rich colour photographs handy tradition at a glance summaries and a brand new chapter on new religious movements this concise volume offers a rich introduction to world religions

this condensed version of the two volume introduction covers the major world religions focusing on six areas the origins of the movement the crystallization of its teachings its major divisions in regional and historical perspective the practice of adherents and of its religious specialists its influences on society literature the arts and the challenges of intellectual social and technological change to the tradition each chapter opens with a tradition at a glance feature that provides basic details about the tradition in outline form sidebar features include sayings of the founder or other figures biographical sketches of major historical and modern thinkers illustrations of important symbolism and iconography a map timeline list of key geographical sites glossary questions and further readings

this contributed volume examines in detail the major western religious traditions namely judaism zoroastrianism christianity islam and religions of the ancient world the text traces each tradition in depth from its origins through its development to the religion's meaning and practice in today's society comprehensive and accessible the new third edition offers a thorough and engaging introduction to the western faiths

understanding world religions introduces students to major worldviews including hindu buddhist muslim jewish christian native american and marxist through the lens of justice and peace the second edition has been updated and revised throughout after an introduction to key themes in studying world religion chapters help students explore major traditions today each chapter takes a similar approach examining several dimensions of each tradition experiential and emotional social and institutional narrative or mythic doctrinal and philosophical practical and

ritual and ethical and legal chapters feature profiles of major peacemakers or groups to bring the traditions to life profiles range from gandhi and martin luther king to thich nhat hanh and dorothy day further chapters explore liberation theologies active nonviolence and just war theory the second edition features a broader framework than the first edition and includes new material on non religious ethical norms islamophobia colonial evangelization religion in china and an updated examination of the israel palestine conflict understanding world religions remains a powerful introduction to major worldviews with an emphasis on practical connections to peace and justice

based on the best selling world religions eastern traditions and world religions western traditions a concise introduction to world religions fourth edition is ideal for single semester courses renowned contributors trace the origins and evolution of the major traditions explain their essential teachings outline their practices and examine their interactions with modern culture and society while insightful introductory and concluding essays suggest countless avenues for further reflection and study

an intriguing question do muslims understand jesus in some ways more historically appropriate than christians do leads robert f shedinger into a series of provocative challenges to the disciplines of religious studies and comparative religions questioning the convenient distinction between politics and religion and the isolation of religion from wider social and cultural questions shedinger offers a proposal for a more accurate and respectful understanding of faith that he argues will improve possibilities for mutual understanding among christians muslims and others

the human spirit seems incapable of being stagnant ever pushing the boundaries of knowledge and experience we try to understand life through questions regarding our own existence the nature of the universe and the nature of god the question of our collective heart is the external manifestation of an internal longing a quest if you will this thirst to understand reality can be seen in superstructures that are scientific social political and especially religious when considering the doctrines institutions and rituals of religions we observe certain core aspirations expressed by the people of these communities these aspirations generate from an underlying quest which seeks a way out of our perceived

predicament a salvific quest regardless of whether we view ourselves as religious pre religious post religious or non religious we find ourselves involved in such a quest it seems to be an integral part of our human personhood using a unique framework of analysis this book explores christ s relevance to the quest expressed by the communities of eight major living religions a relevance that neither degrades christ nor demeans other saviors christ is not part of the human quest but is well equipped to satisfy that quest

this is the first work to address the legacy of wilfred cantwell smith 1916 2000 whose intellectual and institutional contributions helped shape the field of religious studies in the latter half of the twentieth century as a young scholar smith taught indian and islamic history in lahore for several years and witnessed the partition of india upon his return to north america he obtained his phd at princeton university before embarking upon a long and distinguished career he founded the institute of islamic studies at mcgill university and served as director of the center for the study of world religions at harvard university smith emphasized the place of the scholarly study of islam in the western academy long before islam occupied its current position at the center of global politics challenged the notion of monolithic world religions and argued for the importance of dialogical processes and a personalist approach to the study of religion contributors to this volume many of whom were smith s students provide a wide ranging exploration of his influence and legacy

this superbly illustrated and organized reference source is the first comprehensive visual guide to the world s religious traditions with text by leading experts and lavishly illustrated with photographs thematic maps site reconstructions and tables and charts many in full color the atlas charts the origin growth and spread of all major faiths a survey of contemporary religious life its historical background and a glossary index and list of resources enhance the research value of the book

controversies over how to define the word religion have persisted for decades it is a term of art and of academic study but also one of governance technologies and of networks it is a concept whose diversity is often its own worst enemy religion is as much a fuzzy set of conceptualizations and generalizations about a range of human activities as it is an authorizing system of persons ideas and practices what is

religion debating the academic study of religion invites readers to eavesdrop on scholarly debates over the limits of and uses for a word commonly used but infrequently defined in a precise manner this volume takes the temperature of the modern field of religious studies by inviting a diverse group of scholars to offer their own substantive contribution that builds on the shared opening prompt religion is their essays document the current state of the field and its various sub fields assess the progress that has been made over the past generation and propose new directions for future work seventeen of the international field's leading scholars show how they work with each other's definition or sometimes the lack of a definition of interest to students scholars and general readers alike what is religion will provoke debate and provide insights into the state of the field

convening on the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attack on the world trade center the global congress the world's religions after september 11 explored the negative and positive possibilities of the religious dimensions of life the presentations from the congress have been pulled together in this set which addresses religion's intersection with human rights spirituality science healing the media international diplomacy globalization war and peace and more this comprehensive set includes contributions from such well known scholars of religion as arvind sharma and a host of others from all the world's religious traditions this set is an unprecedented examination of religion's influence on modern life an honest assessment of how religion can either destroy us or preserve us and a thorough exploration of what steps might be necessary for all religions to join together as a force for good because of the attack on the world trade center on september 11 2001 the very concept of religion underwent a paradigm shift instead of standing for virtue and piety peace and harmony the word religion also came to be inextricably associated with evil aggression and terror people around the world began to question whether the religious and secular dimensions of modern life can be reconciled whether the different religions of the world can ever coexist in harmony indeed the very future of religion itself has sometimes seemed to be uncertain or at least suspect the volumes are 1 religion war and peace 2 religion and human rights 3 the interfaith dimension 4 spirituality

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this second edition which is intended to reflect both changes in academia and in the world since 1987 includes almost all of the 2 750 original entries many heavily updated as well as approximately 600 entirely new articles it emphasizes religion s role within everyday life and as a unique experience from culture to culture

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based on the best selling two volume world religions eastern and western traditions this concise text traces the origins and evolution of the major religious traditions explains their essential teachings outlines their practices and examines their interactions with modern culture andsociety while insightful introductory and concluding essays suggest avenues for further reflection and study

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Introduction

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