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The Holy Vedas ; Rig Veda, Yajur Veda, Sama Veda, Atharva Veda





Synopsis

The Vedas are ancient texts that are sacred in India and reknowned the world over. There are four vedas, known as the Rig Veda, the Yajur Veda, the Sama Veda and the Atharva Veda. Vedas teach the three paths to salvation. These paths are jnana(knowledge), bhakti(devotion) and karma(action). The Rig Veda is identified with the path of knowledge, the Yajur veda with the path of action and the Sama veda with the path of devotion. A honest effort has been made in this Book to explain the contents of the Vedas in easy to follow language.

Book Information

Hardcover: 450 pages Publisher: B.R. Publishing Corporation (March 1, 2006) Language: English ISBN-10: 8176465291 ISBN-13: 978-8176465298 Product Dimensions: 6.9 x 4.8 x 1.1 inches Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (15 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #291,741 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Hinduism > Sacred Writings > Vedas

Customer Reviews

The book is divided into 4 sections, each describing one Veda. The sections have very lucid, readable, modern English summary translations of the original text. There is no original Sanskrit, only English translation, and that too a summary or excerpt since the orginal Vedas are very long. I've see many translations of the Vedas, but what impressed me about this book are:(1) Translation is extremely readable/fluent, in prose-style (not in verse), not monotonous/boring and uses modern English (no thou, didst and stuff)(2) Print is good, font is big and clear, pages are good quality, binding is hardcover and feels solid(3) Translation is loyal to the original text. I've compared many sections with 4 other translations (by different authors) and this matches them (within boundaries of interpretation)Things this book could have done better:(1) There is no cross-reference to original Vedic verse. For example, when you're reading a paragraph in the Rig Veda, it doesn't tell you which mandala or verse it refers to.(2) The Rig Veda is the oldest and many of its verses are restated in the other Vedas. But they should be translated under Rig Veda since that is the original source. For example, this book has the Gayatri Mantra in the Yajur Veda, which is not incorrect, but

everyone expects it in the Rig Veda since that's where it originally is from. Other than a few quirks like this, this is the only book I could find that gives a good, lucid, prose overview or flavor of the contents of all the Vedas.

This book contains only a fraction of the Vedas, and excludes some of the more famous verses. The copy I bought had worn-off print on cover and water stains on cover. The actual text of the Vedas was interspersed with explanatory comments by the translators, which was somewhat confusing.

Will make a good reference of the vedas if you are into scriptural studies. However, it may not be complete.

They bring a whole new meaning to my life and really help my search for guidance. I suggest them for anyone unsure of themselves

Thank you. The book is new, ordered prime, arrived in 12 hrs:) cover has some damage and stains, looks like from the packagers hands. The writers choice of personal opinion statements was everywhere confusing people to it true meaning. The book is filled with statements like, It seems to mean, it could be, is most likely referring to. It did not seem at all accurate. In addition to contradicting himself within the first 50 pages. Had none of the original text references. They randomly placed text it whichever order fit the book, not of any authority.

Just started reading it and finished the introduction. Already noticed 3 or 4 missing letters on words or what looks like typos. Like the word "but" will either be "ut" or "vut" or something like that. That being said the book itself looks great, the cover is soft and the letters look nice. So im looking forward to reading it I just wish the author took more care in proof reading it.

The printing was substandard. Has many a word with missing, faded, or broken letters. Not collectable quality.

Definitely a great read for a new devotee!

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