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Editor-in-Chief: Knut A. Jacobsen, *University of Bergen*
Associate Editors: Helene Basu, *University of Münster*,
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Brill's Encyclopedia of Hinduism

VOLUME I *Regions, Pilgrimage, Deities*



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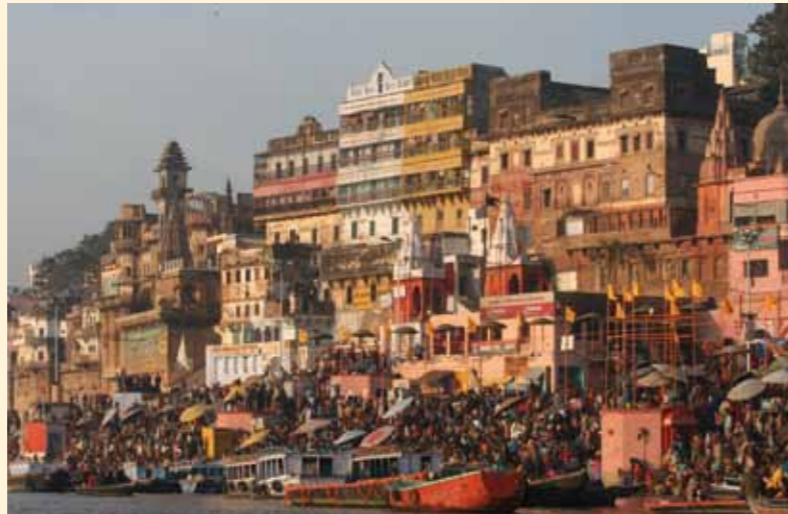
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Brill's Encyclopedia of Hinduism is part of the Handbook of Oriental Studies, Section 2: South Asia (HO2), which publishes scholarly reference works, bibliographies, and research tools pertaining to the political, economic, social, linguistic, and religious history of the Indian subcontinent.



The five-volume *Brill's Encyclopedia of Hinduism* is a thematic encyclopedia, presenting the latest research on all the main aspects of the Hindu traditions in original essays written by the world's foremost scholars on Hinduism. The Encyclopedia explicitly adopts an interdisciplinary and pluralistic approach, and in it, the term "Hinduism" is used critically in the knowledge that most of the traditions that today make up Hinduism are much older than the term itself.

The Encyclopedia aims at a balanced and even-handed view of Hinduism, recognizing the tensions inherent in the academic examination of Hinduism. It emphasizes that Hinduism is a conglomerate of regional religious traditions and at the same time a global world religion. Hinduism is also both an ancient historical tradition and a living tradition flourishing in the contemporary world. It is an oral tradition, yet one with a huge number of sacred texts at its basis. Hinduism is both a religious identity and an object of academic scholarship.

Illustrated with maps and photographs, *Brill's Encyclopedia of Hinduism* presents the learned philosophical and theological traditions of Hinduism as well as its many folk traditions. Covering the spread of Hinduism over the last two hundred years to all continents, as well as the interaction of Hinduism with other religions, it also portrays the various responses of Hindu traditions to a number of contemporary issues of great relevance today, such as feminism, human rights, egalitarianism and bioethics.

Brill's Encyclopedia of Hinduism

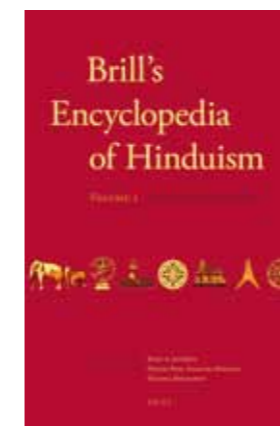
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- Handbook of Oriental Studies. Section 2, South Asia

Volume I: Regions, Pilgrimage, Deities



Edited by Knut A. Jacobsen

- September 2009
- ISBN 978 90 04 17641 6
- *Hardback* (xiv, 832 pp)
- Handbook of Oriental Studies. Section 2, South Asia

Regions, Pilgrimage, Deities presents two main focal points. Firstly, it presents the regional traditions of Hinduism, with articles on the Indian states and main regions of India, and on regions outside of India that are significant in the history of Hinduism. In addition, it has entries on sacred space and pilgrimage traditions, as well as sacred time and festival traditions. Secondly, it includes entries on the various gods, goddesses, and divine powers of Hinduism past and present. Four further volumes are planned, which are anticipated to be published at the rate of one per year.

Volume II: Texts, Rituals, Arts, Concepts

- Planned publication: 2010
- ISBN 978 90 04 17893 9

Volume II will consider the sacred languages of Hinduism and the abundance of Hindu religious texts and ritual traditions. It also covers art, architecture, and main religious concepts, as well as major concepts central to Hinduism.

Volume III: Society, Theology, Biography

- Planned publication: 2011
- ISBN 978 90 04 17894 6

This volume will cover social structures and organizations as well as professions. Major religious communities and theological sub-traditions will be presented, as well as biographies of a number of saints, gurus and yogis.

Volume IV: History, Philosophy, Knowledge Traditions, Interreligious Contact

- Planned publication: 2012
- ISBN 978 90 04 17895 3

History, Philosophy, Knowledge Traditions, Interreligious Contact deals with the historical periods of Hinduism, knowledge traditions, and schools of philosophy. This volume also includes Yoga and astrological traditions, Hinduism in legal and political contexts, and analyses of the interaction of Hinduism with other religions.

Volume V: Symbolism, Diaspora, Modern Issues

- Planned publication: 2013
- ISBN 978 90 04 17896 0

Symbolism, Diaspora, Modern Issues discusses significant symbols of Hinduism before delving into contemporary issues such as feminism, human rights, ecology, and bioethics. A broader examination of global Hinduism examines the missions to the West, gurus with international success and other significant persons of modern Hinduism, religious movements, as well as the many diaspora communities outside of South Asia.