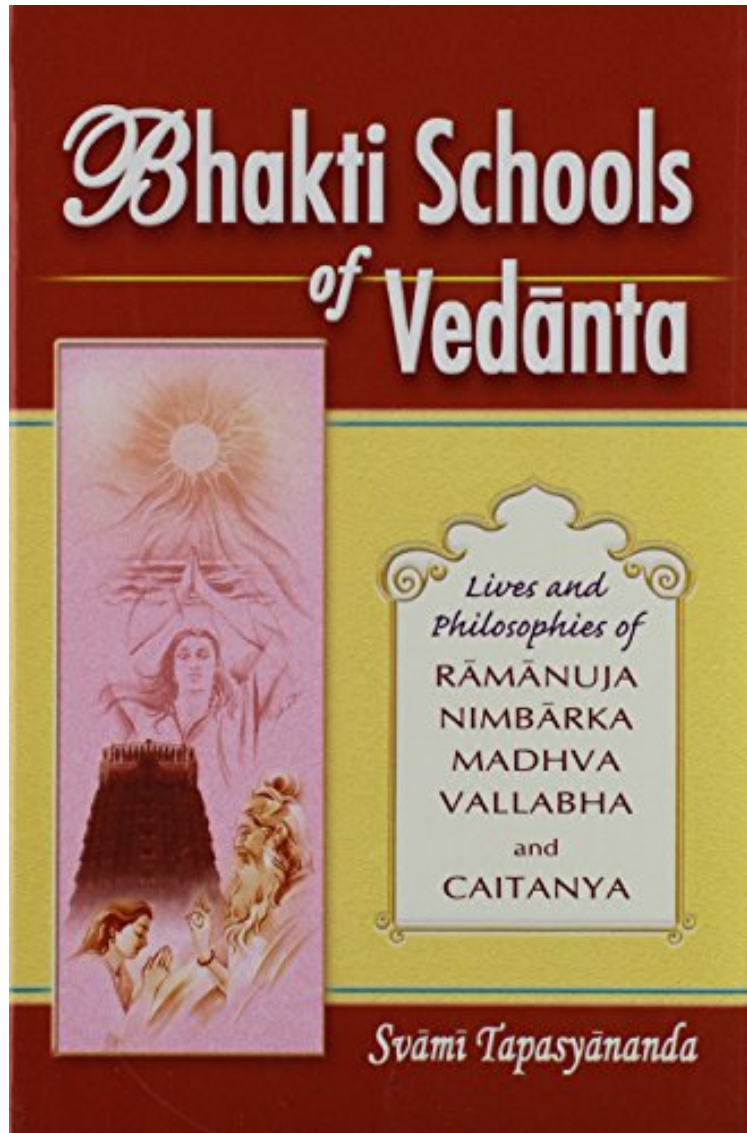


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5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A Wider View of VedantaBy Asia KhufThis clearly written book by an Advaitin Swami reminds us that Vedanta isn't just Advaita and that there are other great thinkers in Vedantin tradition besides Adi Shankara. None other than Swami Vivekananda recommends that in approaching Vedanta one start with the commonsensical dualism of Madhva, move on to the subtle insights of Ramanuja, and culminate in the pure non-dualism of Shankara. And in fact, the sections on those two non-Advaitin saints are of particular interest. Moreover, the account of Madhva is clearer here than in Sharma's book on him. The balance of biographical and philosophical material makes this an enjoyable introductory work.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy MuraliExcellent explanation. Clear and concise.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. defective ebookBy D.H.The work itself is high quality but the ebook is defective in so far as pages skip; or one can sometimes get to pages by going forward and then backing up, while some of the pages fly past but you can't get them to stay so that they can be read. The ebook needs fixed by whoever set it up so that this beautiful work in Vedanta is truly available for electronic reading. The book itself is so good that I would recommend it be purchased in the form made of paper.

Written to show that other teachers besides Shankara have equal status as teachers of Vedanta and that Advaita Vedanta is not the only important teaching of Vedanta, Bhakti Schools of Vedanta discusses alternative paths for spiritual aspirants through the Bhakti-Vedanta systems of thought.Presented here are the lives and philosophies of Sri Ramanuja, Sri Nimbarka, Sri Madhvacarya, Sri Vallabhacarya and Sri Caitanya, the founders of the major Vaishnava philosophical schools. It must be remembered that, while critical of Shankara's teachings, criticism is the essence of philosophical development, and each successive school is either a rejection or an elaboration of earlier doctrines. The teachings of these five Archaryas are addressed to those who do not find a congenial intellectual climate in Shankara's teachings.

About the AuthorSwami Tapasyananda was a senior monk of the Ramakrishna Mission. He was a disciple of Swami Shivananda, one of the eminent disciples of Sri Ramakrishna. The Swami was a vice-president of the Ramakrishna Order from 1985-1991. He was an erudite scholar in Indian and Western philosophy. He has to his credit many books in English, including the translations of many scriptures. His translation of Bhagavata Purana in four volumes has been highly acclaimed in intellectual and devotional circles. He was the president of Ramakrishna Math, Chennai from 1971-1991. Swamiji was well-known for his austere life and intuitive intellect. He was a prolific writer. He translated many Hindu classics into English from original Sanskrit.