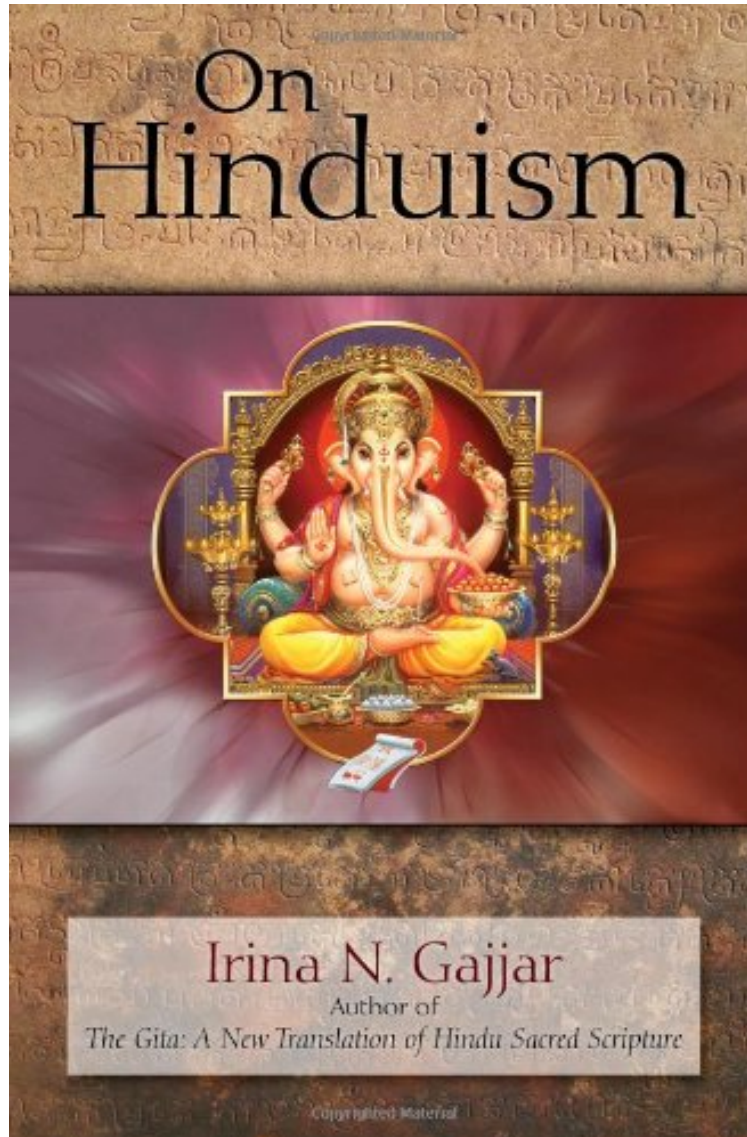


[Get free] On Hinduism

## On Hinduism

*Irina N Gajjar*

*ePub | \*DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#795291 in Books 2013-09-06Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 7.85 x .49 x 5.311, .51 #File Name: 1604190728197 pages | File size: 53.Mb

**Irina N Gajjar : On Hinduism** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On Hinduism:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. not your average textbookBy Jordan M CaciciA very interesting book, though for different reasons than I anticipated. I expected an introductory textbook on basic Hindu practices and instead found a collection of essays containing the authors musings on divinity. As a consequence, the reader must keep in mind that these reflections on God come from a Hindu practitioner with a particular set of beliefs and biases

(with a noticeable affinity for the Gita). However, this should not be seen as a shortcoming of the book, but rather a strength since it was clearly written with understanding and passion. Take this text as an opportunity to read about the complex nature of God in Hinduism from the perspective of a unique and scholarly believer. Bottom line: Whether you are a member of the Hindu faith looking to strengthen or challenge your own notions of the divine, or a student of religious studies looking to gain a deeper understanding of how some Hindus try to understand God, have a read through this book. If you want the kind of basic, purely descriptive, Asian Religions 101, traditional-style textbook, look somewhere else. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. On Hinduism by Irina Gajjar By Nini Heugle This important book discusses the origins and progress of Hindu beliefs through millenia and their relevance today. It is a perfect vehicle for anybody seeking to understand how monotheism, scripture, yoga, mythology, karma and tradition are intertwined in Hindu minds. Read in full, On Hinduism gives a faithful overview and interpretation of the multiple aspects of Hindu religion. It presents a clear picture of Hindu philosophy, practice and spirituality. Read in part, it can clear up questions you might have about Hindu belief and Hindu way of life. Excerpts from holy texts enhance many explanations. The glossary and detailed index are good reference tools. On Hinduism stands on its own, but also makes an excellent companion to Irina Gajjar's Sanskrit-to-English translation entitled The Gita: A New Translation of Hindu Sacred Scripture. While the beauty of this translation lies in the fact that interpretation is left to the reader, On Hinduism offers opinions and generally accepted views on how Hindus view God and life. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This is a horrible whitewashing of Hinduism for Western eyeballs. By S. J. Snyder That said, it stands in a tradition of about 200 years or so of such. That is less well known than the attempt to gussy up Buddhism for Western eyeballs. But calling Hinduism "monotheism" is about as true as calling Buddhism "just a psychology." That said, Gajjar talks around or ignores the main stumbling blocks of Hinduism. That includes: 1. If this world, and therefore, physical actions in it, are illusory, how can there be any such thing as karma? Isn't it too illusory? (Arguably, that could be seen as a version of Buddhist satori, but that's not the angle I'm taking.) 2. If we can't remember past lives, how does karma work? (Actually, in another satori-like moment, if past lives did exist, shouldn't we try harder to forget them, in a form of detachment?) 3. Assuming that the mind is embodied and physically based, how can we know the physical world is illusory since the mind is thus also illusory? Meanwhile any book purporting to explain Hinduism with NOT ONE MENTION OF KALI gets 1-starred on that grounds alone.

What is Hinduism? Historians, teachers, scholars, and gurus have disagreed for centuries and continue to disagree. One reason is because Hinduism the world's oldest continuously extant major religion is not a single faith with a static set of beliefs and a single sacred scripture. It is actually a mixture of faiths that have evolved from the inhabitants of the Indian subcontinent a universal faith that is open to interpretation and evolving scientific truth, and one that deeply respects individual thought. In this, her latest book, Gajjar has striven for clarity in her explanations while recognizing the immense complexity of the subject matter. In a sense, she writes, On Hinduism is an opinion about an opinion. Religions are beliefs and opinions about the universe, about humankind, about birth and death and matters of the spirit. Hinduism itself is a widely held belief system and this work is a true account of what Hindus believe. On Hinduism is a comprehensive account of contemporary Hinduism, a religion that for many justifies place and existence. The author skillfully weaves together history, philosophy, science, mythology, literature, and biography to give even the novice a strong framework to understand the depth and importance of Hinduism. The book is both an historical and a philosophical account, grounded by the deep reflections of an important mind.

On Hinduism is an intellectually engaging and respectful appraisal of a complex, diverse system which tends to resist simple explanations. That Gajjar manages to communicate so much of Hinduism to the reader so neatly, and with such authorial flair, seems quite an accomplishment. (Michelle Anne Schingler Foreword s, September 2013) About the Author Irina N. Gajjar holds a PhD in Ancient Indian Studies from Bombay University, and studied Sanskrit in India for ten years. She speaks eight languages, including Gujarati, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, Romanian, and French. Her first book, The Gita, was a new translation of the Bhagavad Gita, one of the great treasures of world religious, philosophical, and ethical literature. Gajjar lives in Chicago. ISBNs and titles of author's previous books: The Gita, A New Translation of Hindu Sacred Scripture, 978-0975366288; The Pokhraj, 978-1885373687