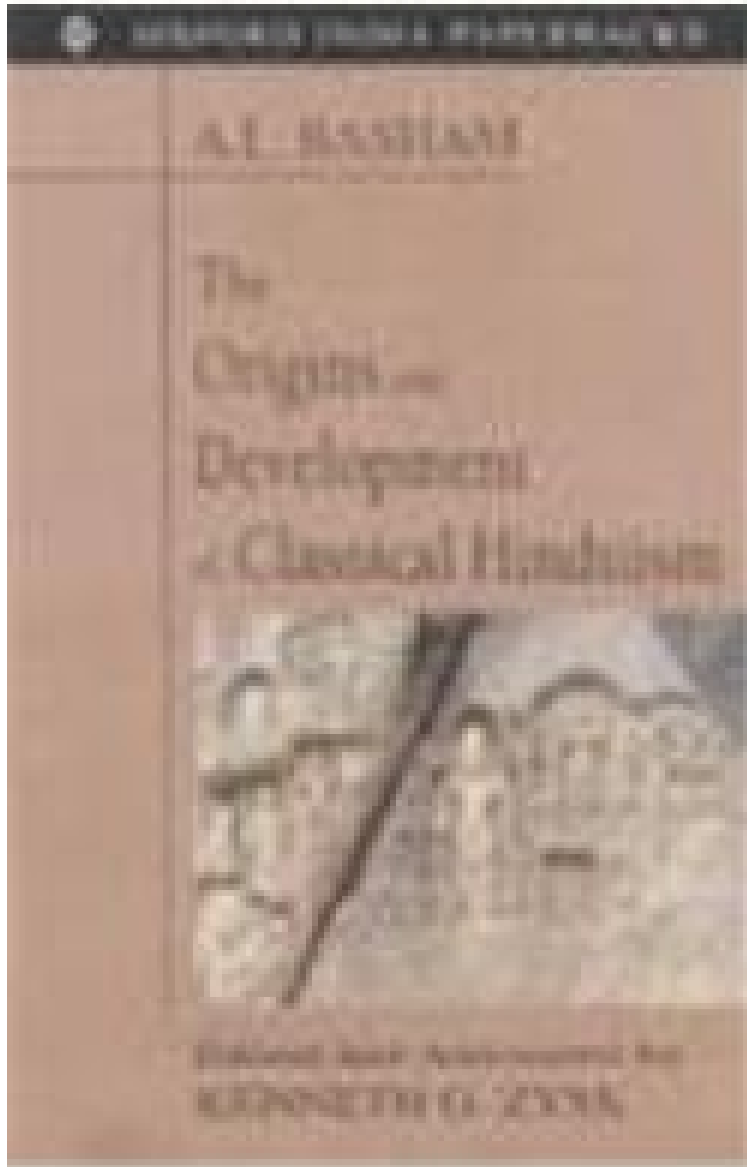


(Read free) The Origins and Development of Classical Hinduism (Oxford India Paperbacks)

The Origins and Development of Classical Hinduism (Oxford India Paperbacks)

A. L. Basham

ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#14069431 in Books 2003-05-22 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.50 x .39 x 5.471, .46 #File Name: 0195630858180 pages | File size: 71.Mb

A. L. Basham : The Origins and Development of Classical Hinduism (Oxford India Paperbacks) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Origins and Development of Classical Hinduism (Oxford India Paperbacks):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Too abbreviatedBy HHIn this volume A. L. Basham offers a lucid and informed summary of Hindu religious life. However, Basham's summary is very brief. This book considers material only through the time the great Indian epics the Mahahharata and the Ramayana were codified in roughly the 5th century A.D. Various chapters present the reader with clear summaries and articulate, if brief, analyses of Vedic thought and practice; the rise of philosophical speculation and the origin of the idea of transmigration (= reincarnation); mystical and ascetic contemplative traditions (including short discussions of the Jain, Ajivika, and Buddhist traditions); Hindu orthodoxy and the Indian epics; the teachings of the Gita and what Basham calls the "triumph of theism". These chapters are clearly written, accessible, wide in scope, yet succinct in presentation. The book's brevity means, however, that there is little sustained comment from Basham on such important topics as the flowering of sectarian theologies, the rise of the temple and domestic worship (puja), or the widespread solidification of emotional devotionism (bhakti). To be sure, precursors to these developments find mention throughout Basham's work. But they are not given the attention that early Brahmanic Hinduism receives. This is partially rectified by an additional chapter by the editor Kenneth Zysk on these and related developments. This book would make an excellent introductory text for the undergraduate with no familiarity with this material, as well as for specialists in regions or traditions other than India or Hinduism who would like a concise presentation. The book includes nearly 50 BW photographs of sculpted and painted images and of Vedic ritual performances.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerThank You0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A wonderfully informative bookBy Devsaday DuttThis is the best book on the origins and development of Hinduism. It is a book I will treasure having in my library

The late A L Basham was one of the world's foremost scholars of ancient Indian culture and religion. His account of the origins and development of classical Hinduism, compiled and expanded posthumously, represents a lifetime of study and reflection on the subject.

"I ecided to use this text as soon as I read it, and we have used it this term. The previous texts on Hinduism received criticism from the students in formal assessments. This year's class has very much liked Classical Hinduism, finding it readable and informative. The students have been more favorable to the course this year at least in part due to this text."--Prescott A. Rogers, cademy of the New Church College"The best brief introduction that I have seen. Basham coers all the essential material and much more. His style is wonderfully fluid and personal."--James Mayhall, University of Missouri-St. Louis"Best work on the subject. Simple and scholarly."--S. N. Desai, St. John's University"Clear and lucid, and it is enhanced by wonderful examples...of Hindu art. A useful introduction to the field."--Choice"Provides an insight into what is the 'original' Hinduism....Basham will send many back with eager minds to the original texts."--The Independent Sunday (India)"A fine book...a suitable introduction to Hinduism and to early Indic thought."--Willard Johnson, San Diego State University"This book is a gem! Sometimes mildly controversial, it is never eccentric, and it provides, in lucid style, much of the information most likely to interest beginners."--Douglas A. Fox, Colorado College"A concise, accurate and useful compilation of mataterials from one of the leading Indologists of our time."--Douglas R. Brooks, University of Rochester"Reflects deep knowledge of the Hindu tradition--a complex religion made simpler."--S.N. Desai, St. John's University"This is a lucid, comprehensive introduction to the essentials of classic Hinduism."--Bradley Nystrom, California State Univ., SacramentoFrom the Back CoverArthur Basham (1914-86) was one of the world's foremost scholars of ancient Indian culture and religion. His account of the origins and development of classical Hinduism compiled and expanded posthumously, represents a lifetime of sturdy and reflection on the subject.About the AuthorA L Basham is at Australian National University. Kenneth G Zysk is at Eastern Michigan University.