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From Peter Lang AG, Internationaler Verlag der Wissenschaften : The Perception of the Elements in the Hindu Tradition: La perception des elements dans les traditions hindoues before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Perception of the Elements in the Hindu Tradition: La

perception des elements dans les traditions hindoues:

The essays in this volume, contributions to an international symposium at the University of Lausanne in June 1998, represent the perception of the elements as a framework for the history of religions (Maya Burger), exemplified by the Hindu traditions. Each element is treated by a specialist in a different academic field in order to bring out a variety of approaches important to the discipline of the history of religion. Ether (akasa) was assigned to philosophy (Wilhelm Halbfass), wind to the history of religion (Bettina Bumer), fire to classical philology (Peter Schreiner), water to a specialist on Indian medicine (Arion Rosu) and earth to anthropology (Gabriella Eichinger Ferro-Luzzi, specializing on Tamil literature). Les articles du present volume, issus dun symposium international ayant eu lieu lUniversit de Lausanne en juin 1998, presentent la perception des lments comme base de recherche de ltude des religions (Maya Burger), exemplifie laide des traditions hindoues. Chaque lment est trait par un spcialiste dune discipline acadmique particulire dans le but de souligner la varit des approches ncessaire la discipline dhistoire des religions. Lther (akasa) a t considr sous langle de la philosophie (Wilhelm Halbfass), le vent sous celui de lhistoire des religions (Bettina Bumer), le feu sous celui de la philologie classique (Peter Schreiner), leau par un spcialiste de la mdecine indienne (Arion Rosu) et la terre sous langle de lanthropologie (Gabriella Eichinger Ferro-Luzzi, se concentrant sur la littrature tamoule).

This volume is a highly recommendable and inspiring contribution, which sets standards to a field that deserves further study. (Angelika Malinar, *Orientalistische Literaturzeitung*) Es gelingt dem mit einem Zusammenfassungsteil und einem Index endenden Buch vortrefflich, die mannigfaltige Interpretationen ermoglichende Interdisziplinaritt des Forschungsfeldes in den Vordergrund zu stellen. (Bogdan Diaconescu, *Zeitschrift fr Missionswissenschaft und Religionswissenschaft*) About the Author The Editors: Maya Burger has studied anthropology and indology at Lausanne, in India and in the United States. She is professor of the Science of Religion at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. Peter Schreiner has studied in Mainz, Munich, Philadelphia and Mnster; he has worked for several years at the University of Tbingen and is currently professor of Indology at the University of Zrich. Maya Burger a fait des tudes danthropologie et dindologie Lausanne, en Inde et aux tats-Unis. Elle est professeure de science des religions lUniversit de Lausanne. Peter Schreiner a tudi Mainz, Mnchen, Philadelphia et Mnster. Il a travaill plusieurs annes luniversit de Tbingen et est actuellement professeur dindologie Zrich.