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Paul Deussen

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in the varying strains of Eastern philosophical and religious thought such as those of Zen and Advaita Vedanta. "The Philosophy of the Upanishads" is a serious intellectual work of the first-order by one of the world's great thinkers, a work whose text should at the very least be afforded the courtesy of a clear and accessible presentation. Unfortunately, the edition for sale here at .com by the publisher "Forgotten Books" offers only a very sketchy digitally reproduced printing with many elided pages and text that is virtually illegible, thereby rendering the volume unsuitable for serious study. As luck has it, a publisher in India by the name of Motilal Banarsidass is currently producing a quality printing of this work for a modest price under ISBN:812081620X. This is the paperback edition I ended up purchasing after returning the "Forgotten Books" printing to .com for a refund, and I am quite pleased with its quality. In closing, I highly recommend Deussen's book as a piquant and scholarly introduction to the critical study of the Upanishads that still fares quite well against many more contemporary albeit less inspired volumes, though be sure to avoid this edition in favor of the version noted above or, better still, an original pressing. 6 of 10 people found the following review helpful. The Upanishads for today By Al Link and Pala Copeland Paul Deussen, a student roommate of Friedrich Nietzsche and a professor of Sanskrit at the University of Kiel in Germany, dedicated 35 years of his life to the study of Indian philosophy. Originally published in German (Die Philosophie der Upanishads) a century ago, this book was translated into English by A.S. Geden in 1906. According to Deussen, the philosophy of the Upanishads is the "culminating point of the Indian doctrine of the universe" and "in philosophical significance has been surpassed by none of the later developments of thought up to the present day."

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