

Vedanta philosophy and religion there. He was a mystic, a poet and an innovator in spiritual community living.

Buddhists-Todd Lewis 2014-04-02 Buddhists: Understanding Buddhism through the Livesof Practitioners provides a series of case studies ofAsian and modern Western Buddhists, spanning history, gender, andclass, whose lives are representative of the ways in whichBuddhists throughout time have embodied the tradition. Portrays the foundational principles of Buddhist belief throughthe lives of believers, illustrating how the religion is put intopractice in everyday life Takes as its foundation the inherent diversity within Buddhistsociety, rather than focusing on the spiritual and philosophicalelite within Buddhism Reveals how individuals have negotiated the choices, tensions,and rewards of living in a Buddhist society Features carefully chosen case studies which cover a range ofAsian and modern Western Buddhists Explores a broad range of possible Buddhist orientations incontemporary and historical contexts

Jesus and Buddha-Marcus J. Borg 1999-01-01 If Jesus and Buddha were to meet, they would recognize one another as fellow prophets because they were teaching the same truths. This is the spirit conveyed, both in words and images, by this lavishly illustrated gift book.Readers will cherish both the book's message and presentation. Here are two great spiritual teachers from two very different traditions guiding us - whether talking about love, wisdom, or materialism - along the same path.Using meditative color photos to complement the universal truths these two charismatic figures proclaimed, this - the first trade paper edition of the illustrated edition - is an important and illuminating oracle of wisdom for all who believe that the spiritual outweighs the material. At the same time, it is a fascinating and appealing anthology of key beliefs within two of the world's great religions.

The Foundations of Buddhism-Rupert Gethin 1998-07-16 In this introduction to the foundations of Buddhism, Rupert Gethin concentrates on the ideas and practices which constitute the common heritage of the different traditions of Buddhism (Thervada, Tibetan and Eastern) which exist in the world today.

The Handy Religion Answer Book-John Renard 2012-04-01 Providing detailed descriptions of the beliefs, rituals, history, and organization of the world's eight major religious traditions, including Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Shinto, this fully revised and updated edition is an easy-to-use comparative guide for anyone seeking basic religious literacy. Clearly and eloquently written by a scholar with more than 40 years of study and teaching experience, The Handy Religion Answer Book is organized into chapters on each major religion and contains a wealth of information about their history, beliefs, symbols, membership, leaders, observances, and customs. The reference answers more than 800 questions, such as What is the significance of the Star of David? How did so many different Christian churches come into being? What is the importance of the month of Ramadan? What is an Ayatollah? and Do Taoists believe in heaven and hell?, as well as new questions concerning religion and violence and suborganizations that claim affiliation with the major faith communities. A glossary of religious terminology, maps of the general coverage areas for each religion, and suggestions for further reading are also included.

Elaborations on Emptiness-Donald S. Lopez Jr. 2016-11-22 The Heart Sutra is perhaps the most famous Buddhist text, traditionally regarded as a potent expression of emptiness and of the Buddha's perfect wisdom. This brief, seemingly

simple work was the subject of more commentaries in Asia than any other sutra. In Elaborations on Emptiness, Donald Lopez explores for the first time the elaborate philosophical and ritual uses of the Heart Sutra in India, Tibet, and the West. Included here are full translations of the eight extant Indian commentaries. Interspersed with the translations are six essays that examine the unusual roles the Heart Sutra has played: it has been used as a mantra, an exorcism text, a tantric meditation guide, and as the material for comparative philosophy. Taken together, the translations and essays that form Elaborations on Emptiness demonstrate why commentary is as central to modern scholarship on Buddhism as it was for ancient Buddhists. Lopez reveals unexpected points of instability and contradiction in the Heart Sutra, which, in the end, turns out to be the most malleable of texts, where the logic of commentary serves as a tool of both tradition and transgression.

The Great Religions-Marc-Alain Ouaknin 2004 'The Great Religions - Essential Questions' is an invitation to discover and better understand four of the most influential spiritual faiths - Judaism, Catholicism, Islam, and Tibetan Buddhism. And in his introductory essay, Bruce Feiler Bible and Learning to Bow of public discourse. Feiler, whose most recent book, Abraham, was featured on the cover of Time magazine and has generated interfaith discussions around the world, also explores the rise of interfaith relationships in our increasingly divisive world. Why does God allow evil? What is the hereafter? Is religion necessary? These are some of the essential questions to which the four authors, each representing a different belief, respond in a clear and accessible manner. This book offers a contemporary response to our spiritual questions while helping us to decipher the ritual and cultural symbols that constitute our heritage.

An End to Suffering-Pankaj Mishra 2010-08-24 An End to Suffering is a deeply original and provocative book about the Buddha's life and his influence throughout history, told in the form of the author's search to understand the Buddha's relevance in a world where class oppression and religious violence are rife, and where poverty and terrorism cast a long, constant shadow. Mishra describes his restless journeys into India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, among Islamists and the emerging Hindu middle class, looking for this most enigmatic of religious figures, exploring the myths and places of the Buddha's life, and discussing Western explorers' "discovery" of Buddhism in the nineteenth century. He also considers the impact of Buddhist ideas on such modern politicians as Gandhi and Nelson Mandela. As he reflects on his travels and on his own past, Mishra shows how the Buddha wrestled with problems of personal identity, alienation, and suffering in his own, no less bewildering, times. In the process Mishra discovers the living meaning of the Buddha's teaching, in the world and for himself. The result is the most three-dimensional, convincing book on the Buddha that we have.

The Dhammapada -2004-04-29 The Dhammapada is a collection of aphorisms that illustrate the moral teachings of Buddha - the spiritual path to the supreme Truth. Probably compiled in the third century BCE, the verses are arranged according to theme, covering ideas such as self-possession, good and evil, watchfulness and endurance. Together they describe how an individual can attain the enlightenment of Nirvana, the supreme goal of Buddhism. The road to Nirvana, as illustrated in The Dhammapada, is narrow and difficult to negotiate, but the reward of eternal life gives hope and determination to the traveller.