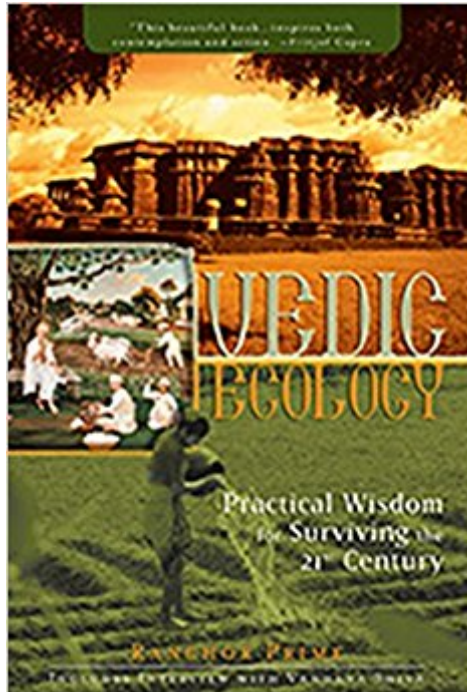


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Vedic Ecology: Practical Wisdom For Surviving The 21st Century



Synopsis

Drawing on India's ancient roots, Prime explores the possibility of applying old-world knowledge to new-world problems. Discover the environmental perspective put forth by the Vedas and how environmental activists and thinkers are applying it today. The author presents his own conclusions about high thinking and simple living, as well as interviewing prominent activists including scientist Vandana Shiva, Satish Kumar, Banwari (editor of Jansata, a Hindi daily newspaper) and prominent environmentalist Sevak Saran. Includes over 45 illustrations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Vedic Ecology is divided into three parts, "Learning From the Tradition," "India in the Balance," and "Campaigning for the Future." Ranchor's discussion of tradition starts with two chapters on forests. He explains, "At the outset of the nineteenth century India was well endowed with thick forest land. To meet the British Empire's needs during the nineteenth century, the forests were gradually nationalized and the Indian Forestry Department set up to exploit them." He says that huge areas of virgin forest were felled for shipbuilding, railways, industrial fuel, etc. However, he quotes Sevak Sharan, noted Indian environmentalist, who describes how, by redeveloping India's spiritual culture and environment side by side, human society and the environment can be saved. Sharan says, "human beings are part of the forest splendor and should therefore, in their natural state, love and respect it. [...] If we are not kind to the tree, the ant or some other animal or plant, we are not environmentalists. We have to see Krishna in every being. This is one of the requirements for the environmentalist." Ranchor continues his tradition section of Vedic Ecology with a chapters on the

Sleeping Creator, Cosmic Person, Ten Avatars, and Krishna, the Forest Cowherd, Who honors the hill, sun, trees, and cows. In his second section, "India In the Balance," Ranchor presents Gandhi's vision in a chapter entitled, Village Economics. His next chapter, Life of Sacrifice, is an interview with Satish Kumar, founder of the first international college devoted to teaching a spiritual approach to the environment.

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