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The Rig Veda [Unabridged, English Translation] (The Vedas Book 2)



Synopsis

Within Hinduism, there are four Sacred Texts: Rig Veda, Sama Veda, Yajur Veda, and Atharva Veda. The Rig Veda is the oldest of the four, and consists of 10 books of hymns. It was created approximately 1500 B.C. and codified around 600 B.C. The writer of the book is unknown, but it is postulated that the book was written after 300 B.C. The Vedas are some of the most ancient sacred texts that are still in existence today. The Rig Veda contains hymns that give us an insight of life in India in the past, as well as mythological and poetical accounts of the origin of the world, hymns for praising the gods, ancient prayers for life, prosperity, and more. This eBook, "The Complete Rig Veda", contains all 10 books of the Rig Veda, translated to English. This is the full, unabridged version translated by Ralph T. H. Griffith. This version also contains an easy to use "search" feature to allow you to quickly jump to any hymn within seconds, as opposed to scrolling through thousands of hymns via the Table of Contents. It's been completely formatted to work properly on eReader devices.

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Customer Reviews

Way back in September, 2004, I posted a review of a hardcover reprint edition, from Book of the

Month Club, of an antiquated (late Victorian) translation of an ancient sacred text from India, the Rig-Veda (RV), describing the work, and the obsolescence of the translation. In that format it was edited -- that is, selected and introduced -- by the historian of religions, Jaroslav Pelikan, as part of a Book of the Month Club set of "Sacred Writings," of which it was Volume 5, "Hinduism," forming a companion to volumes of sacred texts of Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Confucianism, and Buddhism. The edition is occasionally available through sellers, so that review has been kept alive. By "antiquated," I mean not only in the scholarship regarding Sanskrit vocabulary and grammar, which has advanced in the last century on several fronts, but also to Griffith's preference for vaguely King-James-Version English, and his use of obsolescent words, like "kine" as the plural of "cow," and eccentric ones, such as "meath" instead of "honey," a rare (and almost unintelligible) cognate for Sanskrit maddhu, probably substituted for the synonymous "mead" (a drink made from fermented honey, and so likely to be offensive to good Hindus). In October 2005, however, I reviewed Kessinger's then-recent digital version of the same translation, pointing out both problems with the version itself, and shortcomings in the electronic realization of it. The review of the Kessinger product was shifted by to one by Digireads, which for some time has not been available, either, so that review is accessible only on the "See All My Reviews" pages.

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