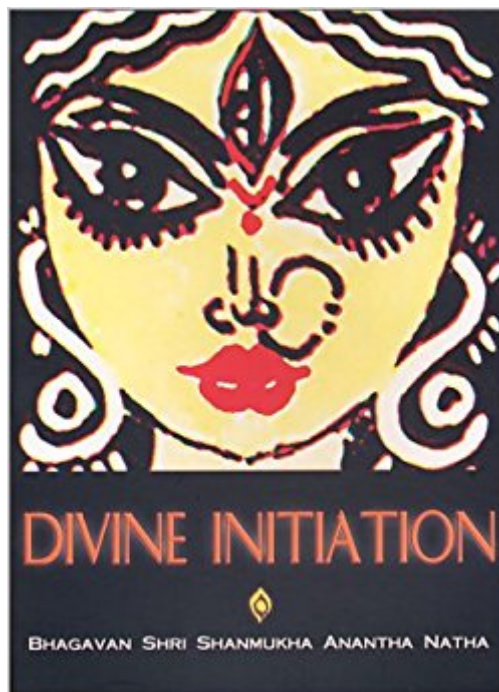


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Divine Initiation



Synopsis

Divine Initiation If one reads this book once, cover to cover, one will understand the meaning of the Veda and attain the keys to interpret the hymns in the Veda. After this, if one reads this book backwards, one will understand the inner details of the Tantras, especially the specific language of the Tantras. This is as good as initiation into either the Tantras or the Veda. The Veda and the Tantras carry the same technicalities. Today, it is unknown, even in India, that the Divinities make up the fabric of Vedic metaphysics. In fact scholars, not understanding the relevance of these Divinities and their representations, had only a vague understanding of the Veda and therefore the remaining branches of Indic science, for instance, the Agamas and Tantras. This lacuna has been filled by two foremost scholars and practitioners of the science of the Veda and therefore the Tantras, Bhagavan Shri Shanmukha and Shri Ma Kristina Baird. They are offering the world another approach to that of the contemporary Indian orthodoxy and the academicians. The Veda itself has a structure, a currently unknown facet, which makes it possible to understand the Vedic science precisely and not fall for wild speculations. This is important for even Orientalists who are embarking on the pursuit of fresh enquiry (away from the early Orientology based on Max Muller's ideas) or a neophyte, who wants to not only explore but also understand the science of spiritualism or the Veda. It is important to understand the Veda, as it is the Veda that holds the technical wisdom of the Agamas, Tantras and Yoga. Apart from this, it is important to understand the Veda if one is to understand the history, culture and politics of a larger society of beings. Without knowing the Veda, one will not understand India and its spiritual science or practices. The Veda is also a common link common between humankind. The Greek works of Homer, the "Odyssey" and "Iliad," have their closest kinship only in the Veda. This is also true of the Chinese work the "Book of Odes" or Shi Jing in Chinese. The ancient Iranian work known as the "Avesta" too is almost exactly the same as the Veda. Indeed, the Veda seemed to be the legacy of all humanity in the past as how numbers are common to all today. Without understanding the Divinities one will not understand the Veda. India's Divinities and indeed all ancient Divinities had unusual attributes. These attributes are meaningless to one who is new to this ancient science of spiritualism. However, the Divinities were deliberately presented graphically in the ancient world. Universally, the Divinities of the world were presented as icons to convey specific aspects of the science of spiritualism. For example, the Greek God Zeus holds a scepter with an eagle on top in his left hand and the winged goddess of Victory (Nike) in his right hand. Zeus is equivalent to the Indic God Dyaus, the father of Agni in the Rg Veda. After writing became a norm and the printing industry became an everyday phenomenon, we forgot that the ancient world too had its own system of education and therefore communication. In

the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, we adhered to Darwinism. In adhering to Darwinism, we also lost the relevance of the spiritual icons. Surprisingly, it took two practitioners (not orthodox representatives of spirituality or academicians of the institution of Orientology) to come up with the answers. The Divinities are not to be confused with Carl Jung's idea of symbolism. The Divinities denote aspects of metaphysics that are unique to the thought system of the ancient world. The Veda boasts of 33,000 Divinities. Homer's "Iliad" and "Odyssey" each contain a myriad of Divinities. The Qabbalists (who believe in an esoteric interpretation of the Hebrew Torah) present millions of Angels. The Chinese civilization, inclusive of the Buddhists, too has hundreds of Divinities. The same is also true of the Egyptian pantheon of Divinities. In fact, the presentation of these icons, anywhere from Greece to China, is analogous. On understanding this book, one can understand the parallel presentations in the various civilizations. If one reads this book, which is presented in its Vedic format from front to back, one can understand not only the spiritual science as presented by the Veda but also the metaphysics of ancient Greece and China. If one reads this book backwards, one will certainly understand the esoteric sense of Tantra. However, it is important to read this work forwards at least once. After reading this work front to back, and if one reads only the chapters on the Divinity Shiva and his related icons, his wife Parvati and his sons, Ganesha and Skandha, one will understand the Shaiva Agamas. Similarly, if one reads only the chapters on Vishnu and family, Narayana and Krishna, one will understand the Vaishnava or Vishnu Agamas. By reading the chapters on the Goddesses, one will attain an understanding of the Tantras. This is important if one wants to practice the spiritual science of either the Veda or the Tantras.

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Customer Reviews

The author of this work is known by his initiated name, Bhagavan Shri Shanmukha Anantha Natha. This name reveals his initiation into the Uttara Shaiva Tradition. He is also well-versed with the Dakshina Shaiva Traditions. It is through the practice of Tantra that the Veda unfolded to him. The author's abilities enable him to understand the scriptures of several religions (see his concurrently released work "Third Eye of the Buddhist" and soon to be released work "Divine Agamas"). His knowledge of religion also leads to many practices and concepts that until now were obscured in mystery to be now known, especially those related to the study of Yoga, Tantras and Agamas.

Divine Initiation is a timeless tool for unlocking the sophisticated science of Monism. The author goes into great detail about the code for unlocking the principles and concepts which were thoroughly integrated world wide in the past. In addition to this, the author explores contemporary ideas with precise references to specific scholars and popular academic works of Orientology and Vedic Studies, giving concise and impartial criticisms in order to provide the serious student all the information necessary to comprehend such a vast and complex subject. This book saves many years of study. Reading and integrating the information that is explored and synthesized in Divine Initiation allows for the reader to become comprehensively familiar with the information available within the contemporary academic world. Next, it allows one to familiarize oneself with a traditional way of writing and exploring a subject from a deductive and wholesome perspective, while refraining from a fragmented and inductive approach. This book gives serious students a solid foundation into other avenues of study. Difficult indeed, but well worth the time commitment and earnest study.

I read this during my tantra yoga studies at Shri Kali Ashram. I was always drawn towards spirituality, but the logical/intellectual side of me could not make peace with any world religions as they are generally understood today. This book showed me for the first time a way in which spirituality could be understood, and all the world's religious systems could genuinely co-exist, honoring the same eternal essence, without having to compromise their fundamental philosophies or ignore parts of themselves. By giving an explanation of Vedic symbolism, it allows the reader to go on to see the symbolism used in other scriptural systems in a new light with further study. This understanding has brought me peace and given me a new healthy perspective on religion, history, modernity, and myself. For that I am truly grateful.

Veda and Yoga was the focus of my interest for years and I spent hundreds of hours reading about the subject. It is quite remarkable that this small book was probably more helpful than everything

else combined. Veda is not just ancient religious nonsense but a wholesome science. I suppose nothing makes this matter more clear than this book. But be prepared to work hard to make it through the book as it challenges everything we've been told by the western scholars as well as the present materialistic world view. The reward is awesome though: suddenly the whole Vedic tradition makes sense.

This book is not for the casual reader. This book is for the serious student of Tantra and Yoga, seeking to understand the essential teachings of the Vedas.

Not exactly a work of scholarship, though it wishes it was. Has some interesting views on interpretation of religious imagery and allegory in Hindu religious tradition. Also explains some conflicting theories on monotheism vs pantheism in Hindu iconography, and tries to refute some western claims (perhaps dismissive of hindu beliefs), but I was unclear of where I stood after the read. I found the book slightly interesting, but painful to read, having forced myself to read it as a prerequisite to a class I was interested in. I would not have read it for it's content alone.

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This book gives an insight into the Vedas and into spirituality in general that I have not found in any other book. I must admit that the first time I read it, it was challenging to read and certain parts was difficult to understand. However, it is definitely worth taking the time to read it. And with a bit of patience it reveals unique knowledge about the Vedas and spirituality in general that has helped me not only in understanding the Vedas better, but also in understanding myself and the world around me better. I have now read it several times (not something I usually do with books) and it only gets better and reveals deeper layers every time.

This book opens up a whole world of spirituality for the reader. It is a complete and thorough exposition of the meaning behind the ancient spiritual texts. Though the author concentrates on the works of Vedism (Hinduism), his findings are applicable to all religions. If you're tired of having your religious quandries answered by statements like "that's just the way it is", or "we are not meant to know", or "the reasons are lost in the ashes of time", then read this book. It doesn't matter if you have a PhD in Orientology or have never heard of the Veda, this book will have something to offer you in your quest for knowlege.

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