

Radha From Gopi To Goddess

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radha occupies a space which moves from the aesthetics of shringara rasa to the theology of shringara bhakti from

the madhurya of pushtimarg vaishnavism to the prema of gaudiya vaishnavism taking in its stride the philosophies of advaita and dvaita the traditions of shakti and shakta she takes us from the devotional poetry of bhaktikal to the courtly poetry of ritikal and even beyond to the modern poetry of adhunikkal radha is both kamini and ramani desirable and beautiful she is both a gopi and a nayika and through her we feel the presence of krishna in vrindavana and the opulence of the vaishnava rajput courts she is a devi in the temples of the gaudiyas and through her we are able to worship krishna and finally she is even a kalankini or the defiled one and through her we are privy to the folk literature of bengal and modern middle class psychology of the bhadrakalok

replete with inspired illustrations by award winning artists b g sharma and mahaveer swami beauty power grace features krishna dharma s dramatic retellings of pivotal ancient indian stories of the many hindu goddesses adapted from ancient sanskrit texts the stories in beauty power grace represent one of the most fundamental aspects of hinduism the innumerable manifestations of divinity among these the portrayal of the goddess is perhaps the most alluring she appears as a devoted wife a master of the arts a terrifying demon slayer a scornful critic and a doting mother to name just a few of her forms in vedic tradition these depictions of the goddess reflect the belief that male and female are simply different expressions of one supreme absolute truth these profound stories are brought together here in an exquisitely illustrated collection that reveals the various manifestations of the goddess ranging from the iconic to the obscure mother yashoda peers into her infant s mouth and is astonished to catch a glimpse of the entire universe ganga devi now synonymous with the sacred river rides upon a great crocodile and purifies those whom she encounters and kali adorned with a garland of skulls drinks the blood of her victims on the battlefield a definitive and timeless celebration of goddess imagery symbolism and lore beauty power grace stunningly displays the fascinating intersection between color form and meaning at the heart of hindu tradition

goddess images are omnipresent within the cultural fabric of india yet most indians are unaware of uplifting meanings these images convey in the book images of indian goddesses dr madhu bazaz wangu explains the emergence of indian goddesses within the changing social political and cultural environment from the prehistoric to the present times and explains their metaphysical meanings why are hindu goddesses paradoxical in nature why are

they portrayed as erotic and maternal simultaneously why do they have multiple arms why do some of them have their own vehicle vahana and some do not why are such images portrayed on the popular calendar posters the book answers such questions and helps the reader understand their meanings the goddesses discussed range from the devoted sita to the sinister kali from the warrior durga to the auspicious shri lakshmi from the erotic radha to the serene sarasvati and many others dr wangu firmly feels that if experienced hindu goddesses have a potential for stimulating the onlooker s innermost self experiencing goddess imagery uplifts this worldly life and ponders the nature of the other worldly existence furthermore the book argues that the goddesses are stimulating and empowering models not only for indian women but for all images of indian goddesses helps a common person understand and appreciate the bewildering number of female images expressed in india s sacred art the book is not only absorbing and inspiring it also offers a visual treasury of goddess art images its text is food for the mind and the illustrations are a feast for the eyes

this book is a printed edition of the special issue religious experience in the hindu tradition that was published in religions

this felicitation volume is dedicated to professor deepak kumar behera and his contribution to the anthropology of odisha india and beyond it highlights the intersections of the concepts of vulnerability marginalization and culture pivotal for his research which constantly sensitized the academic community as well as the wider society to these themes throughout his career the volume brings together researchers from india and beyond who collaborated with professor behera throughout the last years all chapters focus on a fieldwork orientated approach leading to rich ethnographic analyses informed by a long term engagement between researcher and interlocutors

sacred starts a fresh guide to hindu baby names is a heartfelt and thoughtful book crafted to help parents find the perfect name for their child one that s rich in meaning spirituality and individuality in hindu culture naming is a sacred act often influenced by tradition astrology and symbolism this guide honors those roots while offering a modern curated collection of both classic and rare names from sanskrit and hindu philosophy with clarity and warmth the book addresses the desires of contemporary parents who seek names that are easy to pronounce unique and

spiritually resonant from deities and virtues to nature and poetic inspiration every name carries a story categorized alphabetically and by gender the book is designed as a companion not a catalog guiding readers with care insight and cultural depth it celebrates the power of names as lifelong gifts and marks the beginning of a sacred journey in parenthood

the all powerful goddess has been a source of inspiration and guidance to followers for centuries this lavish engaging book published to accompany the major exhibition in sydney explores the many imaginative manifestations of the divine female in the art of india tibet and nepal tapping into the recent huge surge in interest in eastern religions and philosophies this volume is the ultimate survey of a complex and fascinating topic

voted peta s sexiest vegetarian over 50 at age 70 mimi kirk is uniquely positioned to share her raw food recipes and lifestyle secrets from her travel around the globe everyone knows that eating well makes you feel good bu

origin and development of the tārā buddhist deity cult its rituals forms and iconography as found in hindu tantras a study

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