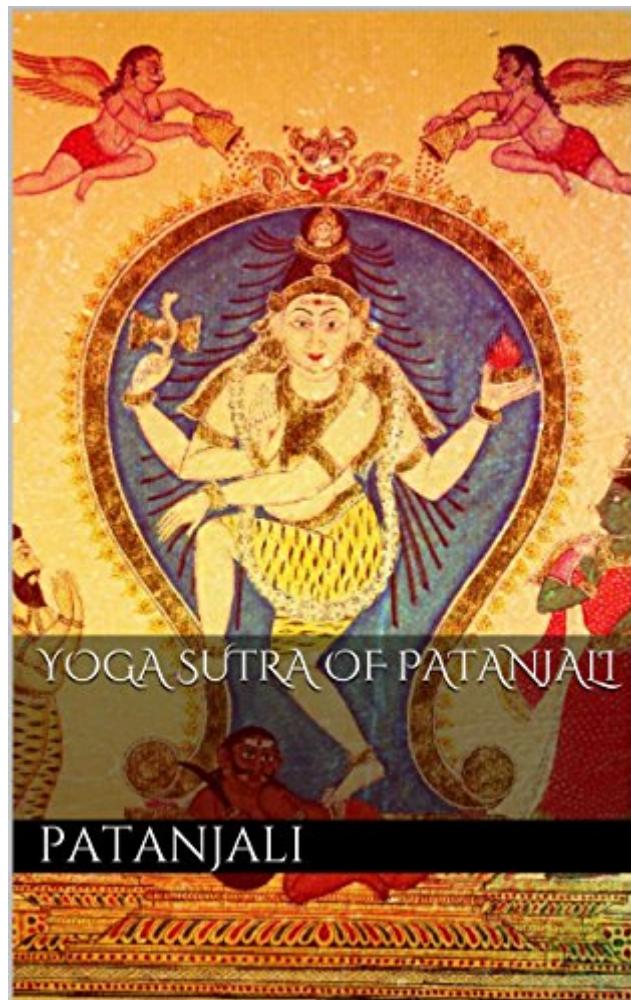


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Yoga Sutra Of Patanjali



Synopsis

The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali are in themselves exceedingly brief, less than ten pages of large type in the original. Yet they contain the essence of practical wisdom, set forth in admirable order and detail. The theme, if the present interpreter be right, is the great regeneration, the birth of the spiritual from the psychical man: the same theme which Paul so wisely and eloquently set forth in writing to his disciples in Corinth, the theme of all mystics in all lands.

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Customer Reviews

With the possible exception of the Bhagavad Gita, the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali is one of the most translated Hindu scripture in existence. The Commentaries are innumerable and rival in number to the translations as well. This book joins the ranks in the many available English versions. The translator of this version – not apparently identified in the book – points out that this is an interpretation of this great work. This version contains a commentary on each sutra. It also is a drastic reinterpretation of the work, creating a new terminology in the process. The meaning is there, the essence of the various sutras are present, but instead of retaining the original Sanskrit word of the various concepts found therein, or an ordinary translation, the translator/interpreter has

employed his/her own terminology. Thus, instead of *avidya*, ignorance, the translator/interpreter uses ‘*œunwisdom*.’ • The *gunas* are ‘*œpotencies of nature*.’ • *Samskaras* become ‘*œmind-impressions*,’ • and *pratyayas* become ‘*œmind images*.’ • *Dharana* becomes, ‘*œattention*,’ • *dhyana* becomes ‘*œmeditation*,’ • *samadhi* becomes ‘*œsoul vision*,’ • and *samyana*, the combined concentration of *dharana*, *dhyana*, and *samadhi*, becomes ‘*œperfectly concentrated meditation*.’ • Using terminology in this manner is in many instances conveys more meaning because many of the original Sanskrit words cannot be adequately translated in a single word. The Sanskrit word, *vritti* is a good example. Some translations render this word as ‘*œfluctuations*.’ • It usually takes a commentary to further explain to meaning of *vrittis*. This interpretation uses the phrase, ‘*œversatile psychic nature*.’ • This is an entirely different approach to the *Yoga Sutras*.

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