

Discerning The Buddha: A Study Of Buddhism And Of The Brahmanical Hindu Attitude To It



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(Rhea Toy)

DISCERNING THE BUDDHA: A STUDY OF BUDDHISM AND OF THE BRAHMANICAL HINDU ATTITUDE TO IT

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Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 2008. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 15 X 23. Modern enlightened "Hindus" wedded to the Vaidika/Sanatana Dharma tradition hold that the Buddha was a "Hindu" reformer, Buddhism a "Hindu sect;" that original Buddhist teaching was Vedantic or "Hinduistic," and that the Buddhists have misunderstood the fulfilment of "the Hindu religion" and distorted the original teachings of the Great Master! On the other hand, stalwarts like Swami Vivekananda and Sarvapalli Dr Radhakrishnan also say that the Buddha is one of the makers of "Hinduism." The former even said that the Buddha was the greatest "Hindu" seer, philosopher, Vedantin, Karmayogin, and the only God who walked on the earth. Satkari Mookerjee has declared that "every Hindu is a Buddhist." The Puranas inform us that the son of Suddhodana, born among the non-Aryan tribe of Kikatas, was no other than the Supreme Lord Visnu who had assumed a false avatara for the sole purpose of misleading demons! This Incarnation of God had criticised the Vedas, opposed the sacred Vedic ceremonies, and questioned the supremacy of the Brahmanas. The present book attempts an analysis and a systematic study of the traditional Brahmanical now called "Hindu" attitude to Buddhism in India. The bulk of the volume, however, is devoted to an exposition of the fundamental doctrines of Buddhism in the Indian context. The evolution of "Hinduism," the differences between Buddhism and Brahmanism/Hinduism, the differences between the ancient and medieval representatives and modern representatives of the Brahmanical tradition to Buddhism, Buddhist responses to this modern "Hindu" attitude, and a review of Buddhist contributions to Indianism, are some of the subjects discussed in this book. One of the most important parts of the book deals with what the author has called "God's Alternative in Buddhism." An outline of Buddhology as a systematic...



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