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India: The Ancient Tradition of Universal Tolerance (Paperback)

By Alain Daniélou

Inner Traditions Bear and Company, United States, 2005.
 Paperback. Book Condition: New. Us ed.. 213 x 150 mm.
 Language: English . Brand New Book. A collection of Daniélou's writings that builds a bold and cogent defense of India's caste system - Looks at the Hindu caste system not as racist inequality but as a natural ordering of diversity - Reveals the stereotypes of Indian society invented to justify colonialism - Includes never-before-published articles by the internationally recognized Hindu scholar and translator of The Complete Kama Sutra (200,000 copies sold) In classical India social ethics are based on each individual's functional role in society. These ethics vary according to caste in order to maximize the individual's effectiveness in the social context. This is the definition of caste ethics. The Indian caste system is not a hierarchy with some who are privileged and others who are despised; it is a natural ordering, an organizing principle, of a society wherein differences are embraced rather than ignored. In the caste system it is up to the individual to achieve perfection in the state to which he or she is born, since to a certain extent that state also forms part...



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