


Introducing Hinduism: A Graphic Guide

Vinay Lal , Borin Van Loon

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Introducing Hinduism offers a guide to the key philosophical, literary, mythological and cultural traditions of this extraordinarily diverse faith. It untangles the complexities of Hinduism's gods and goddesses, its caste system and its views on sex, everyday life and asceticism. It answers questions including: Why do Hindus revere the cow? Must Hindus be vegetarian? And much more...

Introducing Hinduism: A Graphic Guide Details

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From Reader Review Introducing Hinduism: A Graphic Guide for online ebook

Duncan Reed says

330,000,000 gods and goddesses... very complicated and interesting religion

Rayna says

a wonderful and easy way to understand the religion, but I'm definately wanting MORE knowledge about the subject matter.

Animesh Mitra says

Disgusting, boring, non-informative, even Wikipedia gives more information than this nauseating and obnoxious pamphlets.

Laveena Behl says

The book is a very surface level attempt to decode Hinduism, a religion that encompasses humongous volumes of literature like the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, which are anthologies in itself, consisting of several episodes that account for different texts of their own. It is indeed quite an ambitious attempt to crunch all of it in a book, and it is quite disappointing as well. The text poses a lot of problem questions about what Hinduism stands for in the present context, but does not discuss the social, political and cultural premises in detail that lead to these circumstances. Several quotes are callously inserted in the book, the authenticity of which I was unable to track down. The narrative gets digressed from the origin and the essence of what Hinduism is composed of to its understanding in the contemporary world in a haphazard manner. Hinduism, Hindutva and India are three different concepts and the intermingling of the three is definitely a serious threat, but posing questions without providing contexts is too perturbing a move because half knowledge is dangerous! I wish the book would have stuck to its agenda, and contained information in an organised form.

Vikas Datta says

A good introduction

Jaimit Doshi says

very nicely and smartly explained. gave me interesting insights in hinduism that we assume we know but know very little of.

James says

It is impossible to capture the nuances of a religion or culture in one book, let alone a graphic novel of sorts. But this book never claims to be the final word on the subject. Quite the opposite: if you know nothing about Hinduism, as I did, then this is a delight.

Yes, the book does skirt the more religious aspects, but once you read it you'll understand why. Hinduism can be complicated. I also liked that the author aimed to be objective around the topics, making this an even more engrossing read.

My main complaint would be that a lot of the art is a bit shoddy and that I was hoping for a little more on the pantheon of Hindu gods. But for what it is, this is a good start if you want to learn about Hinduism.

NaomiRuth says

There are many things I look for when looking at non-fiction texts. This book had many of them. The layout was fine, the text was easy to read (for the most part), the way it was ordered made sense, and, my favorite part, there was a very useful Further Reading section in the back. Huzzah! I love when non-fiction books actually have useful information in the back.

This was very useful as a reference for having a basic understanding of the timeline of this varied religion, and for letting me know which texts I still need to track down and read. The illustrations were sometimes... odd and not quite to my taste, but always useful and never distracting.

Anyway. If you're interested in learning more about Hinduism and just want a quick chronological guide, this is the book I would recommend :)

Logan Maloney says

I wish it had more to do with the religion and less about the culture around it but still an interesting read!

Steven Kopp says

Not exactly what I expected when I got it from the library, but interesting nonetheless. Covers a huge number of topics, each very briefly.

Icon Books says

"Introducing Hinduism" offers a guide to the key philosophical, literary, mythological and cultural traditions of this extraordinarily diverse faith. It untangles the complexities of Hinduism's gods and goddesses, its caste system and its views on sex, everyday life and asceticism. This work answers questions including: Why do Hindus revere the cow? Must Hindus be vegetarian? And much more...

Cian O'Byrne says

I rate these guides highly as they are wonderful humorous introductions for someone looking to learn the basics of any of the subjects

Kari Shankar says

a surprisingly lovely book that you can read in 3 hours. As a Hindu, it was a delight to read and is completely non biased and pretty straight forward. The author has tried to be a raconteur than a hinduism buff with his own prejudices and takes.

Highly recommend. You will still be left with the question....what is Hinduism...Is it a religion, is it a way of life? is it a philosophy?

To me it appears more like a culture / language with a set of beliefs like being vegan or Green peace or abolitionist...except that this one has endured and prospered for a gazillion years without a formal guru or founder like Jesus for Christians and Gautama for Buddhists.

The caste system, sati and others like that are the most baffling of the beliefs... why did such a apparent intelligent group of people practice something so vain and banal. So is the "ishta devathai" or your favorite god...amazing concept if you really think about it

Rizqie Aulia says

As someone that learn Hindu from quiet various sources, honestly this is one of the funnest ways to learn Hindu. The book is full with fun graphics and easy-to-understand explanation. However, it lacks of the historical approach, and you need to back it up with another book (for sure) to fully understand Hindu.
