

# Why I Am Not A Hindu

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## **Why I Am a Hindu** - Shashi Tharoor

2018-05-22

Hinduism is one of the world's oldest and greatest religious traditions. In captivating prose, Shashi Tharoor untangles its origins, its key philosophical concepts and texts. He explores everyday Hindu beliefs and practices, from worship to pilgrimage to caste, and touchingly reflects on his personal beliefs and relationship with the religion. Not one to shy from controversy, Tharoor is unsparing in his criticism of 'Hindutva', an extremist, nationalist Hinduism endorsed by India's current government. He argues urgently and persuasively that it is precisely because of Hinduism's rich diversity that India has survived and thrived as a plural, secular nation. If narrow fundamentalism wins out, Indian democracy itself is in peril.

## Why I Write - George Orwell 2021-01-01

George Orwell set out 'to make political writing into an art', and to a wide extent this aim shaped the future of English literature - his descriptions of authoritarian regimes helped to form a new vocabulary that is fundamental to understanding totalitarianism. While 1984 and Animal Farm are amongst the most popular classic novels in the English language, this new series of Orwell's essays seeks to bring a wider selection of his writing on politics and literature to a new readership. In Why I Write, the first in the Orwell's Essays series, Orwell describes his journey to becoming a writer, and his movement from writing poems to short stories to the essays, fiction and non-fiction we remember him for. He also discusses what he sees as the 'four great motives for writing' - 'sheer egoism', 'aesthetic enthusiasm', 'historical impulse' and

'political purpose' - and considers the importance of keeping these in balance. Why I Write is a unique opportunity to look into Orwell's mind, and it grants the reader an entirely different vantage point from which to consider the rest of the great writer's oeuvre. 'A writer who can - and must - be rediscovered with every age.' — Irish Times

## **Post-Hindu India** - Kancha Ilaiah 2009-11-17

Kancha Ilaiah, the author of the best selling book Why I am Not a Hindu, pens a thought-provoking critique of Brahmanism and the caste system in India, while anticipating the death of Hinduism as a direct consequence of, what he says is, its anti-scientific and anti-nationalistic stand. This work challenges Hinduism's interpretation of history, with a virulent attack on caste politics, and also takes a refreshing look at the necessity of encouraging indigenous scientific thought for the sake of national progress. It establishes Hinduism as a 'backward' religion that suppresses the latent scientific and productive potential of the Dalit-Bahujan communities. The author says this oppressive system of spiritual fascism is detrimental to both the future of religion and the nation-state. He thus criticizes the idea of spiritual justice or varnadharma, used to justify the caste system, as rooted in spiritual inequality. On a micro-analytical level, it is based on a thorough study of the productive knowledge systems of the Dalit-Bahujan communities of Andhra Pradesh, and provides a detailed day-to-day analysis of the scientific technological processes and events at work in the life of a member of these communities. On a macro level, it shows how Hinduism fails to negotiate between faith and reason, unlike other major

religions of the world. Kancha Ilaiah critiques the intellectual imagination of the dominant communities and inspires the marginalized. In the process of doing so he crafts a work of immense socio-political interest which appeals to academics, and also to all those who are concerned about contemporary India's polity and social fabric.

**The Hindu Way** - Shashi Tharoor 2019

The Hindu Way: An Introduction to Hinduism, the new book by bestselling author Shashi Tharoor, whose last three books have sold over a quarter of a million copies in hardback, is the perfect introduction to one of the world's oldest, largest and most complex religions. Although there are hundreds of books on Hinduism, there are only a few which provide a lucid, accessible, yet deeply layered account of the religion's numerous belief systems, schools of thought, sects, tenets, scriptures, deities, rituals, customs, festivals and philosophies. This book is one of them.

**India** - Diana L Eck 2012-03-27

In India: A Sacred Geography, renowned Harvard scholar Diana Eck offers an extraordinary spiritual journey through the pilgrimage places of the world's most religiously vibrant culture and reveals that it is, in fact, through these sacred pilgrimages that India's very sense of nation has emerged. No matter where one goes in India, one will find a landscape in which mountains, rivers, forests, and villages are elaborately linked to the stories of the gods and heroes of Indian culture. Every place in this vast landscape has its story, and conversely, every story of Hindu myth and legend has its place. Likewise, these places are inextricably tied to one another—not simply in the past, but in the present—through the local, regional, and transregional practices of pilgrimage. India: A Sacred Geography tells the story of the pilgrim's India. In these pages, Diana Eck takes the reader on an extraordinary spiritual journey through the living landscape of this fascinating country—its mountains, rivers, and seacoasts, its ancient and powerful temples and shrines. Seeking to fully understand the sacred places of pilgrimage from the ground up, with their stories, connections and layers of meaning, she acutely examines Hindu religious ideas and narratives and shows how they have

been deeply inscribed in the land itself.

Ultimately, Eck shows us that from these networks of pilgrimage places, India's very sense of region and nation has emerged. This is the astonishing and fascinating picture of a land linked for centuries not by the power of kings and governments, but by the footsteps of pilgrims. India: A Sacred Geography offers a unique perspective on India, both as a complex religious culture and as a nation. Based on her extensive knowledge and her many decades of wide-ranging travel and research, Eck's piercing insights and a sweeping grasp of history ensure that this work will be in demand for many years to come.

*Am I A Hindu* - Ed Viswanathan 2011

Holy Envy - Barbara Brown Taylor 2019-03-30

The renowned Christian preacher and New York Times bestselling author of *An Altar in the World* recounts her moving discoveries of finding the sacred in unexpected places while teaching world religions to undergraduates in Baptist-saturated rural Georgia, revealing how God delights in confounding our expectations. Christians are taught that God is everywhere—a tenet that is central to Barbara Brown Taylor's life and faith. In *Holy Envy*, she continues her spiritual journey, contemplating the myriad ways she encountered God while exploring other faiths with her students in the classroom, and on field trips to diverse places of worship. Both she and her students ponder how the knowledge and insights they have gained raise important questions about belief, and explore how different practices relate to their own faith. Inspired by this intellectual and spiritual quest, Barbara turns once again to the Bible for guidance, to see what secrets lay buried there. Throughout *Holy Envy*, Barbara weaves together stories from her classroom with reflections on how her own spiritual journey has been challenged and renewed by connecting with people of other traditions—and by meeting God in them. At the heart of her odyssey is her trust that it is God who pushes her beyond her comfortable boundaries and calls us to "disown" our privatized versions of the divine—a change that ultimately deepens her relationship with both the world and with God, and ours.

**I Am Proud To Be A Hindu** - J. Agarwal

2008-09-15

Hindu Dharma is the oldest living religion in the world. It is the eternal religion which is evergreen and perfect. Its origin goes back to the earliest of times when man first needed a way of life to conduct himself in the society. A person who always conducts himself with dignity and self-confidence in the society is called a Hindu. The sacred Hindu Scriptures describe a Hindu as the one who carries out his sublime duties and who moves on the right path of the highest state of mental peace leading to the state of Bliss. Hindu Dharma has always remained an enigma in the minds of the people living in the West. Even the Hindus living in the distant shores have long since lost touch with the true essence of the Satya Sanatan Vedic Hindu Dharma. Today, the young modern generation of Hindus is puzzled and is seeking roots to their culture. With an inquisitive mind, they would like to ask many questions about Hindu Dharma. It intrigues them to find out as to - Who is a Hindu? What is Hindu Dharma? Why should a Hindu be proud of being a Hindu? Who is God? Where does God live? What He does and why is it necessary to worship God? This book is an answer to all these questions.

Beef, Brahmins, and Broken Men - B. R. Ambedkar 2020-04-07

One of twentieth-century India's great polymaths, statesmen, and militant philosophers of equality, B. R. Ambedkar spent his life battling Untouchability and instigating the end of the caste system. In his 1948 book *The Untouchables*, he sought to trace the origin of the Dalit caste. *Beef, Brahmins, and Broken Men* is an annotated selection from this work, just as relevant now, when the oppression of and discrimination against Dalits remains pervasive. Ambedkar offers a deductive, and at times a speculative, history to propose a genealogy of Untouchability. He contends that modern-day Dalits are descendants of those Buddhists who were fenced out of caste society and rendered Untouchable by a resurgent Brahminism since the fourth century BCE. The Brahmins, whose Vedic cult originally involved the sacrifice of cows, adapted Buddhist ahimsa and vegetarianism to stigmatize outcaste Buddhists who were consumers of beef. The outcastes were soon relegated to the lowliest of

occupations and prohibited from participation in civic life. To unearth this lost history, Ambedkar undertakes a forensic examination of a wide range of Brahminic literature. Heavily annotated with an emphasis on putting Ambedkar and recent scholarship into conversation, *Beef, Brahmins, and Broken Men* assumes urgency as India witnesses unprecedented violence against Dalits and Muslims in the name of cow protection.

Why I Am Not a Hindu Woman - 2021

**God as Political Philosopher** - Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd 2019-01-25

In this provocative and scholarly book, Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd propounds a view of Gautama Buddha as India's first social revolutionary. Buddha did his best to give the principles of tribal democracy and egalitarianism a sanctuary in his own sangha. In so doing, he foreshadowed modern India's experiment with parliamentary democracy. Critical of the caste system, Buddha inducted low caste members into the sangha and made them his trusted advisers. He gave women an honoured place in the sangha. Dissent was indeed permitted, and even Buddha was not above the law. Pre-dating Socrates and Plato by some years, Buddha also foreshadowed key elements of their philosophy.

**Why I Am Not a Hindu** - Kancha Ilaiah 1996  
The Author Writes With Passionate Anger And Sarcasm On The Situation In India To-Day. Synthesizing Many Of The Ideas Of Bahujans, The Author Presents Their Vision Of A More Just Society.

**God Is Not a Christian, Nor a Jew, Muslim, Hindu...** - Carlton Pearson 2010-03-30

The author of *The Gospel of Inclusion* continues to rouse organized religion as he raises controversial issues and provides enlightening answers to the deepest questions about God and faith. What is God? Where is God? Who is the one true God? Questions such as these have driven a thousand human struggles, through war, terrorism, and oppression. Humanity has responded by branching off into multiple religions, including Christianity, Judaism, Islam—each one pitted against the other. But it doesn't have to be that way. In *God Is Not a Christian, nor a Jew, Muslim, Hindu . . .*, the provocative and acclaimed Bishop Carlton

Pearson follows up on his celebrated first book, *The Gospel of Inclusion*, to tackle these questions and many more, exploring new ideas about God and faith and putting forth the stunning assertion that God belongs to no particular religion but is an ever-loving presence available to all. For these beliefs, Bishop Pearson lost his thriving Pentecostal ministry but was catapulted instead into a greater pulpit. His readership has grown through appearances on national television and an extensive speaking schedule. With the world in the midst of a holy war, there is no better time for the wisdom of Bishop Pearson to reach a global audience. Bishop Pearson's many loyal fans, along with new readers, will surely welcome this provocative and eye-opening exploration of a deeper faith, one that goes far beyond any fundamentalist way of thinking, be it Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, etc. Simply put, Bishop Pearson dares to tell the truth so many others are too afraid to face.

*Why I Am Not a Hindu* - Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd  
2019-01-17

'The most gratifying thing for me [is] that [this book] was listed as a millennium book [by The Pioneer] along with Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's *Annihilation of Caste*. Moreover, it has been translated into several Indian languages. In a way it has become a weapon in the hands of Dalitbahujan activists'. -from the Afterword to the second edition. Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd writes with passionate anger, laced with sarcasm, on the caste system and Indian society. He looks at the socioeconomic and cultural differences between the Dalitbahujans and Hindus in the contexts of childhood, family life, market relations, power relations, Gods and Goddesses, death and, not the least, Hindutva. Synthesizing many of the ideas of Bahujans, he presents their vision of a more just society. In this second edition, Ilaiah Shepherd presents an Afterword that discusses the history of this book, often seen as the manifesto of the downtrodden Dalitbahujans. He talks of its reviews as well as of the abuse he has received from its detractors. He reminds us of the need for an ongoing dialogue. As he says, he wrote the book 'for all who have open minds. My request to Brahmin, Baniya and neo-Kshatriyas [upper class Sudras] is this: You learnt only what to teach others—the

Dalitbahujans. Now in your own interest and in the interest of this great country, you must learn to listen and to read what we have to say.'

**The Violence in Our Bones** - Neera Chandhoke 2021

The Buddha, Ashoka, Gandhi—the three greatest Indians who ever lived—were emblematic of non-violence. Yet, paradoxically, their country of origin is one of the most violent places on earth. Do 'we, the people of India' have violence in our bones? This work explores different aspects of our society to answer the question. Despite a blood-soaked Partition coupled with many other challenges that all emerging democracies have had to negotiate, India's record in upholding the democratic values enshrined in its Constitution has been impressive. Yet, violence remains an inextricable part of everyday life. Parts of the country are rocked by 'low-intensity' operations against various insurgencies. Our society is also scarred by caste violence, communal riots, and viciousness against women, children, the transgender community, and minorities. The country's large size, a highly differentiated population, uneven economic development, linguistic differences, regional imbalances, class and caste hierarchies, the politicizing of religious identities, appropriation of tribal lands, agrarian distress, joblessness, poverty, and deep inequality all breed frustration. Violence underlies almost every social and political interaction within Indian society, from the violence of everyday life to the brutal actions of the state or those ranged against the state. *The Violence in Our Bones* maps the assorted kinds of violence in India, and explores why, even as a successful democracy, violence continues to be endemic in the nation.

*Why I Am a Hindu* - Shashi Tharoor 2018

In *Why I Am a Hindu*, one of India's finest public intellectuals gives us a profound book about one of the world's oldest and greatest religions. Starting with a close examination of his own belief in Hinduism, he ranges far and wide in his study of the faith. He talks about the Great Souls of Hinduism, Adi Shankara, Patanjali, Ramanuja, Swami Vivekananda, Ramakrishna Paramahansa, and many others who made major contributions to the essence of Hinduism. He delves deep into Hinduism's most important schools of thought (such as the Advaita

Vedanta). He explains, in easily accessible language, important aspects and concepts of Hindu philosophy like the Purusharthas and Bhakti, masterfully summarizes the lessons of the Gita and Vivekananda's ecumenism, and explores with sympathy the 'Hinduism of habit' practised by ordinary believers. He looks at the myriad manifestations of political Hinduism in the modern era, including violence committed in the name of the faith by right-wing organizations and their adherents. He analyzes Hindutva, explains its rise and dwells at length on the philosophy of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, its most significant ideologue. He is unsparing in his criticism of extremist 'bhakts', and unequivocal in his belief that everything that makes India a great and distinctive culture and country will be imperiled if religious 'fundamentalists' are allowed to take the upper hand. However, he also makes the point that it is precisely because Hindus form the majority that India has survived as a plural, secular democracy. A book that will be read and debated now and in the future, *Why I Am a Hindu* is a revelatory and original masterwork.

**Riddles in Hinduism** - Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar 2018-09-08

Ambedkar was a prolific student, earning doctorates in economics from both Columbia University and the London School of Economics, and gained a reputation as a scholar for his research in law, economics and political science. In his early career he was an economist, professor, and lawyer. His later life was marked by his political activities; he became involved in campaigning and negotiations for India's independence, publishing journals, advocating political rights and social freedom for Dalits, and contributing significantly to the establishment of the state of India. In 1956 he converted to Buddhism, initiating mass conversions of Dalits.

*Why I am an Atheist* - Bhagat Singh 2019-08-15

A discussion with a friend soon turned into a matter of self-assessment, leading to this discourse on why Bhagat Singh chose to be an atheist. Even in the face of death at a very young age, with uncanny observations and sharp questions, he forces us to re-think our foundations to faith in god.

*From a Shepherd Boy to an Intellectual* - Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd 2019-03-19

'Caste is Race in Ancient Times, Race is Caste in Modern Times, Untouchability is an Aryan Construct. They said God has not created Untouchables.' Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd goes on to say, 'Many people from the Brahmin-Baniya castes have written about their own greatness in their autobiographies, in English and in the regional languages. But I have not seen even a single autobiography of a person born and brought up in the shepherd community'. He adds that it is in writing about themselves that people gain a sense of self-respect. Shepherd's evocative memoirs reveal the struggle for education and dignity that a great majority of Indians undergo. As a little boy herding sheep and goats, he and his brother were the first to go to school. The author writes of his long and often interrupted journey to becoming a writer and an intellectual, without support and having to overcome adversities.

*Why I Am Not a Hindu* - Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd 2018-11-19

'The most gratifying thing for me [is] that [this book] was listed as a millennium book [by The Pioneer] along with Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's *Annihilation of Caste*. Moreover, it has been translated into several Indian languages. In a way it has become a weapon in the hands of Dalitbahujan activists' (from the Afterword to the second edition). Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd writes with passionate anger, laced with sarcasm, on the caste system and Indian society. He looks at the socioeconomic and cultural differences between the Dalitbahujans and Hindus in the contexts of childhood, family life, market relations, power relations, Gods and Goddesses, death and, not the least, Hindutva. Synthesizing many of the ideas of Bahujans, he presents their vision of a more just society. In this second edition, Ilaiah Shepherd presents an Afterword that discusses the history of this book, often seen as the manifesto of the downtrodden Dalitbahujans. He talks of its reviews as well as of the abuse he has received from its detractors. He reminds us of the need for an ongoing dialogue. As he says, he wrote the book 'for all who have open minds. My request to Brahmin, Baniya and neo-Kshatriyas [upper class Sudras] is this: You learnt only what to teach others—the Dalitbahujans. Now in your own interest and in the interest of this great country, you must learn

to listen and to read what we have to say.'

**Caste Matters** - Suraj Yengde 2019

In this explosive book, Suraj Yengde, a first-generation Dalit scholar educated across continents, challenges deep-seated beliefs about caste and unpacks its many layers. He describes his gut-wrenching experiences of growing up in a Dalit basti, the multiple humiliations suffered by Dalits on a daily basis, and their incredible resilience enabled by love and humour. As he brings to light the immovable glass ceiling that exists for Dalits even in politics, bureaucracy and judiciary, Yengde provides an unflinchingly honest account of divisions within the Dalit community itself—from their internal caste divisions to the conduct of elite Dalits and their tokenized forms of modern-day untouchability—all operating under the inescapable influences of Brahminical doctrines. This path-breaking book reveals how caste crushes human creativity and is disturbingly similar to other forms of oppression, such as race, class and gender. At once a reflection on inequality and a call to arms, *Caste Matters* argues that until Dalits lay claim to power and Brahmins join hands against Brahminism to effect real transformation, caste will continue to matter.

*Untouchable Bodies, Resistance, and Liberation* - Joshua Samuel 2020

In *Untouchable Bodies, Resistance, and Liberation*, Joshua Samuel constructs an embodied comparative theology of liberation by comparing divine possessions among Hindu and Christian Dalits in South India. Critiquing the problems inherent in prioritizing texts when studying religious traditions, Samuel calls for the need to engage in body and people centered interreligious learning. This comparative theological reading of ecstatic experiences of the divine in Dalit bodies in Hinduism and Christianity brings out the powerful liberative potential inherent in the bodies of the oppressed, enabling us to identify alternative modes of resistance and new avenues of liberation among those who are dehumanized and discriminated, and to find deeper and meaningful ways of speaking about God in the context of oppression.

**Why I Am Not a Christian** - Bertrand Russell 2018-04-20

Why I am not a Christian and other religious

essays: Am I An Atheist Or An Agnostic?; My Religious Reminiscences; Religion and Metaphysics; Has Religion Made Useful Contributions to Civilization?; How I Came by My Creed; Or, What I Believe; Why I Am a Rationalist. Bertrand Arthur William Russell, 18 May 1872–2 February 1970) was a British philosopher, logician, mathematician, historian, writer, social critic and political activist. At various points in his life he considered himself a liberal, a socialist, and a pacifist. In the early 20th century, Russell led the British "revolt against idealism". He is considered one of the founders of analytic philosophy along with his predecessor Gottlob Frege, colleague G. E. Moore, and his protégé Ludwig Wittgenstein. He is widely held to be one of the 20th century's premier logicians. With A. N. Whitehead he wrote *Principia Mathematica*, an attempt to create a logical basis for mathematics.

*THE UNTOUCHABLES* - Dr B.R. Ambedkar 2014-10-21

Who were they and why they became UNTOUCHABLES ? This is the digital copy of "THE UNTOUCHABLES". a book wrote by The great Dr B.R. Ambedkar. Please give us your feedback : [www.facebook.com/syag21](http://www.facebook.com/syag21) Your opinion is very important to us. We appreciate your feedback and will use it to evaluate changes and make improvements in our book.

**Rearming Hinduism** - Vamsee Juluri 2015  
"Rearming Hinduism is a handbook for intellectual resistance. Through an astute and devastating critique of Hinduphobia in today's academia, media and popular culture, Vamsee Juluri shows us that what the Hinduphobic worldview denies virulently is not only the truth and elegance of Hindu thought, but the very integrity and sanctity of the natural world itself. By boldly challenging some of the media age's most popular beliefs about nature, history, and pre-history along with the Hinduphobes' usual myths about Aryans, invasions, and blood-sacrifices, *Rearming Hinduism* links Hinduphobia and its hubris to a predatory and self-destructive culture that perhaps only a renewed Hindu sensibility can effectively oppose. It is a call to see the present in a way that elevates our *desa* and *kala* to the ideals of the *sanathana dharma* once again" -- From the publisher.

**Many Many Many Gods of Hinduism** - Swami Achuthananda 2013-07-02

Religion is the opium of the people, said Karl Marx many centuries ago. For more than a billion people living in India and abroad, Hinduism is the religion and a way of life. In this multi-award winning book, Swami Achuthananda cracks open the opium poppy pods, analyzes the causes for euphoria, and comes away with a deeper understanding of the people and their religion. \*\*\* Winner 2014 Next Generation Indie Book Awards (Religious Non-fiction) \*\*\* This is a comprehensive book on Hinduism. It tells you why Hindus do the things they do - and don't. Written in a casual style, the book guides you through the fundamentals of the religion. It then goes further and debunks a number of long-standing myths, some of them coming from the academia (of all places). While most books shy away from contentious issues, this book plunges headlong by taking on controversies, like the Aryan Invasion Theory, idol worship, RISA scholarship and many more. In fact one-third of the book is just on controversies that you rarely find in any other literature. Other Awards: \*\*\* Finalist - 2014 Pacific Book Awards (Religion) \*\*\* \*\*\* Bronze - 2014 IPPY Award - (Religion) \*\*\*

**Buffalo Nationalism** - Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd 2019-01-25

'O Mother Lachumamma, your blouse is torn, Your hair is soiled, your sari in rags . . . Even in that condition what have you done? You planted saplings, walking backwards like a bull, In order to produce food from the mud.' Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd translates these words of the Telugu poet, singer, activist Gaddar to emphasize the productivity of the ordinary people, the Dalit-Bahujans of India, who receive so little in return. Arguing forcefully against spiritual fascism, which refuses equality or freedom to the majority, he commends the buffalo as a productive animal that epitomizes the qualities of the Dalit-Bahujans. This book contains a selection from Ilaiah Shepherd's columns in The Hindu, Deccan Herald, Deccan Chronicle, Hindustan Times among others, and journals such as Mainstream and Economic and Political Weekly. Of particular interest is the new Afterword that discusses his political and social programme for the Sudras of India, presenting his vision of a more just society.

**Why I Am Not a Hindu** - Kancha Ilaiah 2005

*Why I Am Not a Muslim* - Ibn Warraq 2010-09-30  
Those who practice the Muslim faith have resisted examinations of their religion. They are extremely guarded about their religion, and what they consider blasphemous acts by skeptical Muslims and non-Muslims alike has only served to pique the world's curiosity. This critical examination reveals an unflattering picture of the faith and its practitioners. Nevertheless, it is the truth, something that has either been deliberately concealed by modern scholars or buried in obscure journals accessible only to a select few.

**Why I Am a Liberal** - Sagarika Ghose 2018-11-23

The stamping out of difference, the quelling of diversity and the burial of argument is, in fact, most un-Indian. Anyone who seeks to end that dialogue process is ignoring Indianness and patriotism. The liberal Indian argues for the rights of the marginalized in the tradition of Gandhi for trust, mutual understanding and bridge-building. Real patriotism lies in old-fashioned ideas of accommodation, friendship and generosity; not in force, muscle flexing and dominance. Why I Am a Liberal is Sagarika Ghose's impassioned meditation on why India needs to be liberal.

*How I Became a Hindu* - Sita Ram Goel 1998  
Reminiscences of an Indian sociopolitical activist and former Marxist.

*How to Become a Hindu* - Subramuniya (Master.) 2000

"A history-making manual, interreligious study and names list, with stories by Westerners who entered Hinduism and Hindus who deepened their faith"--Cove

*Why Am I a Hindu?* - Udaylal Pai 2017-01-10  
Hinduism for GenNext !On the 23rd of April 2004, I was flying from JFK Airport, New York City to SFO to attend a press meeting at Monterey, California. An American girl was sitting right beside me, near the window. After some time, she smiled and we introduced ourselves to each other. I told her that I am from India. Instantaneously, the girl enquired, "What's your faith?" "What?" I asked as I didn't understand the question. "I mean, what's your religion? Are you a Christian or a Muslim?" she

elaborated her question. "No!" I replied, "I am neither Christian nor Muslim." With a perplexed look, she questioned, "Then who are you..." "I am a Hindu", I said. She gazed at me as if seeing a caged animal. She could not understand what I was talking about....- These are opening sentences of my article "Am I a Hindu?" written long ago. Most of the readers would be familiar with this article as this happened to be most shared article on Hinduism for Westerners. Many readers, especially parents of non-resident Indians told me to write a book on the similar line. It took me many years of research and study to complete this book. The 'Why Am I a Hindu?' gives a fresh perspective, mostly with a twist in the tale in a breezy, conversational style that makes even weighty philosophical discussions easy to digest. Opinion of those who read the first few chapters' draft: "A must-read for those who wish to gain a deeper, clearer understanding of issues related to Sanatan Dharma." Ajit Menon. "I find your chapters very thought provoking and insightful. Both my wife and I consider ourselves seekers of truth and enlightenment and your writings evoke great wisdom within this arena. Now, I myself follow eastern spiritual philosophy." Al Sanchez. "This book is a simple gateway to understanding the uncomplicated ways of otherwise seemingly complex Sanatan Dharma through conversations between the author and his friends or readers. The author explains the science, logic and rational of Sanatan Dharma in a very simple, lucid and reader-friendly style. The hardcore Vedic philosophy is made ridiculously simple for the beginners." Anita Sharma. "It is non-fiction, but you can read it as if you are reading a compelling fiction novel. It is really a fun book to read. And you will understand the rational, logic and science of our culture and traditions." Sahana Madhyastha. "This would be the best gift you can present to the younger generation to understand the science of Sanatan Dharma to begin with following which it can be practiced in daily life to avoid stress and lead a peaceful happy life." Josh Matthew

*Why I Am Not a Hindu* - Ramendra 2011-07-13  
Why I am Not a Hindu is a book every rationalist should have on his bookshelves. --The Modern Rationalist, Chennai, India. For the students of religion on the one hand and for agnostics and

atheists on the other, this book is priceless, and for the ordinary reader it is thought provoking to say the least. --The Hindustan Times, Patna, India. Professor Ramendra's bold manifesto in which he explains why he rejects the doctrine of the infallibility of the Vedas, varnashram dharma, moksha, karmavada, and avatarvada. --The Secular Web Inspired by Bertrand Russell's "Why I Am Not a Christian," which the author, Dr. Ramendra admired, and M. K. Gandhi's "Why I Am a Hindu," with which he disagreed; the author explains why he is not a Hindu by conviction, though he is a Hindu by birth. "Why I Am Not a Hindu" was first published in print edition in 1993 (second edition 1995). It has been translated into Hindi, Oriya and Malayalam. This is the third revised edition of the book.

*The Ascent of Vishnu and the Fall of Brahma* - Swami Achuthananda 2018-08-27

According to Hindu mythology, Brahma has a lifespan of 100 years. That may appear way short for a god of Brahma's standing. (He is the creator of our solar system.) But Brahma and Hindu gods do not follow our traditional 24-hour clock. They represent time in cosmic units of yugas and kalpas. If you don't understand any of these terms, that's ok. A kalpa, for instance, is defined as a day of Brahma and translates to 4.32 billion human years. In fact Brahma has a lifespan of 311 trillion years! We explain these colossal timescales, as we introduce Brahma in this book. You will learn that Brahma initially was the supreme deity of Hinduism, but he could not hang on to his position for long. A judgmental lapse is said to have caused his downfall. With Brahma's descent, Vishnu rose to power. Today, in the Hindu pantheon, Vishnu is a prominent god, and has a following of more than 700 million devotees, who are occasionally identified by the U-shaped marks on their foreheads. With a focus on Vishnu and Brahma, we continue our journey beyond the Vedic era. We begin by examining a popular creation myth in which Brahma emerges from the navel of a sleeping Vishnu and starts crafting the world. Further on, we explore the churning of the milky ocean, a crucial event in Hindu mythology and one of the rare occasions when gods and demons collaborated (instead of fighting) to search for the nectar of immortality. Many precious

things—and surprises—came out this quest, including Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and consort of Vishnu. We also get to know a critical insight into our ancestry. According to Hinduism, we are all related and descendants of Manu, the father of human race. While this book focuses on Brahma and Vishnu, there will be occasional detours when we pause to look at art and architecture. In particular, we'll look at Angkor Wat, the largest Hindu temple in the world. Guess what? The fact that Angkor Wat is located outside India has dented Hindu pride from time immemorial. We'll also peek at ancient paintings from a mythological perspective, especially the unique genre of miniature paintings called ragamala that combines art, music, and poetry. A remarkable shift in worship took place during this period. Bhakti became a major form of worship and pervaded Hindu society forever. If you are unfamiliar with bhakti, then nothing exemplifies bhakti (devotion) more than the dancing-and-chanting Hare Krishnas.

*The Hindus* - Wendy Doniger 2010-09-30

An engrossing and definitive narrative account of history and myth that offers a new way of understanding one of the world's oldest major religions, *The Hindus* elucidates the relationship between recorded history and imaginary worlds. Hinduism does not lend itself easily to a strictly chronological account: many of its central texts cannot be reliably dated even within a century; its central tenets karma, dharma, to name just two arise at particular moments in Indian history and differ in each era, between genders, and caste to caste; and what is shared among Hindus is overwhelmingly outnumbered by the things that are unique to one group or another. Yet the greatness of Hinduism - its vitality, its earthiness, its vividness - lies precisely in many of those idiosyncratic qualities that continue to inspire debate today. Wendy Doniger is one of the foremost scholars of Hinduism in the world. With her inimitable insight and expertise Doniger illuminates those moments within the tradition that resist forces that would standardize or establish a canon. Without reversing or misrepresenting the historical hierarchies, she reveals how Sanskrit and vernacular sources are rich in knowledge of and compassion toward women and lower castes;

how they debate tensions surrounding religion, violence, and tolerance; and how animals are the key to important shifts in attitudes toward different social classes. *The Hindus* brings a fascinating multiplicity of actors and stories to the stage to show how brilliant and creative thinkers - many of them far removed from Brahmin authors of Sanskrit texts - have kept Hinduism alive in ways that other scholars have not fully explored. In this unique and authoritative account, debates about Hindu traditions become platforms from which to consider the ironies, and overlooked epiphanies, of history.

**I Could Not be Hindu** - 2020

*Philosophy of Hinduism* - Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar 2018-09-20

Ambedkar was a prolific student, earning doctorates in economics from both Columbia University and the London School of Economics, and gained a reputation as a scholar for his research in law, economics and political science.[11] In his early career he was an economist, professor, and lawyer. His later life was marked by his political activities; he became involved in campaigning and negotiations for India's independence, publishing journals, advocating political rights and social freedom for Dalits, and contributing significantly to the establishment of the state of India. In 1956 he converted to Buddhism, initiating mass conversions of Dalits.

*Being Hindu* - Hindol Sengupta 2017-10-05

Told from the frank and refreshing perspective of a practicing Hindu, this book analyses the importance of Hinduism as the secular, plural middle path in the battle between Islam and Christianity that is playing out across the globe. *Being Hindu* presents a faith of peace, liberation, and understanding in an increasingly violent world.

Summary of: "Why I am a Hindu" by Shashi Tharoor - Free book by QuickRead.com - QuickRead

Want more free books like this? Download our app for free at <https://www.QuickRead.com/App> and get access to hundreds of free book and audiobook summaries. *Why I am a Hindu* (2018) is a masterful reflection on the impact of religion on one's personal and national identity. In *Why I*

am a Hindu, Shashi Tharoor, one of India's leading politicians, offers a personal reflection on how his relationship with Hinduism shapes both his personal and national identities along with his political ideology. Unpacking the 4,000-year-old history of his religion in an accessible

manner for beginners, Tharoor charts the progression of Hinduism in modern day and attacks the Hindutva movement which he argues is perverting the sacred tradition of Hinduism today.