

Divali Festivals And Faiths

"Lalli's prose is deft, her characters are delightful and her book is the just-right holiday romance."--USA Today One type-A data analyst discovers her free-spirited side on an impulsive journey from bustling Mumbai to the gorgeous beaches of Goa and finds love waiting for her on Christmas morning. Twenty-nine-year-old Niki Randhawa has always made practical decisions. Despite her love for music and art, she became an analyst for the stability. She's always stuck close to home, in case her family needed her. And she's always dated guys that seem good on paper, rather than the ones who give her butterflies. When she's laid off, Niki realizes that practical hasn't exactly paid off for her. So for the first time ever, she throws caution to the wind and books a last-minute flight for her friend Diya's wedding. Niki arrives in India just in time to celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights, where she meets London musician Sameer Mukherji. Maybe it's the splendor of Mumbai or the magic of the holiday season, but Niki is immediately drawn to Sam. At the wedding, the champagne flows and their flirtatious banter makes it clear that the attraction is mutual. When Niki and Sam join Diya, her husband and their friends on a group honeymoon, their connection grows deeper. Free-spirited Sam helps Niki get in touch with her passionate and creative side, and with her Indian roots. When she gets a new job offer back home, Niki must decide what she wants out of the next chapter of her life—to cling to the straight and narrow like always, or to take a leap of

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faith and live the kind of bold life the old Niki never would have dreamed of. Divali helps children to find out more about this important festival of lights—from the start of the Hindu New Year to different Divali traditions. Readers are introduced to the story of the Ramayana and different Hindu gods. They also learn about divas and decorations, New Year rituals, and special Divali food.

Packed with ideas for the primary school teacher, this book includes stories, songs and drama activities from six major world religions: Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism. The book is helpfully split into topic areas which include: New Beginnings, Places of Worship, Friends, Festivals, Rites of Passage, Water Themes, Animals and Birds, Inspirational Leaders. There is also a useful section on background information with pronunciation guides for teachers for the different world religions feature.

Diwali is about celebrating! It honors the Hindu story of Rama. Sikhs, Buddhists, and Jains also celebrate Diwali. To celebrate this Festival of Lights, people light lamps, watch fireworks, and dance. Others might exchange cards and presents. Readers will discover how a shared holiday can have multiple traditions and be celebrated in all sorts of ways.

Religion and its relationship to schooling is an issue that has become more and more topical in recent years. In many countries, developments such as the diversification of state school sectors, concerns about social cohesion between ethnic and religious

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groups, and debates about national identity and values have raised old and new questions about the role of religion in education. Whilst the significance of this issue has been reflected in renewed interest from the academic community, much of this work has continued to be based around theoretical or pedagogical debates and stances, rather than evidence-based empirical research. This book aims to address this gap by exploring the social and political role of religion in the context of the primary school. Drawing on original ethnographic research with a child-centred orientation, comparisons are drawn between Community and Roman Catholic primary schools situated within a multi-faith urban area in the UK. In doing so, the study explores a number of ways in which religion has the potential to contribute to everyday school life, including through school ethos and values, inter-pupil relations, community cohesion and social identity and difference. At the centre of the analysis are two key sociological debates about the significance of religion in late modern societies. The first is concerned with the place of religion in public life and the influence of secularisation and post-secularism on the relationship between religion and schooling. The second relates to the increasingly multi-faith nature of many national populations and the implications for religious citizenship in educational settings. Religion in the Primary School will be a useful resource for academics, researchers and students as a key addition to existing knowledge in the disciplines of education, sociology and human geography. It will also be of value to both policy-makers and educationalists interested in the role of religion in

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schools and the implications for the wider community and society in a range of national contexts.

Introduces the Hindu festival of Divali, and discusses its place within Hinduism, seasonal foods, decorations, and clothing, secular and religious activities, and the holiday outside India.

A simple introduction to some of the beliefs, ways of worship, traditions and festivals of the Hindu religion.

"Festivals link us to our tradition and culture, and renew our spiritual and family bonds. The celebration of festivals by the whole community promotes the spirit of fellowship and charity. This series on festivals is presented in a story form to hold the child's interest. The books portray the fun and joy that festivals bring – decorations, gifts, sweets, prayers, singing, dancing and sharing. "

For more than three decades this introduction to the world's religions, *Many Peoples, Many Faiths* has combined factual information with empathic writing that seeks to convey the flavor of our planet's diverse religions and cultures. This classic work helps students gain a sense of each religion's unique characteristics while tackling some of today's most critical religious issues. It is written in an engaging style and has been fully updated--with fresh insights and information on each of the world's major religions, along with new religious movements. Illustrated with photographs and diagrams, this text is divided into easily digestible paragraphs, whilst highlighting key words. It includes suggestion boxes throughout that provide activities and tips for reader, whilst a spread at the back for teachers and parents give activity

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suggestions and advice on how to use the book with children.

Faiths and Festivals A guide to the religions and celebrations in our multicultural society Andrews UK Limited

Binny woke up happy but nervous. It was her day to share about Diwali, the Festival of Lights! A handy guide to every religion practised in India In India, the birthplace of some of the world's major faiths and home to many more, religion is a way of life, existing as much in temples, mosques, churches and wayside shrines as it does in social laws, cultural practices and the political arena. The Religions of India contains, in a single volume, a comprehensive account of every major faith practised in the country today—Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism, Christianity, Buddhism, Jainism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, and the Bahai faith. This meticulously researched work traverses a vast range of topics—from Somnatha Temple and Babri Masjid to Tirthankaras and the Akali Movement; from the Shariat and the Eucharist to Shabuoth and nirvana. It places each religion in its historical context, tracing its evolution from its inception to the present.

- Incisive profiles of founders and key patrons, deities, saints, mystics and philosophers
- Information on and insights into lesser-known and regional forms of worship, as well as important festivals, customs and rituals
- Extensively cross-referenced with suggestions for further reading

The Intimate Other explores the theme of the devotional element in Indic Religions not only in Hinduism in which bhakti has become the dominant form, but also in Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism and Islam. The essays by scholars of international repute, show the strength of this devotion to the divine as a living and powerful source of value, aesthetic imagination, creativity and well-being . They also analyse the sometimes divergent interests of scholar and devotee,

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problematizing devotion and exposing its historical development as complex, contested and 'political'. Of particular interest are the chapters on the Jain and Buddhist traditions where the existence of devotion has often been doubted or denied. Contributors investigate widely ranging topics: these include an analysis of bhakti within the Sanskrit epics; a text-historical approach to Valmiki; Kabir's authorship of the poems attributed to him; contemporary attitudes to devotion to the Ganga: devotion within a syncretistic Jain movement, in Theravada Buddhism, subcontinental Sufi Islam, young Sikhs in Britain and in the shared musical and poetic traditions of Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims. The volume ends with a sensitive exploration of the devotional love that overpowers death within the Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims. The volume ends with a sensitive exploration of the devotional love that overpowers death within the Hindu bhakti context. Together they demonstrate vividly just how passionate love for the intimate other penetrates and inspires so many aspects of the religious culture of South Asia. 'Hindu Wisdom for All God's Children' introduces readers to the spiritual riches of Hindu India. Jesuit author Francis Clooney brings a wealth of scholarship and personal immersion in the thought and life of India to a wide range of students and seekers. In seven chapters Clooney draws on aspects of Indian religious life, both ancient and modern. They include the creation myths and the discovery of the self; realization of the self in theology and meditative traditions; the self-awareness of Gautama; the quest for direct experience of God in devotions to Krishna; the mystery of God in the traditions of Shiva; the cult of the great Goddess; and the spirituality of Mohandas Gandhi and Mahasweta Devi. Clooney offers insights into how people live out these traditions

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today, continually raising points for comparative reflection, inviting readers to bring their own insights into consideration. 'Hindu Wisdom for All God's Children' provides a fascinating introduction to deep and ancient traditions that will challenge and enrich the quest for the spiritual self.

With eighty percent of the world's population professing religious faith, religious belief is a common human characteristic. This fascinating and highly unique Handbook brings together state-of-the-art research on incorporating religion into development studies literature and research. The expert contributors illustrate that as religious identity is integral to a community's culture, exclusion of religious consideration will limit successful development interventions; it is therefore necessary to conflate religion and development to enhance efforts to improve the lives of the poor. Issues addressed include: key tenets, beliefs and histories of religions; religious response to development concerns (gender, environment, education, microfinance, humanitarian assistance); and the role of faith based organisations and missionaries in the wider development context. Practical case studies of countries across Africa, Eastern Europe and the Pacific (including Australia) underpin the research, providing evidence that the intersection between religion and development is neither new nor static. By way of conclusion, suggestions are prescribed for extensive further research in order to advance understanding of this nascent field. This path-breaking Handbook will prove a thought-provoking and stimulating reference tool for academics, researchers and

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students in international development, international relations, comparative religion and theology.

A must-have guide for early years practitioners designed to help explain world religions and festivals to young children in a way that is meaningful to them. This guide is designed to be a practical guide to explaining the main five world faiths to young children, as well some lesser-known faiths to young children in a way that makes sense to young children. The book is also full of activity ideas to tie in to a range of religious festivals throughout the year. Each festival contains background information on the festival and why it first started, as well as activities to encourage children's learning. Introducing young children is vital in our multi-cultural and multi-faith society, and this title will provide all early years practitioners with ideas on how to teach children to value diversity and respect other children's views and backgrounds.

Praying is the second in a series of books that offer Christians a new way of understanding what it means to live and worship among America's many faiths, and introduces them to the religions that make up the American neighborhood. Praying will explore public, family, and individual worship in Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Baha'i, Zoroastrianism, American indigenous spiritualities, Chinese spiritualities (Confucianism, Taoism), Shinto, and Afro-Caribbean religions. Praying answers and discusses questions such as these: How does your religion understand/measure the passage of time: daily, weekly, annually, over the course of a

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lifetime? What is the vocabulary of ritual and practice in your religion? (e.g., worship, prayer, meditation, pilgrimage, feasting and fasting) Is there a distinction between public and private/individual worship/practice in your religion? What are this religion's most distinctive practices? What makes them so significant? Praying includes a quick guide to each religion, a glossary, and recommended reading.

Book includes background information, activities, themes and practical extension ideas. Over 7 billion people live on the earth, and 84 percent of them describe themselves as being religious. Few topics incite such passion as religion. What does that mean? Why are humans invested in ideas that may never be proved? Why has religion played such an important role in history? In *Comparative Religion: Investigate the World through Religious Tradition*, readers seek answers to these questions by comparing and contrasting the cultural, spiritual, and geographical underpinnings of five different religions. By developing a better understanding of the similarities and differences among religions of the world, readers gain a strong foothold in a dialogue that has continued for thousands of years. Combining hands-on activities with theology, history, geography, world cultures, art, and architecture, *Comparative Religions* encourages deeper understanding of the world's religions. Entertaining graphic art, fascinating sidebars, and links to primary sources bring the topic to life, while key questions reaffirm foundational concepts. Activities include conducting an interview with a rabbi, comparing the story of Abraham and Isaac in three sacred texts, studying the

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architecture of the National Cathedral in Washington, DC, studying the Hindu practice of yoga and meditation, and examining how religious doctrines shape the behavior of believers.

Specifically designed to address the Foundation Curriculum Goals from the QCA. EXPLORING RELIGION AND ETHICS is written by leading educators and experienced practising teachers to meet the requirements of the Religion and Ethics SAS in Queensland. It offers a vast array of learning opportunities that draw on a three-tiered model of personal, relational and spiritual dimensions, and encourages students to explore how these dimensions relate to their own religious beliefs. It features: Clear concise and student-friendly language that caters for different learning abilities and styles Learning and assessment activities that engage and extend students A wide range of valuable time-saving teacher support resources for additional classwork, homework and assessment are available on Cambridge GO.

The Encyclopedia of Caribbean Religions is the definitive reference for Caribbean religious phenomena from a Caribbean perspective. Generously illustrated, this landmark project combines the breadth of a comparative approach to religion with the depth of understanding of Caribbean spirituality as an ever-changing and varied historical phenomenon. Organized alphabetically, entries examine how Caribbean religious experiences have been shaped by and have responded to the processes of colonialism and the challenges of the postcolonial world. Systematically organized by

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theme and area, the encyclopedia considers religious traditions such as Vodou, Rastafari, Sunni Islam, Sanatan Dharma, Judaism, and the Roman Catholic and Seventh-day Adventist churches. Detailed subentries present topics such as religious rituals, beliefs, practices, specific historical developments, geographical differences, and gender roles within major traditions. Also included are entries that address the religious dimensions of geographical territories that make up the Caribbean.

Representing the culmination of more than a decade of work by the associates of the Caribbean Religions Project, The Encyclopedia of Caribbean Religions will foster a greater understanding of the role of religion in Caribbean life and society, in the Caribbean diaspora, and in wider national and transnational spaces.

This reference offers reliable knowledge about women's diverse faith practices throughout history and prehistory, and across cultures.

- Offers nearly 300 reference articles by international scholars of religion, women, and history
- Provides an overview of the religious experiences of women across time, faiths, and cultures
- Devotes sections to particular religious traditions to provide information about the role of women and the feminine divine within those faiths
- Presents reference information about the experiences of women within religions
- Directs the user to additional resources via suggestions for further reading and an end-of-work bibliography

Provides information on major festivals of six faiths--Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Sikhism--giving the story behind each festival, telling how

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each is celebrated, and providing activities and recipes related to them.

Diwali is the Hindu festival of light and the start to the new year, so there's a lot to celebrate! Origami lamps and lanterns would fit right in with other decorations for Diwali, as lamps are put out to welcome the dead back to their families. Readers can find out all about other traditional Diwali celebrations through fact boxes as they learn to fold a coin purse, flowers for garlands, a vase, and more. A step-by-step guide aids readers through each origami project, including full-color photographs of each step.

An indispensable resource for exploring food and faith, this two-volume set offers information on food-related religious beliefs, customs, and practices from around the world. • Provides up-to-date factual information, introduces concepts of food as being more than just nutrients, and enables an understanding of diverse religious traditions and the importance of food in people's lives • Includes coverage of less well-known rituals and religions that are often skipped in world religion texts • Presents material in a way that is accessible to readers without previous exposure to, or command of, sociological or anthropological language and concepts

Describes the history of Diwali, its symbols, and how it is celebrated today.

This two-volume work presents a comprehensive survey of all the ways people celebrate religious life around the globe.

Diwali, the Festival of Lights, is celebrated by Hindus worldwide. Discover the origins and traditions behind the festival, how people around the globe celebrate

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and what it means to them. Beautiful photography captures the many ways in which this festival is celebrated, and offers children a visually arresting and diverse introduction to one of the most important religious festivals. Customs and rituals are explained, and children can discover how these vary in different countries and ethnic groups. Ideal for leisure reads, use in the classroom and to support cross-curricular studies.

"World Religions at Your Fingertips lets you pinpoint the information you want right now, with sections that are highly organized, tightly written, and easy to navigate." --Book Jacket.

This comprehensive compilation of entries documents the origins, transmissions, and transformations of Asian American folklore and folklife. • More than 600 entries • Contributions from more than 170 expert contributors • Introductory essays covering disciplinary theories and methods in the study of folklore and folklife • An appendix of Asian American folktales

Renowned scholar of Hinduism, Arvind Sharma, presents a concise and highly accessible introduction to Hindu spirituality, focusing especially on the views of the school of Advaita, or non-dual, Vedanta.

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