

The Making Of A Spiritual Movement The Untold Sto

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The Making of T.S. Eliot - Joseph Maddrey
2009-04-29

This chronological survey of major influences on T.S. Eliot's worldview covers the poet's spiritual and intellectual evolution in stages, by trying to see the world as Eliot did. It examines his childhood influences as well as the literary influences that inspired him to write his earliest poetry; his life as an American expatriate living in London from 1915 to 1930, including his ill-fated marriage and his intellectual engagement with the literary traditions of his new country; and the ways in which his intellectual pursuits fostered a spiritual rebirth that simultaneously reflected his past and revealed his future, demonstrating how the early Romantic revolutionary became a staunch defender of tradition.

New Religious Movements in the Twenty-First Century - Phillip Charles Lucas 2004-06-01

New Religious Movements in the 21st Century is the first volume to examine the urgent and important issues facing new religions in their political, legal and religious contexts in global perspective. With essays from prominent NRM scholars and usefully organized into four regional areas covering Western Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia, Russia and Eastern Europe, and North and South America, as well as a concluding section on the major themes of globalization and terrorist violence, this book provides invaluable insight into the challenges facing religion in the twenty-first century. An introduction by Tom Robbins provides an overview of the major issues and themes

discussed in the book.

Re-Enchanting Education and Spiritual Wellbeing - Marian de Souza 2017-09-14

Education is in a constant state of renewal internationally where it responds to a number of pressing social, political and cultural issues. Processes of globalization, a number of conflicts and acts of terror, economic and environmental crises have led to large waves of migration and asylum seekers arriving in countries with the hope of finding safer and more stable places to settle. This, in turn, has led to cultural and religious pluralism being a key characteristic of many societies with corresponding issues of belonging and identity. As well, for many people, there has been a shifting influence of and allegiance away from traditional religious frameworks with the emergence of new religious movements, both peaceful and violent, and a rise in popularity of spirituality and non-religious worldviews which provide alternate frameworks for living healthy and ethical lives. In order to prepare today's student for tomorrow's world, one which is confronted by a range of risks and crises and which is being shaped by rapidly changing technologies, educators and researchers are investigating new ways of equipping students to deal with these challenges and opportunities, including the nurturing of spiritual wellbeing. This book brings together the voices of many experienced educators to discuss ways to re-enchant education and re-enliven learning programs in response to these 21st century issues in an increasingly global and interconnected world. It examines a range of

international contexts, including secular and religious educational settings, and provides an avenue for visionary voices that identify problems and offer solutions to help shape a more promising education system that will prepare children more constructively and beneficially to flourish in their future worlds.

Surfing in the Cerebral Hemisphere - David Christopher Lane 2016-01-10

This book touches upon a number of cutting edge issues in science, including artificial intelligence and its impact on humankind, Darwin's moral sense and its implications, and how to think critically in an age of paranormal beliefs.

Soul and Spirit in Dance Movement

Psychotherapy - Jill Hayes 2013-06-28

Using a contemporary synthesis of Jungian and Post-Jungian imaginal perspectives, animate ecological phenomenology, somatics and recent scholarship in dance movement and progressive spiritualities, this unique book discusses how the promotion of a fluid relationship between imagination and movement can bring the mover back into relationship with soul and spirit. This connection with soul and spirit is considered as an essential and powerful resource in mental health. The book provides a rich digest of theory and produces a clear framework for the application of transpersonal theories to Dance Movement Psychotherapy (DMP) practice, writing and research, illustrating the use and value of transpersonal perspectives through detailed case studies. Providing spiritual, soulful and mythological perspectives on DMP rooted in theory and practice, this book will be essential reading for dance movement psychotherapists, drama psychotherapists, expressive arts therapists, and dance movement psychotherapy students, drama psychotherapy students and arts therapy students.

Historical Dictionary of New Religious Movements - George D. Chryssides 2011-11-25

In this newly updated second edition of the Historical Dictionary of New Religious Movements, George D. Chryssides traces the rise and development of new religious movements throughout the world. An updated introduction summarizes the phenomenon of new religious movements and lays out the changes to the dictionary since the 2001 edition,

while the main body of the dictionary consists of close to 600 cross-referenced entries on key figures, ideas, themes, and places related to various new religious movements. An index organizes the information in the dictionary, and a comprehensive bibliography leads the researcher to further sources.

Witch Crafting - Phyllis Currott 2002-09-10

The author of *Book of Shadows* digs deep into the practices and principles of Witchcraft to provide a comprehensive guidebook that anyone—novices and seasoned practitioners alike—can use to incorporate the beauty and power of Wicca into their own daily lives. Phyllis Currott's first book, *Book of Shadows*, was an inspirational, spiritual memoir that chronicled her journey from Ivy League-educated, New York City attorney to Wiccan High Priestess. By inviting readers of all faiths to share in her own personal transformation, Phyllis debunked many of the myths surrounding Wicca and revealed it for what it really is: a spiritual movement whose tenets of Goddess worship and reverence for Nature were a great deal more accessible and familiar than she'd ever expected. Far from being just another mechanical spell book, *Witch Crafting* is the first book to offer readers not only the how-to of Witchcraft, but also the why-to, explaining the profound spiritual tenets behind Wiccan techniques. Filled with both traditional and innovative shamanic practices, Phyllis also provides an empowering new definition of magic and reexamines the ethics under which Witchcraft is practiced, offering a groundbreaking alternative to the Threefold Law. With enchanting stories from Currott's own experiences, *Witch Crafting* will also teach you how to:

- Master the secret arts of effective spellcasting
- Create sacred space and personal rituals
- Perform divinations for spiritual insight and earthly success
- Tap into the power of altered states, such as dreaming, meditation, prayer, and trance
- Keep a magical journal and create your own *Book of Shadows*

Rich with detailed advice for making magic, working with Nature, and finding the Divine within, as well as thought-provoking evaluations of this remarkable spirituality, *Witch Crafting* is the special volume that you've been searching for. Whether you are a beginner or have been practicing Witchcraft for years, whether you

worship in a coven or on your own, Witch Crafting is the ideal handbook for you, or anyone seeking to unlock the divine power that makes real magic happen and experience the ecstasy, energy, and gifts of the Universe more fully.

Catholic and Feminist: The Surprising History of the American Catholic Feminist Movement - Mary J. Henold 2020-01-30

In the first history of American Catholic feminism, Henold explores the movement from the 1960s through the early 1980s, showing that although Catholic feminists had much in common with their sisters in the larger American feminist movement, Catholic feminism was distinct and had not been simply imported from outside. Henold demonstrates that efforts to reconcile faith and feminism reveal both the complex nature of feminist consciousness and the creative potential of religious feminism.

MODERN RELIGIONS: AN EXPERIENTIAL ANALYSIS AND EXPOSÉ - Elliot Benjamin, Ph.D. 2013-10-03

This book is an experiential analysis of over twenty modern religious/spiritual groups. The book is divided into two generic segments, inclusive of a tri-perspective experiential analysis using a variety of cult danger rating scales, and a more personal experiential description of the author's involvement in these groups, written in stream of consciousness essay form. The groups explored include controversial religious organizations such as Scientology and The Unification Church, as well as lesser known religious groups such as Conversations with God and Avatar, and also new age retreat centers such as Omega Institute for Holistic Studies and Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health. The author describes both the dangers and benefits of various groups, and based upon his own experiences is able to rate these groups on a cult danger vs. spiritual benefits scale on a gradient from "high cult danger" to "favorable spiritual group."

The Chandian Effect - David Christopher Lane 2015-10-08

The Chandian Effect describes subjective visionary manifestations in which a devotee has a transpersonal encounter involving a sacred figure or form, of which the object of devotion is unaware. The term was first coined by David C. Lane, and so called because Faqir Chand was

the first Sant Mat guru to speak at length about the unknowing aspects of such encounters. The effect designates two major factors in these manifestations: 1. The overwhelming experience of certainty that is associated with religious ecstasies. 2. The subjective projection of sacred forms by a meditator or devotee without the conscious knowledge of the object beheld as the center of the experience. Faqir Chand revealed that all gurus are ignorant about the real cause of the visions and miracles attributed to them, and that because of this ignorance, the gurus gained power and devotion from followers that accredited omnipresence and omniscience to them even though these gurus possessed neither.

The Holy Spirit Movement in Korea - Young-Hoon Lee 2009

This book traces the historical and theological development of the Holy Spirit in Korea through six successive periods.

The Church in the Movement of the Spirit - William R. Barr 1994

A collection of seven essays exploring how the Spirit moves in an amazing variety of ways through the church's life and witness. Based on a four-year study by the Faith and Order Working Group of the National Council of Churches, this volume offers an ecumenical view of the Spirit at work in the church and of the wider movement of the Spirit in creation and in human history.

The Making of a Spiritual Movement - David Christopher Lane 1994-06-01

The Oprah Phenomenon - Jennifer Harris 2014-10-17

Her image is iconic: Oprah Winfrey has built an empire on her ability to connect with and inspire her audience. No longer just a name, "Oprah" has become a brand representing the talk show host's unique style of self-actualizing individualism. The cultural and economic power wielded by Winfrey merits critical evaluation. The contributors to *The Oprah Phenomenon* examine the origins of her public image and its substantial influence on politics, entertainment, and popular opinion. Contributors address praise from her many supporters and weigh criticisms from her detractors. Winfrey's ability to create a feeling of intimacy with her audience

has long been cited as one of the foundations of her popularity. She has repeatedly made national headlines by engaging and informing her audience with respect to her personal relationships to race, gender, feminism, and New Age culture. The Oprah Phenomenon explores these relationships in detail. At the root of Winfrey's message to her vast audience is her assertion that anyone can be a success regardless of background or upbringing. The contributors scrutinize this message: What does this success entail? Is the motivation behind self-actualization, in fact, merely the hope of replicating Winfrey's purchasing power? Is it just a prescription to buy the products she recommends and heed the advice of people she admires, or is it a lifestyle change of meaningful spiritual benefit? The Oprah Phenomenon asks these and many other difficult questions to promote a greater understanding of Winfrey's influence on the American consciousness.

The Anthroposophic Movement - Rudolf Steiner
2022-11-18

This course of lectures was given at a pivotal point in the development of the anthroposophic movement. Just months before, an act of arson had caused the destruction of the first Goetheanum, and its darkened ruins appeared to reflect the fragmentations within the Anthroposophical Society. Divisions were appearing amongst members and friends, with individual energies increasingly routed to external initiatives and practical projects. It became apparent that a new impetus was needed. In this turbulent context, Steiner delivers these lectures in a calm, lively and informal style. In the last decades of the nineteenth century, he says, a yearning for spiritual nourishment arose within Western culture, and organizations such as the Theosophical Society gained in popularity. Despite his direct involvement in these events, Steiner describes in dispassionate tones how the spiritual movements behind theosophy and anthroposophy were able to work together harmoniously, before an unavoidable separation took place. Steiner's expansive review of the anthroposophic movement is an important narrative account of the developing Western spiritual tradition and the history of the Mysteries. These lectures also offer rare

perceptions of the life and philosophy of Rudolf Steiner. Those who identify with the movement he founded will discover revelatory insights to its background and possibilities for its future development within the broader evolution of humankind.

Learning to Forgive - Walter R. Smith
2010-01-01

How do you forgive a person who has hurt you deeply? Why forgive someone who does not deserve to be forgiven? Forgiveness is not easy, and often we discover that the person who needs to be forgiven the most is ourselves. As we forgive others and ourselves, we find that we are the ones who have benefited--forgiveness brings a peace to our lives that no one can take away from us. *Learning to Forgive: A Memoir of Doubt and Faith* is the author's personal journey of forgiveness from a spiritual and psychological point of view. The book shows the reader how they can use their relationship with God, the resources of the Christian faith, and their psychological understanding of themselves to learn how to forgive. As readers see that pastors are not immune to the challenges of everyday life, nor are they spared from abusive backgrounds, they will be encouraged to embark on their own journeys of forgiveness or receive strength and hope for a journey already started.

Encyclopedia of New Religious Movements - Peter Clarke 2004-03-01

New Religious Movements (NRMs) can involve vast numbers of followers and in many cases are radically changing the way people understand and practice religion and spirituality. Moreover, many are having a profound impact on the form and content of mainstream religion. The *Encyclopedia of New Religious Movements* provides uniquely global coverage of the phenomenon, with entries on over three-hundred movement from almost every country in the world. Coverage includes movements that derive from the major religions of the world and to neo-traditional movements, movements often overlooked in the study of NRMs. In addition to the coverage of particular movements there are also entries on topics, themes, key thinkers and key ideas, for example the New Age Movement, Neo-Paganism, New Religion and gender, NRMs and cyberspace, NRMs and the law, the Anti-Cult Movement, Swedenborg, Jung, Teilhard de

Chardin, Lovelock, Gurdjieff, al-Banna, Qutb. The marked global approach and comprehensiveness of the encyclopedia enable an appreciation of the innovative energy of NRMs, of their extraordinary diversity, and the often surprising ways in which they can propagate geographically. The most ambitious publication of its sort, the Encyclopedia of New Religious Movements is a major addition to the reference literature for students and researchers of the field in religious studies and the social sciences. Entries are cross-referenced with short bibliographies for further reading. There is a full index.

The Starfish and the Spirit - Lance Ford
2021-03-30

Imagine an organizational model for church leadership that enables the entire team to unleash their full potential. The joy and vigor coming from a collective strength, intelligence, and skill in the community of leaders not only brings greater potency but better yields for your ministry. What would it be like to see this kind of healthy leadership reproduced into the second, third, and fourth generation, on multiple strands? Leveraging the metaphor Ori Brafman popularized in his NYT best-selling book, *The Starfish and the Spider*, Rob Wegner, Lance Ford, and Alan Hirsch show: How to take a close look at your church's organizational structure and how to adapt instead of simply adopt a certain kind of structural approach. How churches can function without a rigid central authority, making them nimbler in reacting to external forces. How seeding starfish networks inside today's churches will prepare the church of tomorrow to be agile while maintaining the accountability to be effective. *The Starfish and the Spirit* is about creating a culture where church leaders view themselves as curators of a community on a mission, not the source of certainty for every question and project. It's about creating a team of humble leaders "in the middle" of the church, not at the top--leaders who naturally reproduce multiple generations of leaders, from the middle out.

Workplace Spirituality - Yochanan Altman
2022-01-19

Workplace spirituality is an emerging field of study and practice and this book asks the questions: Where have we been in the last ten

years as a field and where should we be headed in the next ten years? The editors asked these questions of thought leaders from around the globe, leaders who represent different sectors, faith traditions, worldviews and organizational functions. This volume represents the best of current thinking about the state of the field of workplace spirituality and of what the future holds. There are four themes: (1) management themes such as leadership, ethics, change management, and diversity; (2) workplace spirituality in sectors such as health and wellbeing, policing and creative industries, (3) key issues that are emerging, such as self-spirituality, mindfulness, storytelling and the importance of nature, and (4) cutting edge epistemologies and methodologies including indigenous studies, relational ontology, ethnography, and psychodynamics. These articles were chosen to provoke new thinking, new research, and new practice in the field of workplace spirituality, with the goal of helping the field mature in the next decade.

Revisionism and Diversification in New Religious Movements - Eileen Barker 2016-04-08

New Religious Movements tend to start their lives with a number of unequivocal statements, not only of a theological nature but also about the world and appropriate behaviours for the believer. Yet these apparently inalienable Truths and their interpretations frequently become revised, 'adjusted' or selectively adopted by different believers. This book explores different ways in which, as NRMs develop, stagnate, fade away, or abruptly cease to exist, certain orthodoxies and practices have, for one reason or another, been dropped or radically altered. Sometimes such changes are adapted by only a section of the movement, resulting in schism. Of particular concern are processes that might lead to violent and/or anti-social behaviour. As part of the Ashgate/Inform series, and in the spirit of the Inform Seminars, this book approaches its topic from a wide range of perspectives. Contributors include academics, current and former members of NRMs, and members of 'cult-watching' movements. All the contributions are of a scholarly rather than a polemic nature, and brought together by Eileen Barker, the founder of Inform.

Reclaiming the Spiritual in Art - Dawn

Perlmutter 1999-01-01

Examines the role of the sacred in art and makes a compelling case for its continued contemporary relevance.

Spiritual Formation - Henri J. M. Nouwen

2015-03-10

Henri Nouwen, the world-renowned spiritual guide and counselor, understood the spiritual life as a journey of faith and transformation that is deepened by accountability, community, and relationships. Though he counseled many people during his lifetime, his principles of spiritual formation were never written down. Now, Michael Christensen, one of Nouwen's longtime students, and Rebecca Laird, one of Nouwen's editors, have taken his famous course in spiritual formation and supplemented it with his unpublished writings to create the definitive series on Nouwen's thoughts on the Christian life. The first book in the series, *Spiritual Direction*, introduced readers to Nouwen's core concepts and how to live the questions of the spiritual life. Now *Spiritual Formation* reveals Nouwen's sage advice on how to live out the five classical stages of spiritual development. Featuring a unique *visio divina*, a visual meditation, to help guide and focus prayer, this volume reveals Nouwen's profound wisdom on how to move from sorrow to joy, resentment to gratitude, fear to love, and how to live there in the center—the place where God dwells.

Radhasoami - David Christopher Lane

2015-09-26

Presents a critical overview of guru succession in the Radhasoami Tradition from its inception in the mid-1850s up until early 1991. Provides vital information for anyone interested in the politics behind guru succession in general. Includes extensive notes and an exhaustive bibliography. Focuses specifically on the development of gurus in the Agra and Beas' branches and includes information on lesser known gurus and movements, including Faqir Chand and Manavta Mandir. Central Issue: On August 24, 1974, Kirpal Singh, a renowned guru of surat shabd yoga ("union of the soul/consciousness with the sacred sound") and founder of Ruhani Satsang, died at the age of eighty. His death caused an intense succession dispute amongst his thousands of followers that has yet to be mended. Eventually a number of factions

developed, each following a different successor. Although most of Kirpal Singh's followers rallied around Darshan Singh, Kirpal's son, others paid allegiance to either Thakar Singh of Delhi or Ajaib Singh of Rajasthan. The interesting sociological question that confronts us here is how each successor to Kirpal Singh legitimized his role. That is, what type of ideological strategy did these would-be gurus develop in order to solidify their constituencies? Further, what were the social and historical factors that influenced or constrained their gaddi nasheen rhetoric? To properly address and answer these questions necessitates a fairly comprehensive overview of the social context in which these surat shabd yoga gurus live and teach. Thus, this study begins with a historical overview of Sant mat and Radhasoami in general. And secondly, I have focused on the specific parampara (guru lineage) that preceded Kirpal Singh and his successors. General Thesis The central thesis of this work is that there is an observable pattern which governs the "ideological work" (i.e., rhetoric) of guru succession in the Sant mat and Radhasoami traditions--namely, successorship claimants who lack sufficient outward confirmation to be accepted by the majority of the guru's congregation move generally toward experiential, inward, and personal forms of verification. This movement towards internal validation, moreover, brings with it an inclination to question the forms of legitimacy that brought solidarity to the majority party and its leader. Hence, minority claimants (usually those who do not retain the gaddi--seat of the guru's residence) tend, in Max Weber's terms, to criticize the routinization of charisma by "office" and argue for the superiority of "personal" attainment. The politics of guru succession, therefore, is essentially a conflict over the nature and transference of charisma (spiritual power). Using Ken Wilber's terminology (as found in *A Sociable God*) this thesis can also be phrased as: those who lack legitimacy (outward confirmation by the consensus majority) point to their authenticity (inward confirmation by individuals experientially or mystically) as the primary means for verifying their roles. Additionally, guru succession is oftentimes a struggle over controlling theological doctrines, membership ranks, and property rights. Hence,

gurus do not merely represent their own inner callings, but various material interests, ranging from the "right interpretation" of Radhasoami teachings to the governance of sadhu and household members of outlying branches to ownership rights over inherited sacred property. With such larger "worldly" issues at stake, it is little wonder that guru politics can turn into an ugly slugfest between sister-related communities. The decades long legal battle between Dayal Bagh and Soami Bagh over worship rights at Shiv Dayal Singh's samadh is perhaps the most graphic illustration of how social factors play a central part in succession contests. Based on years of extensive research from the author's numerous trips to India and personal interaction with a large number of shabd yoga gurus.

Edgar Cayce in Context - K. Paul Johnson
1998-09-11

Places the work of Edgar Cayce in historical context and assesses the validity of his "readings."

[Introduction to New and Alternative Religions in America: Metaphysical, New Age, and neopagan movements](#) - Eugene V. Gallagher 2006

Annotation. Most new or alternative religions are gravely misunderstood by members of the religious mainstream. Labeled cults or sects, groups and their members are often ridiculed or otherwise disregarded as weird and potentially dangerous by the populace at large. Despite their efforts at educating the general public, the various anti- and counter-cult activists have in fact promoted much more mis-understanding than accurate understanding of the religious lives of some of their fellow citizens.

Consequently, they have helped to create a very hostile environment for anyone whose religious practices do not fit within a so-called mainstream. This set rectifies the situation by presenting accurate, comprehensive, authoritative and accessible accounts of various new and alternative religious movements that have been and are active in American society, and it addresses ways of understanding new and alternative religions within a broader context. Determining what actually constitutes a new or alternative religion is a subject of constant debate. Questions arise as to a new faith's legitimacy, beliefs, methods of conversion, and

other facets of a religious movement's viability and place in a given culture. How a religion gains recognition by the mainstream, which often labels such new movements as cults, is fraught with difficulty, tension, and fear. Here, experts delineate the boundaries and examine the various groups, beliefs, movements, and other issues related to new faiths and alternative beliefs. Readers will come away with a fuller understanding of the religious landscape in America today. Volume 1: History and Controversies discusses the foundations of new and alternative religions in the United States and addresses the controversies that surround them. This volume helps readers better understand what makes a new or alternative belief system a religion and the issues involved. Volume 2: Jewish and Christian Traditions explores the various new religions that have grown out of these two Abrahamic faiths. Groups such as the Shakers, the People's Temple, the Branch Davidians, Jehovah's Witnesses and others are examined. Volume 3: Metaphysical, New Age, and Neopagan Movements looks at Shamanism, Spiritualism, Wicca, and Paganism, among other movements, as they have developed and grown in the U.S. These faiths have found new and devoted followers yet are often misunderstood. Volume 4: Asian Traditions focuses on those new and alternative religions that have been inspired by Asian religious traditions. From Baha'i to Soka Gakkai, from Adidam to the Vedanta Society, contributors look at a full range of groups practicing and worshiping in the U.S. today. Volume 5: African Diaspora Traditions and Other American Innovations examines the various traditions linked to the African diaspora such as Rastafarianism, Santeria, and the Nation of Islam, alongside traditions that are truly American incarnations like Scientology, UFO religions, and Heaven's Gate. Some of the new and alternative religions covered in these pages include: ; Shamanism ; Wicca ; Black Israelites ; Santeria ; Scientology ; Elan Vital ; Hare Krishna ; Soka Gakkai ; and many more

New Age - Juan Manuel Gutierrez Delgado
2020-03-31

The main objectives of the New World Order agree perfectly with the globalizing thought of New Age in each of its applications. The New

Age becomes the universal spiritual movement, its religious spearhead. The goal is to unite the whole world into a single political, economic and religious system. But more than a goal it is a reality that we already live. They are the owners of this planet. It is the oligarchic elite that is already dominating us. The New Age is presented to us as the only real option of religion or, at least, of religious sensitivity. Traditional religions deceive us with false promises. The New Age is the only one capable of making us value ourselves as people, filling us with happiness and answering all our questions about the afterlife. The Illuminati created a series of groups, among which we highlight the Bilderberg Group. It is an almighty group formed by an untouchable, semi-divine elite that works in the occult. Powerful elite families are organizing and controlling the world from the shadows. They infiltrate positions of power creating a new political, economic and religious order. Juan Manuel Gutiérrez Delgado in his book goes to the bottom of these questions. The eternal battle between the material and the spiritual seems never to end. The scattered views of the hic et nunc influenced by the materialism prevailing in our 21st century, seem to gain ground in the generalized mentality of the inhabitants of this globalized world. But despite the prevailing materialism, the human heart seems to keep track of its need for transcendence. Thus, the dichotomy between materialism and the spiritual is always in conflict. During the reading of this book, the reader will take a trip where he will know, on the spiritual side, many Gnostic ingredients that took root in the West; Eastern religions and philosophies that apparently come to stay in the new continent in the same way; esoteric elements, astrology and the ancient European ancestral rites that emerge again to cook all together in a new spiritual religious trend that begins to be accepted in many minds in the 21st century. So it is called New Age.

The Projective ARC - David Christopher Lane
2015-01-27

What Faqir has discovered is that religious visions, no matter how profound or uplifting, are self generated and are not due to the miraculous energies of a saint or an esteemed master. Yet, disciples worldwide tend to believe otherwise

and thereby project power and omniscience on their respective gurus who, in truth, have neither. Therein lies the great religious trap. An unscrupulous guru is akin to a parasitic vampire who psychically lives off the deepest yearnings and sincerest intentions of their devotees, never letting on that they are completely devoid of power. What power a guru gets is entirely due to the faith and devotion of their following, but seldom do they reveal this fact. Faqir repeatedly rallies against this deception and consistently tells all who will listen that he is completely unaware of appearing to anyone in their dreams, meditation, or near-death experiences. He wants spiritual seekers to know the truth that all such visions are manifestations of their own mind and that to be truly liberated one has to recognize these projections as one's own and transcend them. Otherwise one is deceived by maya and entrapped in an endless cycle of samsara. No guru in the history of Radhasoami has told the truth in such stark terms as has Faqir Chand. It is for this reason that Faqir is just as relevant today as he was in the 20th century, if not even more so. This book contains excerpts from Faqir Chand describing the true nature behind religious visions and miracles. Also included are several prefatory essays explaining how the projective arc and religious tethering actually work.

The Black Spiritual Movement - Hans A. Baer
2001

Spiritual churches in the United States represent one of several religious movements that African Americans have adopted in their efforts to cope with mainstream society. In this groundbreaking work, first published in 1984, Hans A. Baer explores the richness and creativity of Black Spiritualism, setting forth an illuminating ethnography of the movement that corrects numerous stereotypes of African American religion. Baer shows that the Spiritual churches blend diverse elements, borrowing aspects of African American Protestantism, American Spiritualism, Roman Catholicism, Voodoo, and black ethno-medicine, occasionally even including aspects of Islam, Judaism, New Thought, and Ethiopianism. He describes not only the history, structure, ideology, and practices of the churches but also the process of syncretism within them and their role within the

African American community. In addition, Baer examines how the Spiritual movement juxtaposes elements of protest and accommodation to racism and class stratification in U.S. society. This second edition includes a new preface and a new epilogue in which Baer discusses his methodology in researching the Black Spiritual Movement, describes his meetings with pastors and congregation members, and summarizes his most recent research in the field.

The Birth of a Celestial Light - Tina Eftekhari
2015-01-01

It is interesting that women who campaign for women's rights and interests in Iran have not considered engaging with women who are neither conventional Muslims nor strongly secular, but instead explore other aspects of religion and spirituality. The women examined in this study identify themselves as believers in God, but have different views of religion; some wish to be called religious but do not follow the official Islamic Shia and have their own interpretation of what it means to be a good Muslim, while some think of spirituality as their religion and refer to themselves as "spiritual". Scholarship on women in Iran has not yet taken such an approach, and has not considered women's interests in spirituality with regard to religion. As such, this book differs greatly from existing work on Iranian women's lives after the Islamic revolution. It examines the potential feminist implications of women's involvement in one of the most popular spiritual movements, "Inter-universal Mysticism" and its emancipatory potential for women. The central argument here is that feminist spirituality is an expression of women's power to identify, explore, and assess their own spiritual experiences in order to construct their own sense of self and transform their lives. As such, this book broadens discourses about women in Iran by examining the link between spirituality, coping, and meaning-making in the lives of women involved with Inter-universal Mysticism. The study's unique contribution is not simply that it extends the range of contexts in which gender can be analysed, but rather that it, through the lens of feminism, demonstrates the significance of women's choice of spirituality as an investigative issue which can elucidate women's wider social,

cultural and political processes in contemporary Iran.

Evolution Explained - David Christopher Lane
2015-01-28

This very small illustrated booklet (designed with a child older than 9 in mind) explains Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection in light of modern biological science. Very clear, concise, and straightforward. Includes full color illustrations. This text also served as the basis for the popular video, "Evolution explained in four minutes."

The Making of a Homegrown Terrorist: Brainwashing Rebels in Search of a Cause - Peter A. Olsson MD
2014-02-25

What are the factors that lead some individuals to become terrorists? In this book, a psychiatrist and psychoanalyst examines case histories of terrorism and reveals how radicalized youths living next door can become dangerous homegrown terrorists. • Presents a detailed study of 20 homegrown terrorists' life situations and psychodynamics that will not only answer questions for general readers, such as "What were the two brothers behind the Boston Marathon bombings really like?" but also supply psychiatrists, psychologists, law enforcement officers, and homeland security experts with invaluable insights for interviewing possible homegrown terrorists • Pinpoints reasons for radicalization among young people at a vulnerable, "in-between" period in their lives, such as conflicts with parents, disagreement with their parents' views about religion, or the perception that they are hypocritical • Covers acts of domestic terrorism in the 20th century ranging from the activities of the Weather Underground group in the 1970s to Timothy McVeigh's truck bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City in 1995 to the Boston Marathon bombings of 2013

Routledge Library Editions: Spiritualism - Various Authors
2022-07-30

The volumes in this set, originally published between 1974 and 1992, draw together research by leading academics in spiritualism, and provide a rigorous examination of related key issues. The collection examines spirituality from a broad range of disciplines, from the spirituality in the Christian church, spirituality in Africa, and Afro-American religions, as well as

examining the areas of channeling, mediumship and spirit possession. In this 3-volume set, there are two incredibly unique and insightful bibliographic source collections, examining both primary and secondary source listings across the subject of spiritualism and one volume providing field research into spirituality in the Christian church and in the occult. This collection is an incredibly useful tool for researchers examining the broad area of spiritualism and will be of interest to researchers, academics and students of anthropology, religion and sociology.

A Study of the Movement of Spiritual

Awareness - D. Tumminia 2013-11-18
MSIA, the Movement of Spiritual Inner Awareness, has been called the Cadillac of cults. Those interested in new religions may only know of MSIA from these kinds of labels. However, when looked at from a qualitative sociological perspective, a more complex story of religious innovation and cultural change can be told.

You Are Probability: Surfing The Matrix - Andrea Diem-Lane

The New Spirit Movement - Keun Hae Park 1979

Transforming the World - Stuart Rose 2005
This study provides a comprehensive and balanced view of the New Age through formal studies and original research. Equal attention is accorded to practices and institutions illustrating the New Age as a concrete, living enterprise, not merely a philosophy. The book offers a thorough study of major writings by British, American and other commentators, detailed ethnographic testimony, and a broad survey of the New Age phenomenon in all its aspects.

Beyond Religion and the Secular - Wayne Hudson 2022-11-17

Deploying a distinctive disaggregative approach to the study of 'religion', this volume shows that spiritual movements with extensive counterfactual beliefs have been much more creative than one might expect. Specifically, Wayne Hudson explores the creativity of six spiritual movements: the Bahá'ís, a Persian movement; Soka Gakkai, a Japanese movement; Ananda Marga and the Brahma Kumaris, two reformed Hindu movements; and two

controversial American churches, The Church Universal and Triumphant and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Most of these movements have counterintuitive features that have led Western scholars making Enlightenment assumptions to dismiss them as irrational and/or inconsequential. However, this book reveals that these movements have responded to modernity in ways that are creative and practical, resulting in a wide range of social, educational and cultural initiatives. Building on research surrounding the ways in which spiritual movements engage in cultural productions, this book takes the international research in a new direction by exploring the utopian intentionality such cultural productions reveal.

The Making of a Spiritual Movement - David Christopher Lane 2017-09-02

The groundbreaking study of the new religion, Eckankar and its founder Paul Twitchell. Written forty years ago by a then a young college student, *The Making of A Spiritual Movement* showed for the first time how the founder of Eckankar had attempted to hide his past and create a new biography replete with mythic characters such as Sudar Singh and Rebazar Tarzs. Paul Twitchell was also a plagiarist of the first rank and copied verbatim whole pages from the work of Julian P. Johnson and others. Many Eckists who read this book in its earlier editions chose to leave the movement and became harsh critics of Eckankar's persistent cover-up of its founder and his questionable activities. *The Making of a Spiritual Movement* caused such a tremendous uproar within the membership of the group that Eckankar issued a "Special Notice to All Eck Chelas," dated December 27, 1979, attempting to squelch the persisting controversy surrounding Lane's findings. The following excerpt reveals in a nutshell Eckankar's official opinion of this book and its findings: "It does not tell the straight story. . . was not completely researched and is untrue. These people [David Lane, Mark Albrecht, et al.] are being used by the Kal [Negative] forces to dismantle Eckankar and are referred to by Sri Paul Twitchell in a private tape he made. . . shortly before he translated. Paul said: . . '[These] pagans and heathens are in a conspiracy to destroy Eckankar, not only in the

physical but in the psychic worlds. . . those who are bracketed within the category of these people are actually against us. They have been since the beginning of mankind or the formation of the lower worlds. All these people are under the Kal forces. . . Sn' Darwin [Second Living Eck Master] asks that [Lane's research as found in the 1979 SCP Journal] be destroyed. . . ."

Obviously, Eckankar does not agree with Lane's findings. However, as Dr. J. Gordon Melton notes, "The evidence that David Lane uncovered of Twitchell's creating a false history of his rise to leadership of Eckankar indicates extensive corruption. That the leadership has done nothing to correct Twitchell's false claims, yea, have perpetuated them, indicates a significant problem at the heart of that organization." This particular edition is based primarily on the 1978, 1983, and 1993 versions and thus reflects what was then known about Eckankar and its history. Excerpt from the prefatory section, "A number of researchers have discovered that Paul Twitchell's plagiarism was much more extensive and widespread than I even first imagined since it turns out that he had appropriated complete sentences and paragraphs from a variety of books outside of Radhasoami and Sant Mat circles. In light of the Internet and sophisticated scanning applications, it is now possible to track down most of Twitchell's sources word by word. Twitchell wrote at a time when he most likely did suspect that his massive plagiarisms would be discovered, but today it is relatively easy to see where the founder of Eckankar got his inspirations and where he indulged in literary piracy. Moreover, Twitchell's attempt to hide his past has come undone, with new documents and information showing that he never traveled to Europe or Paris at the times he claimed. Despite Twitchell's duplicity there are many who feel that he was a "master compiler" and a spiritual "smash up" artist before his time. As for myself, I find Paul Twitchell to be one of the most interesting religious leaders to have emerged from the 1960s.

Education for Interreligious Dialogue - Patrick Chinedu Mbarah 2020-09-29

This publication representing substantively the doctoral dissertation of Rev. Fr. Patrick Chinedu Mbarah examines the implication of education for interreligious dialogue. He believes that

education has a paramount role to play in advancing interreligious dialogue. Focusing on Archdiocese of Owerri Nigeria, he evaluates the situation at hand in the light of the relationship existing among the different religions; Islam, Christianity, African Traditional Religion and some of the New Religious Movements. He insists that education will help in the promotion and progress of dialogue among the different religion frontiers. The book argues that education for interreligious dialogue is not optional; instead, it is a necessity and an obligation in the Nigerian context. The book highlights the importance of catholic education and how the various channels existing in the archdiocese of Owerri could be used as veritable means of formation of the people to understand the teaching of the Church on interreligious relations with people of other faith traditions. Furthermore, the book presents a concrete proposal of an Interreligious Dialogue Directory for the application of principles and norms for the education of people for a mutual coexistence with followers of other religious traditions in Owerri Archdiocese, Nigeria. It is meant for the education of people at different levels, pastoral agents, catechists, priests, religious and lay faithful. It also addresses schools, especially Secondary and Tertiary institutions.

Spiritual Gifts - Charles Elias Mahlangu
2016-10-28

In *Spiritual gifts: Church Under Siege*, (This book is part of a 3-book series) Charles laments over how ministry gifts which were intended to prepare saints have been woefully neglected. He argues that believers are granted abilities and leaders are needed who are willing to invest in them. He moans that those with ministry gifts of the Lord Jesus Christ have behaved as if they are not committed to training individual believers. The Black pulpit has ignored the pews in the department of gift identification and developing. He pleads with the leaders as ministers of the Lord Jesus Christ to fulfil the number one functional dynamic in this life. In *Your Gift from God the Holy Spirit Matters*, (Book 1) Charles takes the reader on a hunt to explore how the individual believer is granted a supernatural gift. He persuades and convinces the believer to discover his individual strategic gifting. He defines and illustrates the gifts and tackles the

controversial. Charles says Ministry gifts were given to prepare the saints for the work of service and not to do the work of the ministry. He shows how Pentecostal Evangelicals, Charismatic Evangelicals and Traditional Evangelicals have been uniquely gifted and what must be discovered at the individual level according to the divine strategy of God the

Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. In *Spiritual Gifts: Welcome to the Church, (Book 2)* Charles defines and describes each gift. He persuades the believer to connect with individual gifting, according to the will of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. He urges that every believer is entrusted with a gift that can be known and used to benefit many.