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The mythology of the two epics of India, the Mahābhārata and the Rāmāyaṇa.

The Price of a Promise Paid in Blood The deadly Halahala, the alldevouring poison churned from the depths of the White Lake by the devas and asuras, was swallowed by Shiva to save the universe from extinction. But was the Halahala truly destroyed? A small portion still remains – a weapon powerful enough to guarantee victory to whoever possesses it. And both asuras and devas, locked in battle for supremacy, will stop at nothing to claim it. As the forces of Devaloka and Patala, led by Indra and Shukracharya, plot to possess the Halahala, Shiva turns to mankind to guard it from their murderous clutches. It is now up to Samrat Vikramaditya and his Council of Nine to quell the supernatural hordes – and prevent the universe from tumbling into chaos! A sweeping tale of honour and courage in the face of infinite danger, greed and deceit, The Guardians of the Halahala is a fantastical journey into a time of myth and legend. Doortodoor salesman, copywriter, business journalist and assistant editor at The Economic Times, SHATRUJEET NATH was all this before he took to writing fiction fulltime. He debuted with The Karachi Deception in 2013, followed by The Guardians of the Halahala and The Conspiracy at Meru, the first two books in the Vikramaditya series. At present, he is writing volume three of the series. Shatrujeet lives in Mumbai, but spends much of his time in the fantasy worlds of his stories. He can also be found at facebook.com/ShatrujeetNath and @shatrujeet.

Christians believe that religion began when God created human beings and revealed himself to them. But is there scholarly evidence for this belief? In the nineteenth century academic world a stormy debate took shape over the origin of religion. Scholars explored the ancient languages of mythology and then considered evolutionary anthropology. A dominant view emerged that religion began with animism -- the reverent honoring of spirits -- and from there evolved into higher forms, from polytheism on to monotheism. However, scholars Andrew Lang and Wilhem Schmidt contended there were cultures throughout the world -- pygmy people in Africa and Asia, certain Australian Aboriginal groups and Native American tribes -- that originated as monotheistic, acknowledging the existence of one supreme God who created the world and holds people accountable for living morally upright lives. The debate wore on, and Schmidt, a member of the Catholic order and a priest, was accused (without evidence) of letting his faith interpret the facts. By the mid-twentieth century a silent consensus formed among scholars not to discuss the origin and evolution of religion any further. The discoveries of Lang and Schmidt have since been largely ignored. However, the evidence on which these scholars based their conclusion of monotheism is still out there. In the Beginning God attempts to educate Christians about the debate on this topic, the facts that were accepted and those that were ignored, and the use to which Christians can put all of this material in making a case for the truth of Christianity.

Here is an outstanding work for which two eminent scholars of Chinese Buddhism separated by 2000 miles of ocean collaborated for complete ten years during which the manuscript crossed the Atlantic four times. The authors aim has been to provide a key for the student with which to unlock a closed door and which does serve to reveal the riches of the great Buddhist thesaurus in China. In the absence of a dictionary of Chinese Buddhist Terms it was small wonder that the translation of Chinese texts has made little progress important thought these are to the understanding of Mahayana buddhism especially in its Far Eastern development.

Since The Formulation Of Indo-European Theory In The 19Th C., Sanskrit Has Been Considered The Language Brought Over By The Aryas. This Raised The Question After The Discovery Of The Harappan Culture: What Was The Language Of The Harappans? This Book Tries To Answer This Question. Since The 19Th C. Sanskrit Has Been Considered The Language Of The Aryas. This Book Questions This Formulation And After Critically Reviewing The Evidence Of The Indo-Europeanists Offers An Alternative, Viz. That Akkadian, As The Language Of The Asuras, The Original Inhabitants Of The Land, Is The Parent Of Vedic And Classsical Sanskrit.

This book is a brief, but comprehensive and encyclopedic study handbook of Buddhist cosmology, hagiology, and terminology. Most entries are explanatory essays based on the teachings of Tripitaka Master Hsuan Hua explaining hundreds of Buddhist terms, personages, lists, and concepts. The book also indexes Chinese, Pali, and Sanskrit terms, providing clear and accessible explanations. The book also provides a brief study guide for both novice and advanced seekers of enlightenment. Most entries also end with notation that refers the reader to related entries. Reviews Provides the right mix of scholarly attention and accessible language. —David Batstone, University of San Francisco Department of Theology & Religious Studies Have you confused karma with dharma? Amida with Gautama? The Five Desires with the Eightfold Path? Then Ronald Epstein’s Buddhism A to Z can provide a little enlightenment. Geared for English-speaking Westerners who want to know more about Buddhism, this alphabetical dictionary covers everything from the role of an abbot to the contributions of Zen. —Publishers Weekly A comprehensive handbook, not only useful for the interested beginner but also a treasury of teachings for the experienced practitioner. —Ajahn Amaro, Co-abbot Abhayagiri Monastery, Redwood Valley, CA

About the Book Shree Rama Rajya book is presented by Shree Rama Rajya Parishad is an entity to bring a prayojan to awaken 21st century Hindu Jana and lead them towards “Dharma Yogita”. The messages from book awaken Hindu Jana to move from a state of imperfection to a state of perfection: One Jiva at a time, one Samaj at the time, one Nagar at a time, and one Mahajanapada at a time. About Shree Rama Rajya Parishad: Shree Rama Rajya Parishad urges Hindu Jana to accept Bhagwan Mansha (wisdom) to have diversity and distribution of Guna (gifts and skills. It motivates Hindu Jana to grow up to be Shishu Praudha (adult children) of Bhagwan. As Praudha, they will not only take care of themselves but also help Muka (mute), Akantha (voiceless), About the Book: Shree Rama Rajya book is presented by Shree Rama Rajya Parishad is an entity to bring a prayojan to awaken

21st century Hindu Jana and lead them towards “Dharma Yogita”. The messages from book awaken Hindu Jana to move from a state of imperfection to a state of perfection: One Jiva at a time, one Samaj at the time, one Nagar at a time, and one Mahajanapada at a time.

This volume strikes a new note in the study of Indian epics-the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. In it, for the first time, mythology is dissociated from the running threads of both the epic texts. The mythology of the two epics of India represents in general the belief of the people of Northern India along the lower Ganges within a few centuries of the Christian era. For the Mahabharata, the time from 300 B.C. to 400 A.D. The Mahabharata as a whole is later than the Ramayana, which is metrically more advanced and the work of one author. The rougher epic form of the Mahabharata, represents a life less rude than depicted in the Ramayana, and work of many hands and of different times. Epic mythology is, however, is fairly consistent. There is no great discrepancy between the character of any one god in the Mahabharata and that of the same god in Ramayana. Nor is the character of gods very different in different parts of the Mahabharata, save for the sectarian tendency to invert the positions of the three highest gods in favour of the sect.

From the critically acclaimed author of Monticello and The Widow’s War comes a vividly rendered historical novel of love, loss, and reinvention, set on Martha’s Vineyard at the end of the nineteenth century. Martha’s Vineyard, 1898. In her first life, Ida Russell had been a painter. Five years ago, she had confidently walked the halls of Boston’s renowned Museum School, enrolling in art courses that were once deemed “unthinkable” for women to take, and showing a budding talent for watercolors. But no more. Ida Russell is now Ida Pease, resident of a seaside farm on Vineyard Haven, and wife to Ezra, a once-charming man who has become an inattentive and altogether unreliable husband. Ezra runs a salvage company in town with his business partner, Mose Barstow, but he much prefers their nightly card games at the local pub to his work in their Boston office, not to mention filling haystacks and tending sheep on the farm at home—duties that have fallen to Ida and their part-time farmhand, Lem. Ida, meanwhile, has left her love for painting behind. It comes as no surprise to Ida when Ezra is hours late for a Thanksgiving dinner, only to leave abruptly for another supposedly urgent business trip to Boston. But then something unthinkable happens: a storm strikes and the ship carrying Ezra and Mose sinks. In the wake of this shocking tragedy, Ida must settle the affairs of Ezra’s estate, a task that brings her to a familiar face from her past—Henry Barstow, Mose’s brother and executor. As she joins Henry in sifting through the remnants of her husband’s life and work, Ida must learn to separate truth from lies and what matters from what doesn’t. Captured in rich, painterly prose—piercing as a coastal gale and shimmering as sunlight on the waves—Painting the Light is an arresting portrait of a woman, and a considered meditation on grief, persistence, and reinvention.

Seventeen-year-old Aiko lives a life of casual sex and casual violence, though at heart she remains a schoolgirl with an unrequited crush on her old classmate Yoji Kaneko. Life is about to get harder for Aiko, as a recent fling, Sano, has been kidnapped, and the serial killer Guru-Guri Majin (Round-and-Round Devil) has begun slaughtering children. The youth are rioting in the streets, egged on by the underground Internet bulletin board known as Ten-no Koe, the Voice from Heaven. Expecting that Yoji will come and save her from the madness, Aiko posts a demand for her own murder on Ten-no-Koe, but will she be left waiting...or worse?

The present Dictionary is a practical exercise in word-compilation to facilitate the study of Sanskrit language. Based on Webster` s complete English dictionary it includes general terms of all sciences and such technical terms as could be duly represented by Sanskrit equivalents actually existing in that language. Besides the general vocabulary quotations from the works of famous authors have been inserted to render the connotation of a word easily intelligible. It is also designed to help scholars translate any passage from English into Sanskrit.

He was the most mysterious sharp knife in China, as well as the most fearsome 'dragon' in the world. He avenged his brother's death by killing the biggest drug lord of the Grey border, but he was sent to a military court and lost to the flowery city. However, dragons would always soar to the nine heavens, dominating the winds and the clouds! When he returned, everyone lowered their heads!

The Product Of Several Years Of Research, The Penguin Book Of Hindu Names Is A Comprehensive Compilation Of Hindu Names In Current Use. The Meaning Of Each Of The Approximately 20,000 Names In The Volume Is Extensively Discussed And Information On Sources And Usage Is Also Provided. The Book Is Cross-Referenced To Make It Easier To Use. The Aim Of The Work Is Twofold: To Serve As A Practical Guide For Parents Choosing A Name For Their Offspring; And To Provide A Precise And In-Depth Sourcebook For Scholars, Pandits And Lay Readers Who Like To Know What Familiar (And Not So Familiar) Hindu Names Actually Mean.

Sixteen stunning discoveries about Alexander the Great unravels the mystery surrounding his suspicious death. Who killed Alexander the Great? After more than two thousand years of speculation, the assassin of Alexander is finally identified in a comprehensive investigation in The Murder of Alexander the Great (in two books: The Puranas and The Secret War). In Book 1: The Puranas Alexander’s journey is chronicled not only through the siloed lens of Greek records but also through a comparison of ancient Indian and Greek texts and artifacts. For the first time ever, the story of the eminent king of Macedonia is retold from a different perspective — one that not only establishes Alexander prominently in ancient Sanskrit texts but also holds the key to resolving the age old mystery of his premature death. Inspired by fresh awareness to an ancient conundrum that has perplexed historians for millennia, The Murder of Alexander the Great is a powerful narrative of blood thirsty wars, mystic locales, and epic encounters — one that leads to SIXTEEN remarkable findings about Alexander the Great thus rewriting the history of this great emperor forever.

The world is in peril. Legends live, fairy tales walk, and fantasies become reality, threatening to turn Earth into a waking nightmare. When the flames

of war reach Japan's shores, the vestiges of a shattered nation fail to protect what remains of its people against an unknown enemy, and all seems lost. Those left behind and those that failed to flee now live in scattered communities among the remnants of a better time. Yu Ichinose is just another survivor, a quiet, scrawny middle-schooler trying to get by. That is, until he finds his fate bound to a mysterious, elvish girl who seems to hold the key to hope. Now, the time has come to stand and take up the sword against sorcery. To become the hero who saves the world. The time has come to awaken the Asura Frame.

I had to accept that I wasn't just Arthur Leywin anymore, and that I could no longer be limited by the circumstances of my birth. If I was going to escape, if I was going to go toe-to-toe with the most powerful beings in this world, I needed to push myself to my utmost limit...and then I needed to push even further. After nearly dying as a victim of his own strength, Arthur Leywin wakes to find himself far from the continent where he was born for the second time. Alone, broken, and with no way to tell his family he's alive, Arthur must rebuild his strength to survive. As he ascends through an ancient dungeon filled with hostile beasts and devious trials, he discovers an ancient, absolute power - a power that will either ruin him or take him to new heights. But the dungeon won't give up its knowledge easily. Before he can plunder its depths, Arthur must learn to untangle the threads of fate. He must band together with the unlikeliest of allies if he hopes to escape with his life.

Everyone on the Flame Continent had an innate ability, which was divided into eighteen different jobs based on the difference in ability. But amongst them, the "blade master" was the most common, the other jobs were extremely rare, and there were even fewer outstanding jobs, but in the end, ZERI became the "blade emperor".

Choosing A Name For Your Child Has Never Been Easier The Penguin Book Of Hindu Names Has Sold Over 50,000 Copies Since It Was Published Almost A Decade Ago. The Product Of Several Years Of Research, It Is An Exhaustive And User-Friendly Compilation, With Information On Sources And Usage. For The First Time, This Classic Work Is Available In A Two-Volume Set, Divided Into Names For Boys And Those For Girls, Making It More Accessible. Including Modern Names And Those Which Are Popular, The Penguin Book Of Hindu Names For Boys Serves As A Practical Guide For Choosing The Perfect Name For Your Son. It Is Also A Precise And Invaluable Sourcebook For Scholars And Lay Readers Alike Who Would Like To Know What Familiar (And Not So Familiar) Hindu Names Actually Mean.

This voluminous work, a store house of information about the Epics, Puranas and allied literature, was originally composed and published in Malayalam. It constituted the results of the author's devoted study and research extending over fourteen years. This English version of the same is to meet the growing demand of scholars interested in the study of Puranas. This stupendous work, in the form of an exhaustive descriptive index, covers the vast and varied field of ancient Indian culture in all aspects—history geography, religion, philosophy, myths, beliefs and practices as depicted in the Epics and Puranas. The work is planned on scientific lines. The material compiled is arranged systematically. Citations have been inserted in support of stated facts; at places they have been substituted by reference. Obsolete and obscure words, denoting objects such as a particular tree or plant have been explained by their scientific or vernacular equivalents. All modern critical apparatus has been utilized in the preparation of this comprehensive work.

This book examines the conceptions of justice from Zarathustra to Islam. The text explores the conceptions of justice by Zarathustra, Ancient Egypt, India, Mesopotamia, Noah, Abraham, and Moses. During the Axial Age (800-200BCE), the focus of justice is in India, China, and Greece. In the post-Axial age, the focus is on Christianity. The authors then turn to Islam, where justice is conceived as a system, which emerges if the Qur'anic rules are followed. This work concludes with the views of early Muslim thinkers and on how these societies deteriorated after the death of the Prophet. The monograph is ideal for those interested in the conception of justice through the ages, Islamic studies, political Islam, and issues of peace and justice.

Journey into the amazing world of Hindu mythology with Devdutt Pattanaik • Why are most temples dedicated to Vishnu, Shiva or the goddess, but not to Brahma or Indra? • How are an asura, rakshasa, yaksha and pishacha different from each other? • Why did the Pandavas find themselves in naraka rather than swarga? Over several months, EPIC Channel's ground-breaking show Devlok with Devdutt Pattanaik has enthralled countless viewers. Here, finally, is the book based on the first series of the ever-popular show, which will take you on a scintillating tour through the myriad stories, symbols and rituals that form the basis of Hindu culture. Prepare to be surprised and thrilled as Devdutt narrates magical tales about larger-than-life figures—gods, goddesses, demi-gods and demons who you thought you knew well but didn't. Learn about the intricacies of Hindu thought as he explains the origin and meaning of different creation myths, and throws light on why we believe in a cyclical—not linear—concept of time. This book is your perfect introduction to the endlessly fascinating world of Hindu mythology.

"Satyam creates a fascinating fantasy world inspired by our Puranas. An age-old legend has been skilfully retold." - ANAND NEELAKANTAN *** THE LEGEND OF INDRA AND VRITA A tale of Devas and Asuras, where in the mythical planet of Dhruva-Lok, rests Lord Shiva's Trishul which no one has been able to wield in centuries. With prophecy, oath, boon and curse, the stage is set for a heroic clash between justice, duty and love! Who wields the might Trishul? Which side will Lord Vishnu take in an inevitable war? Will a righteous one do adharm to honour his oath? Will injustice be done to a lower class student? Will a king be chained to his son's love? Who upholds Dharma, and who falters? Book One takes you to the origin of this epic journey. The forces of Devas and Asuras, laid out in flesh and blood are rising to discover their powers. A fierce battle lies ahead as the destinies of everyone are about to collide. A war story on what it means to be human!

This interdisciplinary collaboration is the first in-depth study of Chinese Buddhist dice divination. It situates the tenth-century "Divination of Maheśvara," within a deep Chinese backstory while simultaneously tracking its specific method of divination across the Silk Road to ancient India.

The Mahabharata, an ancient and vast Sanskrit poem, is a remarkable collection of epics, legends, romances, theology, and ethical and metaphysical doctrine. The core of this great work is the epic struggle between five heroic brothers, the Pandavas, and their one hundred contentious cousins for rule of the land. This is the second volume of van Buitenen's acclaimed translation of the definitive Poona edition of the text. Book two, The Book of the Assembly Hall, is an epic dramatization of the Vedic ritual of consecration that is central to the book. Book three, The Book of the Forest, traces the further episodes of the heroes during their years in exile. Also included are the famous story of Nala, dealing with the theme of love in separation, and the story of Rama, the subject of the other great Sanskrit epic, the Ramayana, as well as other colorful tales.

The epic tale of victory and defeat... The story of the Ramayana had been told innumerable times. The enthralling story of Rama, the incarnation of God, who slew Ravana, the evil demon of darkness, is known to every Indian. And in the pages of history, as always, it is the version told by the victors, that lives on. The voice of the vanquished remains lost in silence. But what if Ravana and his people had a different story to tell? The story of the Ravanayana had never been told. Asura is the epic tale of the vanquished Asura people, a story that has been cherished by the oppressed outcasts of India for 3000 years. Until now, no Asura has dared to tell the tale. But perhaps the time has come for the dead and the defeated to speak. "For thousands of years, I have been vilified and my death is celebrated year after year in every corner of India. Why? Was it because I challenged the Gods for the sake of my daughter? Was it because I freed a race from the yoke of caste-based Deva rule? You have heard the victor's tale, the Ramayana. Now hear the Ravanayana, for I am Ravana, the Asura, and my story is the tale of the vanquished." "I am a non-entity-invisible, powerless and negligible. No epics will ever be written about me. I have suffered both Ravana and Rama - the hero and the villain or the villain and the hero. When the stories of great men are told, my voice maybe too feeble to be heard. Yet, spare me a moment and hear my story, for I am Bhadra, the Asura, and my life is the tale of the loser." The ancient Asura empire lay shattered into many warring petty kingdoms reeling under the heel of the Devas. In desperation, the Asuras look up to a young saviour-Ravana. Believing that a better world awaits them under Ravana, common men like Bhadra decide to follow the young leader. With a will of iron and a fiery ambition to succeed, Ravana leads his people from victory to victory and carves out a vast empire from the Devas. But even when Ravana succeeds spectacularly, the poor Asuras find that nothing much has changed for them. It is when that Ravana, by one action, changes the history of the world.

This book offers the latest research and new perspectives on Interactive Collaborative Learning and Engineering Pedagogy. We are currently witnessing a significant transformation in education, and in order to face today's real-world challenges, higher education has to find innovative ways to quickly respond to these new needs. Addressing these aspects was the chief aim of the 21st International Conference on Interactive Collaborative Learning (ICL2018), which was held on Kos Island, Greece from September 25 to 28, 2018. Since being founded in 1998, the conference has been devoted to new approaches in learning, with a special focus on collaborative learning. Today the ICL conferences offer a forum for exchanging information on relevant trends and research results, as well as sharing practical experiences in learning and engineering pedagogy. This book includes papers in the fields of: * Collaborative Learning * Computer Aided Language Learning (CALL) * Educational Virtual Environments * Engineering Pedagogy Education * Game based Learning * K-12 and Pre-College Programs * Mobile Learning Environments: Applications It will benefit a broad readership, including policymakers, educators, researchers in pedagogy and learning theory, school teachers, the learning industry, further education lecturers, etc.

Two clashing orders battle for power over their world and the realm of the dead, using teenagers as their pawns. The teenagers, however, have other ideas. In the New World, Elle is visited by a ghost from the Asura, a realm existing between the mortals and the Gods. The Asura challenges everything she thought she knew about herself, her family and the Ministry that controls them, and throws her into an adventure of chaos and discovery. River, meanwhile, has been welcomed into a secret organisation with tantalising promises of a better future. But not everything is as it seems. Worlds collide for young adult readers who will love the fast-paced thrills, the chemistry between characters, and the interplay of dystopian fantasy and science fiction, self-discovery and friendship in Misfit, book one of The Asura Chronicles trilogy. It is a perfect cross-market read for fans of Hunger Games and The Giver, both young adult and adult readers who are searching for the next enduring sci-fi/fantasy classic.

Samkhya and Yoga systems of religious thought.

Aren't we chubby, aren't we cute? Aren't we lovely, as sweet as fruit? Give us a bear hug, give us a kiss Regret not later for giving it a miss. Don't go by these sweet words-for all little asura kids are naughty and troublesome and always up to something! Little will you know when you land in a muddy puddle or your long hair gets chopped off into a bob. They will prod, pull and tug you till you yell-just like the gods in the heavens, especially Vishnu and Shiva who are simply fed up! Indulge in some very, extremely, most funny naughty tales of asura twins Kundakka and Mandakka, who hate going to school; clumsy Bhasma and pet pig Nakura, who create trouble in the village; brothers Atapi and Vatapi, who like to eat ninety-six cartfuls of fruits as dessert; the great Bana who claps with his thousand hands and so many more!

The present Dictionary is designed to meet the long-felt need of the English knowing reader, who is interested in the study of classical as well as modern Sanskrit. It covers a very large field—epics such as the Ramayana and Mahabharata, Puranas and Upapuranas, Smṛti and Nīti literature, Darśanas or Systems of Philosophy, such as Nyāya, Vedānta, Mīmāṃsā, Sāṅkhya and Yoga, Grammar, Rhetoric, Poetry in all its branches, Dramatic and Narrative literature, Mathematics, Medicine, Botany, Astronomy Music and other technical or scientific branches of learning. Thus it embraces all words occurring in the general post-Vedic literature. It includes most of the important terms in Grammar. It gives quotations and references to the peculiar and remarkable meaning of words, especially such as occur in books prescribed for study in the Indian and foreign universities. It also renders explanation of important technical terms occurring in different branches of Sanskrit learning. To add to its usefulness,