



The Hare Krishna Movement: The Postcharismatic Fate of a Religious Transplant

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Dancing and chanting with their shaven heads and saffron robes, Hare Krishnas presented the most visible face of any of the eastern religions transplanted to the West during the sixties and seventies. Yet few people know much about them.

This comprehensive study includes more than twenty contributions from members, ex-members, and academics who have followed the Hare Krishna movement for years. Since the death of its founder, the movement, also known as the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), has experienced debates over the roles of authority, heresy, and dissent, which have led to the development of several splinter movements. There is a growing women's rights movement and a highly publicized child abuse scandal. Providing a privileged look at the people and issues shaping ISKCON, this volume also offers insight into the complex factors surrounding the emergence of religious traditions, including early Christianity, as well as a glimpse of the original seeds and the germinating stages of a religious tradition putting down roots in foreign soil.

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Review

The great strength of this very useful and important resource comes from its reliance on both the work of scholars in the field of Indian religions and the evaluations of those who have personally experienced this movement over years of change...Highly recommended (E. Findly *Choice*)

This is a poignant book. (David E. Settje, Concordia University, River Forest *Religious Studies Review*)

About the Author

Edwin F. Bryant is assistant professor of Hinduism at Rutgers University. His publications include *The Quest for the Origins of Vedic Culture* and *Krishna: The Beautiful Legend of God*, *Srimad Bhagavata Purana Book Ten*. Maria L. Ekstrand is a psychologist on the faculty of the University of California, San Francisco who was involved in the development of ISKCON's child abuse investigation guidelines.

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