



# RESEARCH GUIDE TO ASIAN RELIGIONS

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## ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES

***The Encyclopedia of Religion.*** Edited by Lindsay Jones. 2nd ed. Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2005. 15 volumes.

[Available online for UofT use: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca>

Search the Catalogue for *Encyclopedia of Religion*. Click on “go.”]

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL31 .E39 2005]

One of the most complete and authoritative works on religion, *The Encyclopedia of Religion* offers excellent coverage of Asian religions, including the various sects and divisions of the major faiths. Articles include bibliographies and important texts. Accessing subject matter is enhanced by a very thorough index in the first volume.

***The World's Religions.*** Edited by Peter B. Clarke and Peter Beyer. Routledge, 2009.

[Available online for UofT use: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca>

Search the Catalogue for *Routledge Religion Resources*. Open it. Then under the Browse Resource title option, select *The World's Religions*.]

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL31 .E39 2005]

***The Encyclopedia of Taoism.*** Edited by Lindsay Jones. 2nd ed. Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2005. 15 volumes.

[Available online for UofT use: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca>

Search the Catalogue for *Routledge Religion Resources*. Open it. Then under the Browse Resource title option, select *The Encyclopedia of Taoism*.]

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL31 .E39 2005]

***The Encyclopedia of Hinduism.*** Edited by Denise B. Cush, Catherine Robinson, and Michael York. Routledge, 2008.

[Available online for UofT use: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca>

Search the Catalogue for *Routledge Religion Resources*. Open it. Then under the Browse Resource title option, select *The Encyclopedia of Hinduism*.

[St. Michael's 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Reference Area – BL31 .E39 2005]

***Dictionary of Philosophy and Religion: Eastern and Western Thought.*** By W.L. Reese. 2nd ed. Humanities Press, 1996.

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – B 41 .R43 1996]

[1st edition: St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – B41. R43 1980]

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This single volume concisely describes the religions, philosophies, and important philosophers and theologians in the East and West. Cross-references to the other articles make it easy to expand on a topic. This work is aimed at students needing an introduction to philosophical or religious concepts.

***Great Thinkers of the Eastern World: the Major Thinkers and the Philosophical and Religious Classics of China, India, Japan, Korea, and the World of Islam.*** Edited by I.P. McGreal. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers, 1995.  
[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – B5005 .G74 1995]

An introduction to Asian philosophers and theologians and their works, this book offers basic biographies of great Asian thinkers, a summary and discussion of their ideas, and a bibliography. This book is useful to students wanting to look up quick references and find further readings.

***Eastern Definitions: A Short Encyclopedia of Religions of the Orient.*** By E.E. Rice. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1978.  
[Robarts 9th Floor – BL31 .E24]

An illustrated guide to common and rare philosophical, mystical, religious, and psychological terms from Hinduism, Buddhism, Sufism, Islam, Zen, Taoism, Sikhism, Zoroastrianism, and other major and minor Eastern religions.

***Guide to the Gods.*** By Marjorie Leach. Edited by M.O. Jones and F. Cattermole-Tally. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 1992.  
[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – BL473 .L43 1992]

This dictionary covers almost all of the deities of the world's religions, including those of the East. Although the articles tend to be brief, this reference includes a thorough index and bibliography. It serves as a good starting point for further research.

***The Encyclopedia of Eastern Philosophy and Religion: Buddhism, Taoism, Zen, Hinduism.*** By I. Fischer-Schreiber ... [et al.]. Boston: Shambhala, 1994.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL1005 .L4813 1994]

This illustrated encyclopedia provides short entries for major figures, faiths, and philosophies of Asia. Its excellent bibliography provides further primary and secondary sources on Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism and Zen.

***Historical Dictionary of Buddhism.*** By C.S. Prebish. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1993.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BQ130 .P74 1993]

Prebish narrows his dictionary topics to significant persons, places, texts, events, doctrines, practices, and movements within the Buddhist tradition.

## SACRED WRITINGS

***Internet Sacred Text Archive***  
[<http://www.sacred-texts.com/index.htm>]

An online archive of traditional religious texts.

## ATLASES

***Historical Atlas of South Asia.*** Edited by J.E. Schwartzberg et al. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.  
[Robarts 5th Floor Map Library – G2261 .S1H5 1992]

A cartographic history of India from the Stone Age to the late 20th century, this atlas provides maps of religious and cultural sites with commentaries and bibliographies.

***Historical Atlas of the Religions of the World.*** Edited by Isma'il Ragi al Faruqi and Daniel E. Sopher. New York: Macmillan, 1974.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL80.2 .F28]

This atlas describes each of the major world religions using maps, chronologies, and commentaries. There are short bibliographies listing further readings and an extensive index.

***Atlas of the World's Religions.*** Edited by Ninian Smart. New York; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999.

[Robarts 5th Floor Map Library – G1046 .E4 A87 1999]

Historical and contemporary maps illustrating the movement and distribution of the world's major religions.

## RESEARCH GUIDES AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES

***Research Guide to Religious Studies.*** By J.F. Wilson and T.P. Slavens. Chicago: American Library Association, 1982.

[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BL41 .W5 1982]

This work remains an excellent introduction to religious scholarship and reference works related to the faiths of India, China, Japan, and other Asian nations. It includes an author/title index and bibliographies at the end of each section.

***Keyguide to Information Sources on World Religions.*** By J. Holm. New York: Mansell, 1991.

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – Z7833 .H65 1991]

An annotated listing of the most important sources on various religions.

***Resources for the Study of East Asian Language and Thought***

[<http://www.acmuller.net/>]

A regularly updated site which includes various East Asian religious texts, a Buddhist dictionary, and links to other online resources.

***Finding God in Cyberspace***

[<http://gresham.kenrickparish.com/contents.htm>]

Links to e-texts, specialized religion search engines, and academic and religious organizations.

***Classic Asian Philosophy.*** By Joel J. Kupperman. New York: Oxford University Press, 2001.

[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – B121 .K85 2001]

An introduction to the foundational texts of Asian religions.

***Guide to Indian Philosophy.*** By K.H. Potter. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1988.

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – Z7129 .I5P68 1988]

An annotated bibliography emphasizing English language journal articles and books on Indian religion and philosophy published mainly from 1970 to 1986. It includes major philosophical categories and provides sources on the political and historical aspects of Indian philosophy.

***Early Chinese Texts: A Bibliographical Guide.*** Edited by M. Loewe. Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies, 1993.  
[East Asian Library – Z1035.8 .C5E2 1993]

A bibliography of Western books and articles critiquing and describing the history of classic Chinese texts (including religious and philosophical works) written before the end of the Han dynasty. Modern and old editions, commentaries, translations, and research aids are listed.

***Religion in Postwar China: A Critical Analysis and Annotated Bibliography.*** Compiled by D.C. Yu. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1994.  
[Robarts Library – Z7757 .C6Y83 1994]

An annotated bibliography of over 1000 Chinese and Western works on contemporary Chinese religion published since 1945.

***The New Religions of Japan: A Bibliography of Western-Language Materials.*** Second edition. By H.B. Earhart. Ann Arbor, MI: Center for Japanese Studies, University of Michigan, 1983.  
[Robarts Library – Z7834 .J3E2 1983 ]  
[First Edition: St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL2207.5 E27]

A bibliography of almost 1,500 books and articles on Japanese religion from the Meiji Restoration to the twentieth century.

## FINDING JOURNAL ARTICLES

To find articles in scholarly journals, magazines, newspapers, anthologies, collections and conference proceedings, the best place to go is an [article database](#). To find articles related to your subject area, go to [www.library.utoronto.ca/](http://www.library.utoronto.ca/), click the *Subjects A to Z* link, scroll down to your subject area—i.e. *Religion*—and click GO. You'll find a list of online databases containing relevant articles, as well as other online resources such as encyclopedias, dictionaries and other reference sources.

***Bibliography of Asian Studies.*** 1948–present.  
[Available online for UofT use: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca>.  
Search the Catalogue for *Bibliography of Asian Studies*. Click on “go.”]

Almost half a million citations and abstracts from Western-language Asian studies periodicals, anthologies, books, and conference proceedings. Subject coverage includes Asian religion and philosophy. It offers many search modes (e.g., subject headings, regions, keyword searching) to uncover relevant materials.

***ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials.*** 1949–present.  
[Available online for UofT use: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca>  
Search the Catalogue for *ATLASerials*. Click on “go.”]

Over a million bibliographic citations to journal articles, essays, and book reviews on religious subjects published since 1949.

***Philosopher's Index.*** 1940–present.  
[Available online for UofT use: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca>  
Search the Catalogue for *Philosopher's Index*. Click on “go.”]

This index cites and abstracts books, journals, and anthologies on philosophy and related fields. It provides strong coverage of philosophical materials from Zoroastrianism, Sufism, Confucianism, Taoism, Hinduism, Islam, Shintoism and Buddhism.

## BUDDHISM

***Encyclopedia of Buddhism.*** Edited by Damien Keown and Charles S. Prebish. London: Routledge, 2007.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BQ128 .E53 2007]

Over 300 signed articles on Buddhist history, schools, texts, concepts, rituals, and places.

***Historical Dictionary of Buddhism.*** By C.S. Prebish. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1993.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BQ130 .P74 1993]

A concise multilingual dictionary of terms related to the Buddha and Buddhism, this book includes a chronology of the religion, an outline of Buddhist scriptures, and an extensive bibliography of primary and secondary sources broken down by topic.

***The Buddhist Handbook: A Complete Guide to Buddhist Schools, Teaching, Practice, History.***

By J. Snelling. London: Century, 1987.

[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BQ4012 .S64 1987]

Snelling examines the Buddha's life and teachings, the Buddhist worldview and practices, and the history of the religion, current development of the faith, and biographies of prominent Buddhists. It includes an index and a bibliography.

***A Buddhist Bible.*** By D.Goddard. Boston: Beacon Press, 1970.

[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BL1410 .G6]

Selections taken from Chinese, Tibetan, and other Buddhist sources that study the historical Buddha and the practical and philosophical aspects of his teachings. It also offers a summary of the Buddha's *Dharma*.

***BuddhaNet - Buddhist Information Network***

[<http://www.buddhanet.net/>]

A searchable site providing resources such as Buddhist history, iconography, ceremonies, sects, readings, directories and links to major Buddhist sites.

***Guide to Buddhist Philosophy.*** By K.K. Inada [et al]. Boston: G.K. Hall, c1985.

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – Z7128 .B93I53 1985]

The guide provides annotated entries to more than 1,000 primary and secondary sources on Buddhist doctrines and philosophy. The majority of the works included are written in English. There are detailed subject and author/title indexes.

***Buddhist Spirituality: Indian, Southeast Asian, Tibetan, and Early Chinese.*** Edited by T. Yoshinori. New York: Crossroad, 1997.

[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BQ266 .B834 1993]

Discusses the history and spiritual aspects of the different Buddhist sects and how each interprets the terms and teaching of the Buddha. It includes indexes, glossary, and bibliography.

## CONFUCIANISM

### ***Sacred Texts: Confucianism***

[<http://www.sacred-texts.com/cfu/>]

A collection of key Confucian texts translated into English by renowned Chinese scholar James Legge. It includes the *Analects (Lun Yü)*, *The Great Learning (Ta Hsüeh)*, *Book of Historical Records (Shu Ching)*, *Book of Filial Piety (Hsiao Ching I)*, and others.

***The Analects of Confucius: a New-Millennium Translation.*** Translated and annotated by D.H. Li. Bethesda, MD: Premier, 1999.

[Trinity Library – PL2478 .L63 1999]

This new translation of the Confucian *Analects* includes line-by-line translations of Chinese text and provides a helpful background on the history and geopolitics of the era. The source offers extensive annotations, a valuable chronology, and three indexes.

### ***Chinese Philosophical Etext Archive***

[<http://sangle.web.wesleyan.edu/etext/>]

Electronic versions of Confucian and Neo-Confucian philosophical texts. It also offers links to other Chinese philosophy resources on the Internet.

## HINDUISM

***A Popular Dictionary of Hinduism.*** By K. Werner. Richmond, Surrey: Curzon, 1994.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL2003 .W47 1994]

This dictionary provides brief, general entries of Hindu religious terms and notable individuals. It includes a Sanskrit pronunciation guide and a history of the complex development of Hinduism. Though it lacks a bibliography, this book remains a good source for general readers seeking to learn about Hindu terminology and concepts.

***The Hindu World: An Encyclopedic Survey of Hinduism.*** By B. Walker. London: Allen & Unwin, 1968.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL1105 .W34]

Though dated, Walker's two volumes explain many aspects of the Hindu faith and philosophy from the goddess Aditi to the impact of Zoroastrianism. It includes brief bibliographies at the end of each entry and an extensive index.

***The Thirteen Principal Upanishads: Translated from the Sanskrit with an Outline of the Philosophy of the Upanishads.*** Translated by R.E. Hume. London, New York: Oxford University Press, 1968, 1931.

[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BL1120 .A3H8]

A translation of the Sanskrit Upanishads, Hume's work provides a list of recurrent and parallel passages. Hume also provides an excellent outline and bibliography of the philosophy of the Upanishads and other Hindu sacred books.



***Textual Sources for the Study of Hinduism.*** Edited and translated by Wendy Doniger O'Flaherty. Manchester: University Press, 1988.  
[Robarts Library 9th Floor Stacks – BL1111.32 E5 T48 1988]

***Bhagavad-Gita As It Is: With the Original Sanskrit Text, Roman Transliteration, English Equivalents, Translations and Elaborate Purports.*** By A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. Los Angeles, CA: Bhaktivedanta Book Trust, 1986.  
[Robarts Library – BL 1130 .A365 1986]  
[Abridged edition: St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BL1130 .A4 B472 1972]

An illustrated guide to critiquing and interpreting the Bhagavadgita, one of the classics of Hinduism. It includes bibliographical references and index.

***Guide to Hindu Religion.*** By D.J. Dell [et al.]. Boston: G. K. Hall, 1981.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL1202 .G85 1981]

Although dated, this annotated guide of over 12,000 entries covers topics such as Hindu history, practices, philosophy, sacred texts, arts, holy places, and research aids. The table of contents and index are extensive and make accessing materials straightforward. This book is useful to both researchers and students.

## JAINISM

***An Encyclopaedia of Jainism.*** Edited by P.C. Nahar and K.C. Ghosh. Delhi, India : Sri Satguru Publications, 1988.  
[Robarts Library – BL1351.2 .E43 1988]

A comprehensive overview of the religious, philosophical, and social aspects of Jainism. It includes discussion of Jainist doctrines, places of pilgrimage, literature, art, architecture, church.

***Jainism: Principles, Tradition and Practices***  
[<http://www.cs.colostate.edu/~malaiya/jainhlinks.html>]

An introduction to the beliefs and philosophy of Jainists. It includes an outline of Jain history, a glossary, images and icons, sacred and interpretive texts, and a calendar of Jain festivals.

***Jainism: A Select Bibliography.*** Edited by Satyaprakash. Gurgaon, Haryana: Indian Documentation Service, 1984.  
[Robarts Library – Z7835 .J2S3 1984]

A compilation of scholarly and general interest articles related to Jainism. The focus is mainly on sources published in India.

## SHINTO

***A Popular Dictionary of Shinto.*** By B. Bocking. Richmond, England: Curzon Press, 1996.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL2216.1 .B63 1996]

An academic dictionary that provides over a thousand entries on concepts, festivals, artifacts, deities, shrines, and facets of popular Shinto. Though there is no bibliography, the author refers to a number of useful works in the introduction and the thematic indexes make it easy to find cross-references.

***Essentials of Shinto: An Analytical Guide to Principal Teachings.*** By S.D.B. Picken. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1994.  
[Robarts Library – BL2220 .P529 1994]

A good guide to resources on Shinto religion, philosophy, and shrines. It lists primary sources on the institutional and intellectual history of Shinto sects, including splinter sects.

***Shinto Bibliography in Western Languages: Bibliography on Shinto and Religious Sects, Intellectual Schools and Movements Influenced by Shintoism.*** By A. Schwade. Leiden, Netherlands: Brill, 1986.  
[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – Z7835 .S5S39 1986]

Bibliography of Shinto and its influence on Japanese society and religion.

## SIKHISM

***Historical Dictionary of Sikhism.*** By W. H. McLeod. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 1995.  
[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – BL2018 .M38]

This dictionary offers concise definitions covering Sikh religion, history, culture, and important personages. It distinguishes between Hindu and Sikh interpretations of terms. The bibliography makes reference to more advanced readings.

***Encyclopaedia of Sikh Religion and Culture.*** By R.G. Dogra and G.S. Mansukhani. New Delhi: Vikas Pub. House, 1996.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BL2017.3 .D64 1996]

An excellent introduction to the Sikh religion and society, this encyclopedia presents articles on the major aspects of the Sikh faith, folklore, customs, castes, celebrations, culture, and history. It includes extracts from Sikh holy books and a bibliography of books and articles.

***Sikhism Home Page***  
[<http://www.sikhs.org>]

Information on Sikhism, including the origins of the faith, its historical development, and beliefs and practices. Includes a glossary, a guide to saints, a bibliography, and links to other websites.

***Textual Sources for the Study of Sikhism.*** Translated and edited by W.H. McLeod. Manchester: Manchester University Press, c1984.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor - BL2017.4 .A4M35]

Discusses the sacred books of Sikhism such as the Adi-Granth. Includes map, index, bibliography.

***Sikhism and the Sikhs: An Annotated Bibliography.*** Compiled by P.M. Rai. New York: Greenwood Press, 1989.  
[Robarts Library – Z7835 .S54R34 1989]

Includes over 1,100 concise entries on books and journal articles about Sikh religion and society published since 1965. Although non-religious and current topics are looked at, the bibliography is strongest in its coverage of religious topics. The extensive author, title, and subject indexes make it easy for students to access the content.

## TAOISM

***Historical Dictionary of Taoism.*** By J.F. Pas [et al]. Lanham, MD. : Scarecrow Press, 1998.  
[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – BL1923 .P37 1998]

Long articles on Taoist religion, theologians and philosophies as well as a detailed chronology and thorough bibliography.

***Taoism Information Page***  
[<http://www.clas.ufl.edu/users/gthursby/taoism/>]

A collection of scholarly web resources on the philosophical and religious aspects of Taoism. Includes English translations of important Taoist works such as the *I Ching*.

***The Texts of Taoism.*** Translated by J. Legge. New York: Dover Publications, 1962.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BL1900 .A1 ]

The principal sacred books of Taoism such as the *Tao Te Ching* of Lao Tzu and writings by Chuang Tzu. It includes notes from the translator to assist with understanding Taoist concepts.

***Western Bibliography of Taoism.*** By K. Walf. Essen: Die Blaue Eule, 1989.  
[Robarts Library – Z7835 .T2W3 1989]

This bibliography lists over 2,000 early and recent editions of classic Taoist texts such as the *Tao Te Ching* and the *Chuang Tzu* as well as Western-language translations of these works.

***A Survey of Taoist Literature: Tenth to Seventeenth Centuries.*** By J.M. Boltz. Berkeley, CA: Institute of East Asian Studies, University of California, 1987.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BL1923 .B66]

A bibliography of the history and criticism of the Taoist literature of China. It emphasizes sources in the original languages. It includes a bibliography for further reading, a list of prominent Taoists and an index to facilitate accessing sources.

## ZOROASTRIANISM

### *Avesta -- Zoroastrian Archives*

[<http://www.avesta.org>]

An online archive of extant Zoroastrian religious texts as well as papers on Zoroastrian history and rituals. It provides an extensive listing of websites related to Zoroastrianism. The level of research is suitable for scholars, but the information would also interest non-experts.

*Textual Sources for the Study of Zoroastrianism*. Edited and translated by M. Boyce. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1990.

[Trinity Library – BL1571 .T44 1990]

This excellent introduction to traditions, doctrines, and writings of Zoroastrianism includes a selection of original and contemporary Zoroastrian texts and analyzes the history and development of the faith down to modern times. Includes an index and a bibliography.

Asian religions study guide What is syncretism? Practicing more than one tradition. Japanese follow Buddhism, Shinto, and Confucianism, and Daoism. Which religious traditions are native to China and Japan? Japanese follow Buddhism, Shinto, and Confucianism, and Daoism. Chinese follow When did Buddhism arrive in China and Japan? Buddhism arrived to Japan in 780 BCE Origin of the words China and Japan and what do they mean? Japan: Nippon [Land of the Rising Sun], [Chinese named current day Japan Wei Wei, but was changed by Japanese] What is Ancestorship? Ancestor worship; Ancestors die, become s