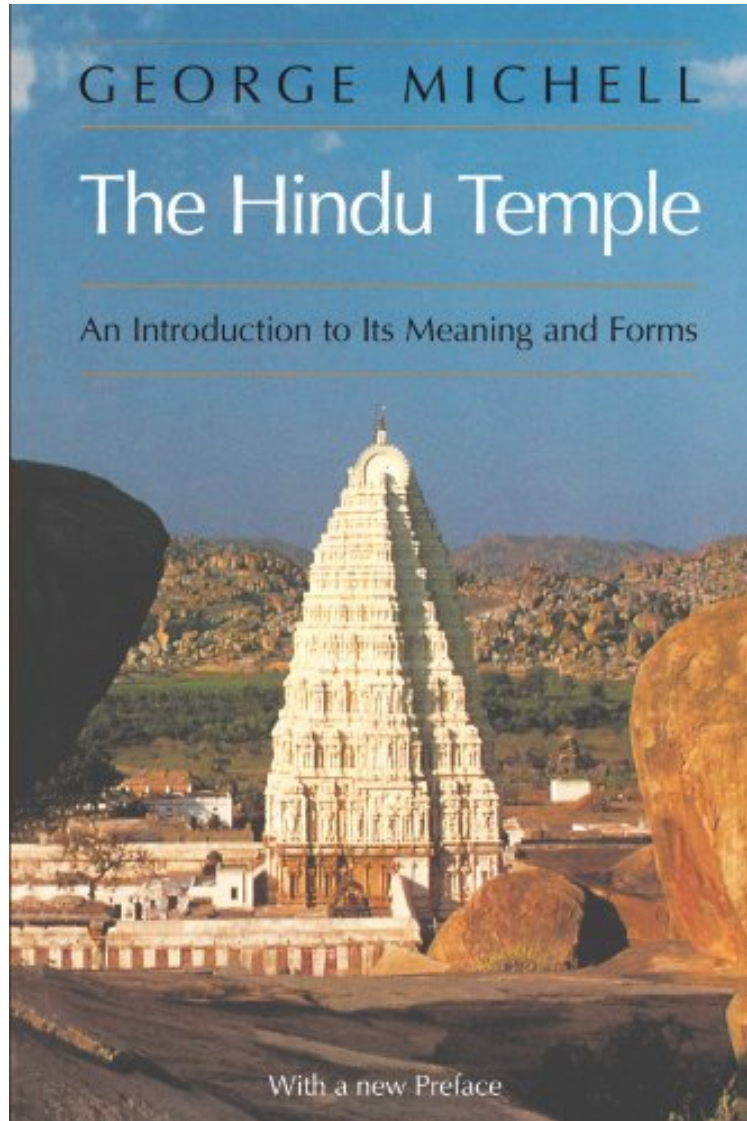


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The Hindu Temple: An Introduction to Its Meaning and Forms

George Michell

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George Michell : The Hindu Temple: An Introduction to Its Meaning and Forms before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hindu Temple: An Introduction to Its Meaning and Forms:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Misses Feeling and Emotion By Meow Tomcat This is a textbook introducing the architectural student to the Hindu temple. The author is methodical first reviewing the long standing

features of the Hindu temple, which is a focal point in worship, in terms of art, architecture, and theology. The Hindu world view and the belief system has to be understood before looking at the technical and stylistic aspects of architecture, which itself is evolving. With over a hundred illustrations and drawings, the author does his best to instruct. With a publisher that specializes in illustrations, such as Dorling Kindersley this book might have been elevated to an emotional experience, nevertheless, what we have is praiseworthy. 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Great for the philosophy student
By Beth
This book is great for those who want an in depth look at Hindu philosophy and the place of temples within it. It's a bit scanty on cultural practices and rituals - that is not the book's aim. It does a wonderful job of explaining things so that a Westerner (like me) can understand. It is, however, a very heavy book. It is certainly not light bed time reading like a National Geographic would be. :) 7 of 9 people found the following review helpful. The classic text on the subject
By Marleigh Grayer Ryan
Michell is an extremely careful and conscientious chronicler of this difficult, dense subject. He writes unusually well - absolutely clear English - and makes his way through a wide array of topics. Invaluable to the student of the subject.

For more than 1500 years, from the Indian subcontinent to the islands of the Indonesian archipelago, the temple has embodied and symbolized the Hindu worldview at its deepest level and inspired the greatest architectural and artistic achievements in Hindu Asia. In *The Hindu Temple*, considered the standard introduction to the subject, George Michell explains the cultural, religious, and architectural significance of the temple. He illustrates his points with a profusion of photographs, building plans, and drawings of architectural details, making the book a useful guide for travelers to Asia as well as an illuminating text for students of architecture, religion, and Asian civilizations. Michell's discussion of the meaning and forms of the temple in Hindu society encompasses the awe-inspiring rock-cut temples at Ellora and Elephanta, the soaring superstructures and extraordinary sexual exhibitionism of the sculptures at Khajuraho, and the colossal mortuary temple of Angkor Wat, as well as the tiny iconic shrines that many Hindus wear around their necks and the simple shrines found under trees or near ponds.