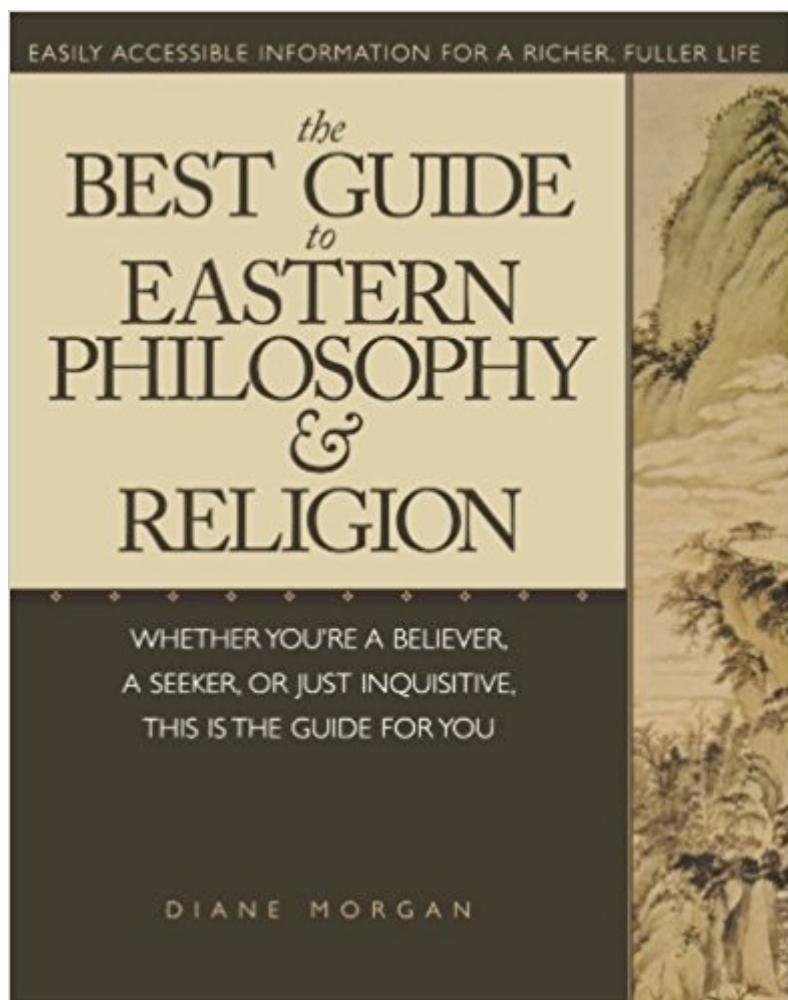


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# The Best Guide To Eastern Philosophy And Religion: Easily Accessible Information For A Richer, Fuller Life



## Synopsis

The Best Guide to Eastern Philosophy & Religion provides a thorough discussion of the most widely practiced belief systems of the East. Author Diane Morgan understands how to direct the materialistic, linear way of Western thinking toward a comprehension of the cyclical, metaphysical essence of Eastern philosophy. With an emphasis on the tenets and customs that Western seekers find most compelling, this text is accessible to the novice yet sophisticated enough for the experienced reader. Inside, you'll find complete coverage of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism, as well as the less-widely practiced faiths of Shintoism, Jainism, Sikhism, and Zoroastrianism. Learn the fundamentals of the tantric path to liberation and the relationship between sex and seeking. Discover the true meaning of Feng Shui, the philosophical underpinnings of Hatha Yoga and Taoist connection to the martial art of Tai chi chuan. And if you've ever wondered: what is the sound of one hand clapping?. this book will get you started on finding that answer. The Eastern traditions, with their emphasis on harmony and oneness, have much to offer us in our hectic, demanding lives. For a comprehensive, entertaining exploration of the beliefs of Asia, The Best Guide to Eastern Philosophy & Religion is the essential manual for the seeker in all of us.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“This book aims to explain simply the origins, practices and philosophy of Eastern religions. The author teaches religion and philosophy at a community college, and she has a good sense of the text mechanisms that less sophisticated readers might need to help them read such a book. The wide margins of the text add chapter guides, highlights and reviews . . . Morgan writes in a breezy,

casual style that is quite accessible . . . Major topics include Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism, with each major focus broken up into five or six chapters. A last part more quickly explores 'roads less traveled,' such as Jainism, Shinto and Tantra (the author handles sex here with a beguiling modesty and forthrightness). An index and glossary are useful. —Kliatt

Diane Morgan teaches religion and philosophy at Wilson and Frederick Community College. Passionate about sharing the beauty and mystery of Eastern thought with her students, Morgan is also passionate about dogs, and has authored several books on canine care. She lives in Williamsport, Maryland.

This book is well organized and easy to understand. I gained a better understanding of what I already knew about eastern religion as well as its relationship to philosophy. Whereas western philosophy is analytical and separate from religion: eastern philosophy is harmonious and connected with religion.

During the last 50 years I've bought and read many book concerning religion and especially philosophy, among them 10 concerning Buddha. And I must admit that this one is the best which I until now have read about Asian philosophy and religions. The book is excellent for being used during studying in high school or university, as I recall it from during the studying years in Denmark. And as easily read it's also good for persons interested in by self studying to learn about nearly all of the religions and philosophy which in Asia during the historical time there was made. And beside I in the book like the humors connected to some of the reproductions. As a remark, when I was child we in Denmark beside Christianity only had around 6,000 citizens being Jewish, that being 0.12 % of the population, and in school we only learned about Christianity. But in the middle of the sixties, soon fifty years ago, we started getting workers coming from Turkey, and thereby got Muslims. So now we in the population in Denmark have around 7 %, that is, 350,000 persons, being Muslims, and now, beside that, lots of other persons belonging to nearly all kind of other known religions. So now we have to learn of more than only Christianity to better understand each other. I must say that this book contains many interesting details; so many that I by my using of speed maker nearly have changed the sides to being most yellow. For example on side 180 is told that all of the descendants from Confucius, during the now past around 2,500 years, have been documented right down, and that those now living are staying on Taiwan to where they went when Mao won the civil war. And by this, and what further we read, we must admit that that China thousands of years ago was

thousands of years a head of Europe, for example when we on side 193 under Confucius's teachings, there read about his thinking on Utopia. Where we in Europe, after that the Roman Empire had taken over from the Greek, then in the following 1,500 years until 500 years from now, for example nearly had no philosophers at all. Back in 1967, when I for the first time read Nietzches: "Thus Spoke Zarathustra", then I by research concerning Zarathustra, only found short information about a god or holy person which legend told should have been living around 6,000 years ago. But then in this book, on side 293, there starts a chapter about Zoroastrianism and here it shows up to be a still existing religion, even though now not having more than 30,000 members who live in Tehran. Original coming from India and therefore included in this book concerning Asian religions. And then we here read about an actual person, named Zarathustra, who probably was born about 630 B.C.E. Highly interesting for me to recognize. And by reading the book we also recognize how enormous much writing concerning religion and philosophy that there especially in India and China were made during thousands of years. And especially I liked the refreshing I got about Tao thinking. And thereby I now have been interesting in reading more from Tao, else I've always had most knowing to Confucius and Buddha. Only, for me it's a shame that that we in the book, concerning the writings about Bhagavagita are missing the writings about how the gods during their weeks of fighting not get the telling about the fighting up in the sky. Which many persons has been writing about and thereby speculating if there maybe actual was a war up in the sky, and maybe visit persons from other planets! But once again; an extremely good historical book concerning religions and philosophy in Asia.

This book is not bad. However, it is just the very beginnings of these religions. If you know NOTHING about Eastern Philosophy of Religion, this might be for you. If you know quite a bit, this is not even good for refreshing... it is very very basic. As I said, if you don't know about these topics at all, this would be a good starting point.

A very good introduction to Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism, as well as to five other systems such as Shinto. The author's sense of humor may seem a little irreverent to some at times, and she sometimes may gloss over things a bit, but for the most part it was an interesting and insightful introduction to the various systems it covers. Certainly gives enough information to guide one to further study into details. For my part, I will be looking more deeply into Hinduism and to a lesser extent Zen and Taoism. Recommended.

I gave this to a friend to do some research for a new business that he's starting and although I didn't read it myself, he stated that it was informative, comprehensive and gave real insight into these cultures .

Just what I was looking for - a guide to compare and contrast Eastern Religions - also somewhat humorous in places

This is a great general overview of the the major and some lesser know religiions. A little humor here and there makes this all the more enjoyable.

Does a wonderful job that educates the reader about various religions in the East and their origins. Great book, recommend.

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