

# Contents

Contributors	x
Preface and Acknowledgments	xii
• Introduction: Establishing the Boundaries <i>Gavin Flood</i>	1
<b>Part I Theoretical Issues</b>	<b>21</b>
• 1 Colonialism and the Construction of Hinduism <i>Gauri Viswanathan</i>	23
• 2 Orientalism and Hinduism <i>David Smith</i>	45
<b>Part II Text and Tradition</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>The Sanskrit Textual Traditions</b>	<b>67</b>
3 Vedas and Upaniṣads <i>Michael Witzel</i>	68
4 The Dharmasāstras <i>Ludo Rocher</i>	102
5 The Sanskrit Epics <i>John Brockington</i>	116
6 The Purāṇas <i>Freda Matchett</i>	129

<b>Textual Traditions in Regional Languages</b>	144
7 Tamil Hindu Literature <i>Norman Cutler</i>	145
8 The Literature of Hinduism in Malayalam <i>Rich Freeman</i>	159
9 North Indian Hindi Devotional Literature <i>Nancy M. Martin</i>	182
<b>Major Historical Developments</b>	199
10 The Śaiva Traditions <i>Gavin Flood</i>	200
11 History of Vaiṣṇava Traditions: An Esquisse <i>Gérard Colas</i>	229
12 The Renouncer Tradition <i>Patrick Olivelle</i>	271
13 The Householder Tradition in Hindu Society <i>T. N. Madan</i>	288
<b>Regional Traditions</b>	306
14 The Teyyam Tradition of Kerala <i>Rich Freeman</i>	307
15 The Month of Kārtik and Women's Ritual Devotions to Krishna in Benares <i>Tracy Pintchman</i>	327
<b>Part III Systematic Thought</b>	343
<b>The Indian Sciences</b>	345
Introduction <i>Frits Staal</i>	346
16 The Science of Language <i>Frits Staal</i>	348
17 Indian Mathematics <i>Takao Hayashi</i>	360
18 Calendar, Astrology, and Astronomy <i>Michio Yano</i>	376

19	The Science of Medicine <i>Dominik Wujastyk</i>	393
<b>Philosophy and Theology</b>		410
20	Hinduism and the Proper Work of Reason <i>Jonardon Ganeri</i>	411
• 21	Restoring "Hindu Theology" as a Category in Indian Intellectual Discourse <i>Francis Clooney, SJ</i>	447
22	Mantra <i>André Padoux</i>	478
<b>Part IV Society, Politics, and Nation</b>		493
• 23	On the Relationship between Caste and Hinduism <i>Declan Quigley</i>	495
• 24	Modernity, Reform, and Revival <i>Dermot Killingley</i>	509
• 25	Contemporary Political Hinduism <i>C. Ram-Prasad</i>	526
• 26	The Goddess and the Nation: Subterfuges of Antiquity, the Cunning of Modernity <i>Sumathi Ramaswamy</i>	551
• 27	Gender in a Devotional Universe <i>Vasudha Narayanan</i>	569
Index		588

# Index

- Abhinavagupta, 16, 202, 203, 220, 221,  
222–3, 224, 478, 489  
*adharmā*, 102, 104  
Āditya, 72, 78  
Advaita Vedānta, 122, 246, 282, 467, 513,  
516, 520, 522  
Advani, Lal Krishna, 540  
Afghanistan, 546  
Africa, 33  
agency, 31  
Aghoraśiva, 210  
Agni, 72, 73, 75, 80, 89, 118, 122, 137,  
281, 353, 362  
*agnicayana*, 80, 81, 232, 363  
*agnihotra*, 80  
agriculture, 103  
*ahiṃsā*, 85, 125, 234, 255, 274  
Ājīvikas, 274  
*akam* poetry, 146, 149, 150, 160  
Akbar, 127, 260  
Al-Bīrūnī, 133  
algebra, 357, 369, 378  
Allahabad, 548  
Allama, 580  
Ālvārs, 122, 148, 162, 163, 185, 186,  
237–8, 247, 461  
Ambedkar, B. R., 31  
*ānāya*, 202, 256  
Āṇḍāl, 574, 579  
Andhra Pradesh, 69, 189, 250  
Anglicanism, 25  
Anthropology, 13, 495  
*Anugītā*, 125  
*ānvīkṣikī* (critical inquiry), 412  
Appar, 151  
Aquinas, Thomas, 450  
Arabic, 112  
Āranyakas, 82  
Archaeology, 2, 13  
Ardhanarīśvara, 585  
Aristotle, 50, 357  
Arjuna, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 123,  
124, 127, 184, 276, 284, 575, 584  
Arnold, Edwin, 28  
Art, popular, 569  
Art History, 13  
*artha*, 192, 416  
*ārya*, 73  
Ārya Samāj, 17, 36, 265, 514  
Āryabhaṭṭa, 287, 366–8, 371, 373, 383,  
388, 391  
Aryaman, 71, 72  
Aryans, 9, 54, 273, 290, 527  
Asad, Talal, 28  
Asiatic Society of Bengal, 512  
ascetic warriors, 258  
asceticism, 140, 209, 266, 273, 279  
ascetics, 118, 119, 207, 209, 212, 221,  
243, 247, 251, 252, 258, 262, 302, 529  
Assam, 264, 538  
*āśrama*, 5, 103, 274, 294, 302  
*āśrama* system, 277–80, 281, 283, 292

- astrology, 16, 102, 365, 378–80, 383, 464  
 astronomy (*vyotihśāstra*), 5, 16, 102, 365, 371, 376–91; mathematical, 388–91  
 Asura, 73, 584  
*asvamedha*, see horse sacrifice  
 Āsvins, 72, 80  
*Atharvaveda*, 68, 69, 75, 76, 104, 379, 382, 394  
*ātman*, 120, 242, 425  
 Aurangzeb, 263  
 Aurobindo, Sri, 465, 556  
 auspiciousness, 339  
*avatāra*, 8, 116, 123, 124, 139, 167, 184, 242, 260; list, 139, 242  
 Ayyappa, 584  
 Ayodhyā, 117, 122, 126, 540, 541, 542  
 Āyurveda, 216, 394, 396, 397, 398, 399, 403, 404, 406–7, 483; Greek influence on, 395  
 Babri Mosque, 9, 540–1  
 Bakhtin, M., 4  
 Balarama, 121  
 Bali, 210  
 Balinese, 357  
 Bangladesh, 510, 538, 540  
 Basava, 255, 302  
 Beames, J., 49–50  
 Benares/Banaras/Varanasi, 15, 69, 182, 187, 191, 192, 207, 212, 284, 328, 329, 330, 331, 335, 336, 540  
 Bengal, 112, 113, 191, 261, 538, 558  
 Bengali, 262, 511, 515  
 Bentham, J., 511  
 Bentinck, Lord, 511, 514  
 Besnagar inscription, 231  
 Bhaga, 71, 72  
*Bhagavadgītā*, 85, 86, 109, 120–1, 123, 124, 125, 134, 139, 170, 184, 205, 231, 242, 248, 251, 284, 285, 448, 461, 523, 582  
 Bhāgavata tradition, 124, 230, 232, 238–9, 266  
 Bhāgavatism, 230–3  
 Bhairava, 207, 212, 224, 487, 489  
*bhakti*, 4, 8, 120, 121, 122, 125, 131, 137, 138, 140, 141, 149, 162, 164, 169–70, 177, 183, 184, 185, 210, 219, 234, 284, 285, 512  
 Bhandarkar, R. G., 522  
 Bhartṛhari, 469  
 Bhārat Mātā, 17, 551, 552, 555, 556–60, 562, 563, 564, 565  
 Bharata, 102, 140, 411, 575, 581  
*bhedābheda* philosophy, 248  
 Bhikṣātana, 207  
 Bhīṣma, 117, 124, 125, 411  
 Bhojadeva, 210, 223  
 Bhṛgu, 90  
 Bible, the, 448  
 Bihar, 68, 85, 271, 337  
 BJP, 9, 127, 536–8, 539, 540, 542, 543, 544, 545, 548  
 Bloomfield, L., 357  
 body, 16, 83, 168, 183, 186, 190, 191, 209, 210, 211, 220, 222, 235, 244, 245, 248, 250, 282, 314, 329, 489, 490, 581; geo-body, 564; of God, 454, 457; medical, 397–401; purification of, 220, 245; of Satī, 557, 560; Tamilttay, 554, 555  
 Bopp, Franz, 357  
 bow songs, 154, 156, 157  
 Brahmā, 119, 122, 123, 124, 137, 139, 140, 207, 235, 253, 454  
*brahmacārin*, 103, 105, 243  
*brahman*, 85, 96, 119, 121, 126, 236, 248, 252, 253, 453, 457, 464, 467, 469, 479, 480, 585; *brāhman*, 70, 71  
 Brāhmaṇa texts, 5, 69, 81–2, 83, 84, 89, 104, 250, 362, 394, 480  
 Brahmans/Brāhmaṇas, 7, 8, 31, 47, 53, 57, 75, 79, 103, 161, 167, 168, 170, 174, 175, 176, 177, 207, 211, 247, 275, 278, 282, 289, 293, 294, 297, 298, 301, 319, 320, 322, 464, 497, 498, 500, 502, 503, 504, 514, 515, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523; of Kashmir, 296  
 Brahmō Samāj, 16, 34, 265, 511, 515–19, 521  
 Bṛhaspati, 348  
 Britain, 55  
 British Empire, 51–2  
 Buddha, 45, 54, 68, 85, 90, 139, 275, 279, 280, 365, 393, 396, 397  
 Buddhism/Buddhists, 31, 39, 107, 155, 159, 185, 210, 219, 255, 274, 275, 279, 283, 396–7, 425, 428, 442, 505, 512, 521, 531  
 Bühler, G., 48, 105, 106, 107

- Caitanya, 191, 259, 260, 261–3, 264, 265, 302  
*cakra*, 397–8  
 Calcutta, 514–16, 558  
 calendar, 376–8, 379, 385–8, 584  
 Cambodia, 46, 50, 240, 584  
 camphor, 24  
 Cāmuṇḍī, 319  
*caṅkam* poetry/tradition, 145, 147, 148, 155, 160, 161, 164, 370  
 Caraka, 381, 393, 394, 398, 401, 402, 403, 404, 406, 407, 429  
 Carey, W., 514  
 Caribbean, 33  
 caste, 2, 16, 30, 53, 54, 55, 103, 161, 164, 168, 170, 172, 175, 176, 186, 187, 200, 209, 218, 243, 256, 257, 289, 296, 301, 309, 311, 312, 320, 323, 495–505, 519, 540, 578; system, 522  
 Caste Disabilities Act, 38  
 Catholicism, 35  
 celibacy, 207, 278; *see also brahmaçārīn*  
 Chatterji, Bankim Chandra, 557, 558, 562  
 Chatterji, Partha, 32, 38  
 Chaudhuri, Nirad C., 51, 52  
 China, 15, 126, 545  
 Chomsky, N., 356  
 Christianity/Christians, 2, 3, 25, 26, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 49, 151, 155, 201, 505, 514, 515, 521, 528, 531, 543  
 Cidambaram, 7, 217, 218, 247  
 civilization, 25, 36, 37, 161  
 Clooney, E., 10, 16  
 Colas, G., 10, 11, 14, 17  
 Colebrooke, Henry, 25, 36, 39, 111, 432  
 colonialism, 26, 28, 29, 31, 33, 34, 36, 45, 51, 54, 161  
 colonization, 10  
 commentary, 6, 114, 460–1  
 compassion, 24  
 Congress, 9, 230, 527, 528, 529, 531, 533, 534, 536, 537, 538, 541, 543, 554, 558  
 Conrad, J., 45  
 consciousness, 16, 213, 214, 220, 224, 254, 425, 426, 428; political, 24  
 conversion, 30, 33, 36, 39  
 Coppola, F. E., 46–7, 50  
 cosmos, 16, 102, 142, 204, 213, 224, 480, 487  
 cow, veneration of, 125  
 critical emendation, 10  
 culture, 11, 25, 145, 200, 527, 528, 543, 548, 562, 573; courtesan, 168, 174; regional, 159  
 Dādū, 183, 188, 257, 258  
 Dādū Panth, 188, 258  
*dakṣiṇā*, 79  
 Dalit movement, 9  
 Dalits, 31, 289, 310, 519, 520  
 dance, 307, 308, 575, 577  
*darśana* (vision), 5, 7  
*darśana* (philosophy), 460  
 Daśanāmi ascetics, 258  
 Dattātreya, 256  
 death, 8, 74, 83, 84, 88, 103, 120, 125, 154, 161, 187, 209, 210, 211, 243, 277, 282, 480, 501, 542; signs of, 402  
 debts, doctrine of, 78, 275, 278, 292  
 deconstruction, 31, 61  
 deity (*deva*), 7, 27, 36, 73, 78, 308  
 democracy, 31  
 Denmark, 510  
 Descartes, R., 440  
 detachment, 120  
 Deussen, Paul, 49, 53  
 Devī, 138, 184, 191, 202, 219, 558, 561  
*dharma*, 8, 9, 70, 85, 89, 102–4, 106, 108, 111, 114, 115, 117, 121, 126, 131, 141, 211, 279, 283, 291, 293, 294, 299, 300, 339, 411, 464, 466, 504, 505, 506, 512, 514, 519, 523; *rājadharmā*, 126  
 Dharmasāstra, 5, 14, 102, 107–15, 207, 236, 281, 282, 283, 285, 301  
 Dharmasūtras, *see sūtras*  
 Dharmakīrtī, 424  
 Dhṛtarāṣṭra, 117  
 diagnosis, 401–2  
 Dinnāga, 436, 437  
 discourse, 5–6, 28, 46, 56, 152, 447, 460, 461–2, 463, 470  
 disease etiology, 403–4  
 Divālī, 330, 331, 337  
 drama, 102, 152, 156, 170, 172, 195, 212, 238, 262, 272, 340  
 Draupadī, 8, 117, 119, 153, 154, 155  
 Dravidian culture/language, 160, 164  
 Duff, A., 513, 516, 517  
 Dumont, Louis, 283, 295, 497–500, 500, 501

- Durgā, 90, 191, 220, 239, 558, 560, 561, 562  
*dvaita*, 246, 251–3  
*dvaitādvaita*, 246, 253  
 Dvārakā/Dvarka, 121, 328, 339  
 Dyaus, 73
- Earth Goddess, 109, 560; *see also* Prthivi  
 East India Company, 112, 510–11, 512, 513–14  
 Eclipse Demon, 381–2, 383  
 Eknāth, 186, 256  
 Eliot, Sir Charles, 57–8  
 Empiricism, 452  
 Enlightenment, The, 3, 35, 51, 448  
 Epics, 7, 8, 14, 89, 116–28, 149, 160, 169, 170, 172, 176, 285, 290, 412  
 epigraphy, 229, 240  
 eschatology, 85  
 essentialism, political, 8–9  
 Europe, 46, 52, 55, 58  
 evil eye, 297  
 exegesis, 4, 6, 10  
 exorcism/exorcists, 147, 163, 164–5, 209, 216, 217  
 experience, 24
- family, 15, 288–9, 295, 297, 517  
 feminism, 13, 30  
 festivals, 23, 24, 90, 152–5, 173, 175, 242, 246, 311, 313, 318, 324, 330, 571, 572  
 fieldwork, 10, 13  
 Filliozat, J., 48  
 food, 7, 78, 79  
 Forster, E. M., 23, 24  
 Foucault, M., 30, 46  
 France, 55, 509, 510  
 Freeman, R., 7, 13, 15  
 Freud, S., 47  
 fundamentalism, 540  
 funerals, 88, 209
- Gandharvas, 72  
 Gandhi, Indira, 535, 537, 538  
 Gandhi, M. K., 28, 526, 529, 531, 532  
 Gandhi, Rajiv, 537, 538  
 Gaṇeśa, 219, 239  
 Ganges, river, 192, 328, 329, 330, 331, 334, 339, 516  
 Garbe, R., 49–50  
 Gargī, 37, 85, 88  
 Gārhashtya (householder stage), 290–5, 299  
 Garuḍa, 192  
 Garuḍa Pillar, *see* Besnagar inscription  
 Gaudiya Vaiṣṇavas, 191, 262  
 Gautama Akṣapāda, 414–19, 430, 467  
 gender, 16, 17, 186, 569–86  
 gender studies, 31  
 geometry, 362  
 Germany, 55, 509  
 Ghadar Party, 562  
 gift, 6, 7, 16, 79, 498  
 goals of life, 16, 419–20  
 Goddess, *see* Devī  
 Goddess theology, 468–9  
 Godse, Nathuram, 532  
 Gokul Ashtami Festival, 23  
 Golwalkar, M. S., 529, 539, 549  
 good and evil, 85  
*gopīs*, 121, 190, 193, 333, 337, 339, 580  
 Goraknāth, 185, 258  
 Goswāmis/Goswamis, 191, 259, 262, 580, 581  
 Govind Singh, 188  
 grace, 121, 211, 260  
 grammar, 10, 11, 12, 56, 145, 146, 160, 347, 353, 401, 405, 464, 469  
 Grammar, philosophy of, 460, 486  
 Grant, Sir Charles, 511, 514  
 Greek, 47, 69, 384  
*grhastha*, 89, 103, 105  
 Gujarat, 261, 328  
 Gujarati, 28  
*guṇas*, 120, 138, 235, 257  
 gurus, 4, 29, 170, 184, 193, 202, 203, 209, 222, 255, 264, 266, 315, 460, 581; Sikh, 302
- Hacker, P., 413  
 Halhed, N. B., 25, 36, 39, 111  
 Hanumān, 117  
 Hardās, 188  
*haoma*, 74  
 Hardy, F., 132, 133  
*Harivaṃśa*, 120, 121, 122, 133, 231  
 Hastings, Warren, 39, 49, 56, 112  
 heaven (*svarga*), 79, 90, 118, 119, 231  
 Hedgewar, K. B., 528–9  
 Heesterman, J., 4, 77, 291, 295  
 Hegel, G., 35, 48, 55, 58

- hegemony, 28, 33, 59  
 Heidegger, M., 564  
 hijra community, 569  
 Hillebeitel, A., 153  
 Hindi, 14, 183, 554  
 Hindu, as a term, 3, 9, 145, 289  
 Hindu Mahasabha, 9, 527, 528, 532, 533  
 Hinduism, as a term, 8, 26–7, 527  
*hindutva*, 9, 17, 527, 528, 529, 534, 537, 538, 543, 544, 545, 548  
 history, 2, 8, 14, 28, 29, 30, 32, 139, 145, 159, 177, 200, 201, 224, 448  
 historiography, 30  
 Hocart, A. M., 500, 501  
 horse sacrifice, 74, 80, 81, 83  
 house/home, 295, 296–7  
 householder, 15, 212, 243, 277  
 householder tradition, 288–302  
 identity, 9, 28, 33, 159, 323, 533, 539, 541, 543, 549, 552  
 ideology, 9, 17, 32, 131, 209, 216, 217, 234, 291, 292, 298, 309, 496, 505, 526, 527, 532, 534, 543, 552, 563; of caste, 501; of householder, 300, 301; of love, 299  
 imagination, 3, 57, 58, 60, 200, 220, 511, 552, 558  
 imperialism, 45, 52, 56  
 Inden, R., 13, 27, 47–8, 49, 52, 57–8, 59, 60, 330  
 India, 2, 5, 15, 17, 23, 24 *passim*  
 Indology, 49, 52, 295, 301  
 Indonesia, 210  
 Indra, 68, 72, 75, 118, 121, 122, 146, 348, 353, 360, 361, 411  
 Indus Valley/Harrapan civilization, 3, 90–1, 204, 273; script, 379  
 initiation (*dīkṣā*) 87, 203, 208, 210, 220, 243–4, 260, 266, 277, 488; *nirvana diksa*, 211; *samaya diksa*, 211  
 installation (*pratiṣṭha*), 246  
 invocation (*āvāhana*), 315  
 Īśānaśivagurudeva, 211, 216  
 ISCON, 141, 265  
 Islam, 2, 26, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 155, 185, 201, 255, 256, 257, 538, 540  
 Īśvara, 126  
*itihāsa-purāṇa*, 151, 152  
 Jagannāth, Lord, 7, 138, 261  
 Jainism, 39, 107, 151, 155, 159, 219, 274, 275, 283  
 Jana Sangh, 532, 533, 534, 535  
 Janata Party, 535–6, 538  
*japa*, 125, 482, 483, 489  
 Japan, 126, 357, 509  
 Japanese, 69, 357  
 Jaspers, K., 85  
*jāti* (caste, species), 297, 496, 502–4  
 Java, 50, 126, 210  
 Jesus Christ, 38, 518  
*jīva*, 235, 249, 252, 262  
*jīvanmukti*, 245, 455  
*jñāna* (gnosis), 242  
 Jñāneśvara, 38, 186, 256  
 Jones, W., 25, 36, 39, 46, 107, 113, 512, 513  
 Judaism, 39  
*jiyotiḥśāstra*, 16, 102; *see also* astronomy  
 Kabīr, 14, 182, 183, 185, 186–7, 193, 195, 285  
 Kabīrpanth, 188  
 Kālāmukhas, 207, 208, 219  
 Kālī/Kālī, 173, 191, 203, 213, 265, 556, 561, 562  
 Kālidāsa, 175  
*kaliyuga*, 108, 112  
 Kalki/Kalkin, 123, 139  
*Kalpāsūtras*, 104  
*kāma*, 102  
*Kāma Sūtras*, *see* Vātsyāyana  
 Kampan, 122, 152  
 Kanchipuram, 248, 249  
 Kāpālikas, 206, 212, 215  
*karma/karman*, 79, 83, 84, 125, 141, 210, 282, 303, 403, 419, 420, 427, 504, 582  
 Karoshti, 357, 366  
 Karnataka, 184, 208, 219, 241, 248, 250, 252, 302, 309, 530  
 Kārtik, 15, 328–40  
 Kashmir, 3, 191, 209, 210, 213, 214, 217, 223, 248, 301, 543, 546  
 Kathakālī, 173  
 Kaula tradition, 212  
 Kauravas, 117, 120  
 Kauṭilya, 102, 110, 163, 365, 377, 412–14, 431



- Kerala, 4, 6, 7, 14, 15, 69, 159, 160, 161, 162, 167, 168, 170, 171, 172, 173-4, 175, 176, 177, 215, 216, 219, 252, 307, 308, 309, 310, 313, 322, 323, 324, 373, 391, 520, 584  
 Keśin, 89  
 Khmer, 357  
 Khotanese, 357  
 Killingley, D., 3, 16  
 King, R., 26-7  
 kings, 8, 60, 85, 126, 140, 146, 152, 156, 161, 167, 176, 209, 217, 229, 319, 412, 501  
 kingship, 200, 292, 339  
 kinship, 288, 499, 501  
 Kirfel, W., 135, 136  
 Korea, 357  
 Koṅṛavai, 146  
 Kōvai poetry, 150  
 Krama tradition, 212, 213, 214, 215  
 Kṛṣṇa/Krishna, 15, 24, 117, 119, 120-1, 122, 123, 124, 126, 127, 138, 139, 150, 172, 183, 184, 185, 186, 189, 190, 191, 192, 195, 229, 230, 234, 235, 238, 251, 252, 254, 255, 256, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 276, 284, 302, 327, 328, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 580, 583  
 Kṛṣṇa-Vāsudeva, 235  
 Kṣatriya, 79, 83, 85, 88, 103, 242, 295, 515, 519, 523  
 Kṣemarāja, 11, 221, 223, 224, 489  
 Kumb Mela, 548  
 Kuṇḍalinī, 222, 490  
  
 Lakṣmī, 249, 330-1, 332, 469, 584  
 Lalla, 191  
 language/s, 5, 6, 15, 16, 90, 145, 159, 170, 177, 183, 224, 351, 353, 355, 357, 460, 461, 469, 564; devotion to, 552, 556; science of, 348-58  
 Latin, 47  
 law, 14, 17, 24, 26, 31, 38-41, 89, 102, 107, 108, 109, 112, 113, 114, 519  
 liberalism, 534  
 liberation, 2, 16, 219, 221, 274, 284, 419, 455, 457, 488  
 life-cycle rites, 74, 76, 87, 289, 298, 331  
*līlā*, 332, 333, 339  
 Linguistics, 15, 348, 357  
 Lipner, J., 9, 137  
 Literary Studies/Criticism, 2, 51  
 literature, 145, 146, 160, 162, 167, 174, 177, 229, 230, 281  
 logic, 348, 357, 429  
*lokāyata*, 412, 413, 430  
 love, 161, 183, 217, 296, 298-9, 575, 579  
  
 Ma Ānandamāyī, 581  
 Madan, T. N., 5, 15  
 Mādhava, 259  
 Mādhava (mathematician), 373  
 Madhva, 5, 251-3, 259, 266  
 Madhya Pradesh, 230  
 magic/sorcery, 76, 90, 165  
*Mahābhārata*, 8, 75, 86, 89, 107, 110, 116, 118, 119-21, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 130, 131, 132, 133, 139, 151, 154, 155, 156, 205, 206, 231, 251, 272, 279, 280, 281, 294, 365, 382, 411, 461, 468, 483, 580, 584  
 Mahādeviakkā, 580, 581  
 Mahānubhāvas, 255, 256  
 Maharashtra, 230, 256, 519, 530, 543  
 Mahāvīra, 90, 275  
 Maitreyī, 37, 85, 88  
 Malamoud, C., 358  
 Malayalam, 159-78, 308, 315  
 Malayans, 164-5, 173  
*manana* (theological reasoning), 457-60, 462, 470  
 Mani, Lata, 39-40  
 Māṇikkavācakar, 150, 218  
 Mañipravāḷam, 166-71, 172, 173, 175, 177, 249  
*maṇḍala*, 69, 222  
*mantra*, 16, 75, 76, 77, 81, 87, 203, 210, 216, 221, 222, 231, 236, 239, 248, 262, 263, 335, 336, 348, 349, 353, 357, 361, 464, 478-91; path of, 206, 209, 210, 212-14, 484  
*mantrasāstra*, 478, 479, 480, 484  
*mantravāda*, 322-3  
 Manu, 68, 78, 107, 108, 123, 282, 412, 469, 503  
 Marathi, 38, 357, 511  
 marriage, 40, 74, 87, 88, 297, 300, 499  
 Maruts, 72  
 mathematics, 15, 16, 348, 360-73

- Mathurā, 121  
 Matilal, Bimal, 424, 431, 436  
*māyā* (illusion, material substrate), 210,  
 224, 254  
 Māyōṅ, 146, 238  
 medicine, 5, 16; science of, 393–407  
 Mill, James, 34, 35, 48, 49, 50, 58, 513,  
 521  
 Mīmāṃsā, 5, 223, 358, 460, 465, 466,  
 469  
*Mīmāṃsāsūtra*, 112  
 mind (*manas*), 425–8  
 Mīrābai, 183, 191, 192–4, 195, 573, 581  
 Mitra, 68, 71  
 modernity, 6, 16, 25, 30, 35, 36, 175, 176,  
 177, 201, 324, 552, 563–5  
 Mohammedan Hindus, 32  
 Mohinī, 569, 572, 583–4  
*mokṣa*, 1, 118, 140, 141, 274, 299, 330,  
 406, 488  
 morality, 40, 298  
 morphology, 353, 356  
 Mother India, *see* Bharat Mata  
 Müller, Max, 10, 114  
 Murukaṅ, 146, 147, 151, 573  
*mūrti*, 4, 7, 334, 335  
 music, 102, 153, 576  
 Muslim League, 9, 531  
 Muslims, 3, 26, 32, 33, 38, 39, 56, 151,  
 183, 187, 258, 301, 521, 528, 531,  
 532, 538, 539, 540, 541, 543, 548  
 myth, 7, 8, 152, 155, 170, 184  
 mythology, 31, 59, 74, 152  
  
 Nāga, 72, 90  
 Nāgārjuna, 442  
 Nambūtiris, 322–3  
 Nāmdev, 38, 183, 188, 256  
 Nammālvār, 570–1, 572, 573, 578, 579,  
 583, 585  
 Nānak, 183, 188, 195  
 Nandy, Ashish, 32, 33  
 Nārada, 107, 108, 109, 110, 123, 128,  
 365  
 Nārāyaṇa, 90, 123, 124, 141, 230, 233,  
 234, 235, 236, 242, 453, 454  
 Nārāyaṇa Guru, 520  
 Narayanan, V., 13, 17  
*Nārāyaṇīya*, 123, 124, 125  
 narrative, 5, 7–8, 118  
 Nāth tradition, 185, 186, 201  
  
 Nāthamuni, 247, 249  
 nation, 16, 527, 529, 531, 533, 542, 544,  
 551, 564  
 nation state, 29, 30, 31, 528, 532  
 nationalism, 17, 32, 127; Hindu, 30, 526,  
 531, 532, 533, 534, 537, 538, 539,  
 540, 543, 548, 549  
 nationalists, 27, 539, 544, 555, 556  
 Nāyaṇmār, 148, 150, 162, 210, 217  
 Nehru, J., 523, 531, 532, 533, 556  
 Nehruvian Socialism, 534–5  
 Nepal, 2, 75, 501  
 Nepali, 357  
 Netherlands, 510  
 Nietzsche, F., 53  
 Nimbārka, 253–4, 266  
 Nimbārka tradition, 259  
 Nirṛti, 72, 84  
 Nyāya, 5, 406, 414, 417, 420–4, 434,  
 436, 437, 439, 440, 441, 452–3, 460,  
 465  
*nyāya* (logic), 112  
  
 Olivelle, P., 5, 10, 15, 291–2, 293  
 oriental despotism, 50  
 Orientalism, 25, 29, 36, 46–7, 49, 50, 54  
 Orissa, 69, 232, 264  
 orthopraxy, 11, 86  
  
 Pabuji, epic of, 11  
*padapāṭha* (word-for-word analysis), 349–51  
 Padoux, A., 16  
 Pakistan, 531, 532, 545, 546  
 Pali, 159  
 Pali Canon, 85, 89  
 Pāñcarātra Saṃhitās, 229, 235, 241, 264  
 Pāñcarātra tradition, 14, 233–5, 238,  
 239–41, 243, 244, 248, 250, 252, 464,  
 487, 489  
 pandits, 26, 31, 512  
 Pandits of Kashmir, 296, 297, 299, 300  
 Panjab, 68, 72, 81, 257, 302  
 Paṇḍu, 117  
 Pāṇḍavas, 117, 118, 120  
 Pāṇini, 68, 87, 104, 205, 281, 348, 349,  
 351, 352–6, 357, 393, 469  
 Parsis, 521  
 partition, 531–2, 541  
 Pārvatī, 575  
 Pāśupata tradition, 123, 124, 206, 208,  
 209, 212, 483

- Patañjali (the grammarian), 68, 90, 205, 236, 351, 354, 356
- Patañjali (author of the *Yogasūtras*), 483
- Patel, Vallabhai, 531
- penance, 282–3; *see also prayascitta*
- perception, 420–5
- performance, 171, 172
- Persian, 112, 113, 357
- Philology, 2, 10–11, 12, 13, 55
- Philosophy, 15, 16, 26, 68, 104, 175, 411, 420, 432, 447, 448, 449; six systems of, 5
- phonological rules, 353, 354–6
- pilgrimage, 4, 23, 118, 258, 261, 540, 556
- Pillai Lokacarya, 248–9
- piṇḍa* offerings, 294
- pitrs* (ancestors), 72, 87
- planets, 376, 377, 380–4, 390–1
- Plato, 48, 414
- poetics, 102, 145, 160, 262
- poetry, 14, 68, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 160, 162, 208, 217, 218, 272, 554, 556, 561, 571, 579; vedic, 70–1
- politics, 1, 2, 3, 16, 30, 102, 526–49; of translation, 10
- polity, 163, 529, 531, 532, 533, 537, 541, 543, 544, 548
- pollution, 82, 243, 496, 500
- Poona, 69
- Portugal, 510
- possession, 176, 209, 215, 216, 217, 307, 308–9, 312, 323, 403; rites of, 313–18
- postcolonialism/postcolonial discourse, 3, 10, 13, 51, 551
- post-structuralism, 30
- poverty, 23
- power, 3, 7, 9, 13, 28, 29, 31, 50, 53, 222, 245, 313, 526, 533, 534, 536, 542, 543; magical, 211–12
- Prabhupada, B. S., 141
- Prajāpati, 3, 119, 361, 480
- Prakrit, 159, 231, 485
- pramāṇa* (means of knowledge), 416, 456
- prapatti* (surrender), 249, 253
- Pratyabijñā, 223, 224, 225
- pralaya* (cosmic destruction), 109
- prayascitta* (penance), 107, 108, 246, 283
- Ṛṥṥhivī, 73, 560, 564
- Ptolemy, 389, 391
- pūjā*, 6, 7, 90, 141, 205, 233, 296, 313, 482, 489, 490
- Purāṇas, 8, 14, 89, 107, 110, 122, 126, 127, 129–42, 149, 152, 160, 162, 169, 170, 176, 205, 206, 209, 260, 290, 481, 482, 484, 515, 572; *Agni*, 137, 484; *Bhāgavata*, 121, 130, 132, 136, 137, 138, 140, 172, 184, 190, 251, 254, 259, 264, 583; *Bhaviṣya*, 137; *Brahmāṇḍa*, 137; *Brahmavaivarta*, 137; *Devībhāgavata*, 333; *Garuḍa*, 137, 139; *Kūrma*, 132, 137, 206; *Līṅga*, 137, 205; *Mārkaṇḍeya*, 131, 137, 138; *Matsya*, 130, 133, 135, 137, 138; *Nārada*, 137; *Padma*, 131, 135, 137, 329; *Śiva*, 131, 133, 137, 138, 141, 205, 482; *Skanda*, 131; 133, 137, 329; *Vāmana*, 137; *Vāyu*, 130, 133; *Viṣṇu*, 121, 131, 133, 134, 135, 138
- puṛaṇa* poetry, 146, 160
- Puri, 261
- purity, 184, 319, 497, 498
- puruṣa*, 71, 123
- puruṣamedha* (human sacrifice), 233, 362
- puruṣārtha*, 141, 299, 300; *see also* goals of life
- Puṣṥimārga, 260, 261, 302
- Pythagorean theorem, 362, 363, 370
- race, 52–5
- Rādhā, 190, 191, 254, 255, 259, 262, 263, 264, 302, 328, 334, 338, 339, 573, 576
- Rādhāvallabhīs, 263
- Raidās, 183, 186, 188, 193, 195, 258
- Rajasthan, 18
- rājasūya* (king's consecration), 81
- Rājputs, 504
- Rām, 191, 192, 328
- Ram-Prasad, C., 9, 13, 17
- Rāma, 9, 117, 118, 119, 121, 123, 126, 127, 128, 166, 173, 183, 184, 195, 255, 264, 411, 539, 576, 578
- Ramabai, Pandita, 34, 36
- Rāmakaṇṥha, 12, 210, 223, 224
- Ramana Maharshi, 465
- Rāmānanda, 188, 257
- Rāmānandis, 196
- Rāmānuja, 186, 206, 239, 241, 248, 249, 250, 253, 257, 266, 453, 455, 467, 468, 582
- Ramaswamy, S., 9, 13, 17

- Rāmāyaṇa*, 8, 107, 110, 116, 118, 119,  
 121–2, 123, 127, 134, 151, 152, 163,  
 165–6, 174, 184, 192, 272, 382, 411,  
 468, 540  
 Rāmlilā festival, 122, 127, 192  
 Rammohun Roy, 3, 16, 465, 514, 515,  
 516, 521, 522  
 Ramprasad Sen, 191  
 Ranade, M. G., 522  
 Rao, V. N., 136  
*rasa* (aesthetic emotion), 262, 263, 578  
 rationality, 15, 16, 57, 413, 419, 420, 423,  
 428, 429, 431, 437–9, 442; rational  
 inquiry, 411–42  
 Rāvaṇa, 117, 118, 119, 122, 128, 184  
 reason, 3, 16, 35, 411–12, 437, 439, 442,  
 460  
 reasoning, 432, 433, 449, 458  
 recitation, 349  
 reform, 33, 34, 37  
 reincarnation, 2  
 religion, 1, 9, 10, 13, 24, 25, 27–8, 29, 31,  
 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 51, 102, 113,  
 145, 161, 184, 201, 495, 506, 526,  
 527, 531; rational, 30; world  
 renouncing, 271, 275  
 Renou, L., 47–8, 49, 358  
 renouncer, 8, 86, 186, 248, 250, 256, 282,  
 283, 300, 301, 302; distinct from  
 anchorite, 271–2; tradition of, 271–85  
 renunciation (*saṃnyāsa*), 15, 118, 120,  
 274, 275, 278, 279, 281–5, 292,  
 330  
*Ṛgveda*, 68, 69–75, 76, 104, 204, 205,  
 281, 292, 360, 361, 376, 382,  
 479–81  
 rites of passage, *see* life-cycle rites  
 ritual, 5, 6–7, 11, 14, 15, 16, 23, 31, 36,  
 47, 69, 102, 118, 155, 163, 164, 167,  
 184, 210, 211, 216, 217, 276, 278,  
 379, 405, 464, 478, 501; mantras in,  
 479, 481, 488–91; possession in,  
 313–18; Śaiva, 201; science of, 348,  
 362–4; Śrauta, 74, 75, 77–81, 82; Vedic,  
 72, 73–5, 231, 234, 376  
 Rocher, L., 14, 129, 132, 134, 141  
 Rocher, R., 36  
*ṛṣi*, 4, 68, 72, 78, 104  
 RSS, 528–30, 532, 533, 535, 536, 537,  
 544, 549  
*ṛta*, 70, 71, 72, 79  
 Rudra, 73, 90, 204–5, 207, 482  
 Russia, 55, 509  
 sacrifice, 5, 8, 77, 120, 140, 161, 169,  
 176, 291–2, 293, 314–15, 479, 499,  
 501  
 Sadāśiva, 209, 210, 211, 213  
*sādhaka*, 207, 211, 214, 220, 489  
*sādhana*, 208, 213, 262  
 Sadyojoti, 210, 223  
 Sahajiyās, 262, 263  
 Said, E., 13, 46–7, 60  
 Śaiva Siddhānta, 11, 208, 209, 210–12,  
 213, 215, 217–19, 220, 223, 224  
 Śaiva Vedānta, 201  
 Śaivism/Śaiva traditions, 14, 15, 148, 151,  
 155, 162, 200–25, 460, 461, 484, 485,  
 488, 489; theology, 205  
*śākhā* (vedic branch), 69, 83, 104, 236,  
 243, 341, 351  
 Śākta traditions, 200, 203  
*śakti* (power), 200, 203, 209, 214, 217,  
 222, 245, 313, 317, 558  
*samādhi*, 245  
*Sāmaveda*, 69, 76, 104  
 Saṃhitā, 69, 75, 76, 81, 83, 90, 104, 350,  
 351, 376, 395, 479, 484, 487  
*saṃhitāpāṭha* (continuous recitation), 349,  
 350  
 Sāṃkhya, 5, 124–6, 137, 234, 406, 412,  
 413, 429, 453, 460  
*sampradāya* (tradition), 257, 569, 570  
*samsāra*, 2, 85, 118, 140, 274  
*samskāra*, 6, 87, 88, 109, 243, 298, 300,  
 481; *see also* life-cycle rites  
*sanātana*dharma, 105  
 Sanderson, A., 204, 206, 209, 212, 301  
 Śaṅkara, 5, 11, 205, 206, 240, 246, 264,  
 373, 455, 458, 468, 523  
*sannyāsin*, 82, 84, 103, 118; *see also*  
 renouncer  
 Sanskrit, 3, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 26, 28, 46,  
 48, 50, 52, 68, 102, 112, 151, 159,  
 166, 167, 170, 171, 172, 175, 177,  
 184, 192, 224, 231, 247, 249, 254,  
 257, 261, 266, 348, 351, 352, 355,  
 356, 371, 372, 393, 405, 461, 484,  
 485, 490, 511, 523, 560  
 Sanskritization, 83, 90, 162, 317, 388,  
 530; of Vaisnava traditions, 259–64  
 Sants/Sant tradition, 4, 185, 257

- Sarasvatī, 487  
 Sarasvatī, Dayānanda, 520, 522  
*śāstra*, 102, 260  
*satī* (widow burning), 31, 37, 39, 88  
 Satī, 557, 561, 575  
 Sāttvata tradition, 238–9  
 Saussure, F. de, 351, 357, 395  
 Savarkar, V. D., 9, 527–8, 529, 539, 548  
 Savitrī, 37  
 Scripture, 16, 31, 32, 40, 437, 438, 457, 460, 462, 466, 480, 486  
 self, 200, 223–4, 252, 412  
 semantics, 350, 353  
 Sen Keshab Chunder, 34, 517, 518, 523  
 sexual politics, 168  
 sexuality, 172, 216, 581, 586; withdrawal from, 272  
 Shiv Sena, 538, 541, 543  
 Shri Rangam/Śrīraṅgam Temple, 238, 247, 248, 570, 571, 572, 579, 582, 583  
 Siddha yoga/tradition, 201, 451  
 Sikhism, 39  
 silence, 485  
 Sinhalese, 357  
 Sitā, 117, 118, 122, 184, 192, 575, 576  
 Śiva, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 59, 73, 118, 119, 131, 137, 138, 139, 147, 150, 151, 152, 154, 155, 164, 170, 184, 185, 186, 192, 200, 201, 202, 204, 206–7, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 217, 218, 219, 221, 222, 223, 224, 239, 252, 319, 328, 334, 454, 482, 486, 490, 552, 569, 573, 580, 584  
*Śiva liṅga*, 205, 210, 217, 219, 220  
 Śivaji, 127, 257, 522  
 Śivapaśupati, 91, 204  
 Skanda, 146, 329  
 Smārta Brahmans, 8, 204, 212, 218, 230, 239, 252  
*smṛti*, 8, 68, 69, 87, 104, 105, 107, 112, 113, 114  
 society, 7, 8, 15, 16, 17, 37, 39, 40, 54, 55, 114, 120, 161, 172, 184, 200, 207, 209, 276, 278, 288, 289, 291, 295, 301, 365, 506, 523, 530, 540, 578, 585; caste and, 497–8; withdrawal from, 272, 290  
 sociology, 295, 301, 396, 495  
 Soma, 72, 73, 74, 80  
 Somaśambhu, 29, 211  
 soteriology, 419  
 soul, 83, 211, 249, 262, 426, 428, 569, 570, 576; gender of, 579–83; *see also atman and jiva*  
*śrāddha* (rite for the dead), 87, 103, 105, 109, 113, 298  
 Śrī, 90, 247, 453, 571  
 Sri Lanka, 501  
 Śrīvaiṣṇava tradition, 17, 167, 246, 247, 250–1, 266, 330, 570, 583, 584  
 Śrīvidyā, 487  
*śruti* (revelation), 4, 68, 104, 105, 484  
 Staal, Frits, 5, 15, 77, 405  
 Stietenron, H. von, 27, 29  
 subaltern studies, 31  
 subjectivity, 40, 206  
 Śūdra/s, 73, 79, 103, 167, 174, 192, 242, 244, 250, 253, 308, 309, 519, 522  
 Sufis, 185, 255  
 superstition, 26, 35  
 Sūrdās, 183, 189, 190, 191, 193  
 Sureśvara, 458  
 surgery, 404–5  
 Sūrya, 73, 239, 334  
 Suśruta, 399, 400, 401, 404, 405  
*Sūtras/sūtra* literature, 14, 68, 69, 77, 104–7, 110, 111, 113, 115, 241, 348, 349; *Dharma-*, 89, 104, 106, 107, 110–11, 114, 277, 281, 293; *Gṛhya-*, 87–9, 104, 384; *Smārta-*, 236, 245; *Śrauta-*, 77, 86–7, 236, 245, 348; *Śulba-*, 362–5  
 suttee, 514; *see satī*  
 Svachhandabhairava, 214–15  
 Svāmīnārāyaṇa/Swaminarayan, 265  
 Syria, 68  
 Tagore, Debendranath, 516, 517, 521  
 Tagore, Rabindranath, 556, 558  
 Tamil, 8, 9, 14, 17, 145, 159, 160, 162, 164, 167, 169, 208, 218, 249, 357, 511, 552, 554, 555, 563, 574, 575  
 Tamil culture, 146  
 Tamil Veda, 148, 167  
 Tamilṭṭāy, 17, 551, 552–5, 556, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565  
 Tantras, 4, 5, 11, 12, 14, 16, 204, 206, 208–10, 212, 221, 225, 398, 484, 519  
 Tantrism, 177, 219  
*tapas* (asceticism), 125  
 Telegu, 255

- temple, 4, 6, 7, 149, 152, 155, 156, 164, 167, 168, 175, 208, 210, 216, 217, 239, 295, 322, 380, 583; culture of, 164; ritual in, 219–21, 482; Vaikhanasa ritual in, 241–6
- text, 2, 4, 10–13, 14, 37, 38, 48, 59, 76, 77, 81–9, 113, 114, 126, 152, 156–7, 216, 217, 280–1, 368, 378, 461, 465; as mirrors, 396; study of, 235
- teyyam/teyyam* tradition, 4, 7, 15, 307–25
- Thai, 357
- Thailand, 126, 271
- Theology, 2, 4, 15, 16, 210, 213, 217, 218, 223–4, 275, 447–71
- Tibet, 216, 357
- Tibetan, 208, 357
- Tilak, Narayan Viman, 34, 38
- time, 16, 74, 125, 426, 429, 452, 455
- tīrtha*, 118, 319
- Tirumāl, 147
- tolerance, 6, 32
- Tolkāppiyam, 146
- tradition, 1, 4, 6, 13, 14, 28, 29, 40, 200–2, 203, 204, 229, 230, 289; invention of, 30, 31; Sanskritic, 7; de- and re-traditionalization and, 6
- transcendence, 8, 450, 526, 527
- Tribals, 59
- trigonometry, 369, 389
- Trika tradition, 212, 213, 214, 215, 484, 487
- trimūrti*, 139
- Tukārām, 38, 186, 256
- Tulsidās, 122, 183, 191, 192
- Twice-born, 103, 233, 292, 482
- Udayana, 459
- Umāpati, 217, 461
- untouchability, 31
- Untouchables, 497, 503, 505; *see* Dalits
- Upaniṣads, 5, 14, 37, 68, 69, 81, 82, 83–6, 88, 120, 125, 271, 276, 281, 285, 296, 394, 453, 458, 459, 480, 484, 515, 585
- urbanization, 86, 273
- USA, 509
- Uṣas, 72, 575
- Utpalācārya, 203
- Uttar Pradesh, 261, 340
- vāc* (speech), 70, 79, 479, 484, 485, 486, 488, 489
- Vācaspatimiśra, 135
- vaidika*, 14, 15
- Vaikhānasa tradition, 14, 230, 233, 235–7, 238, 239, 240, 241–6, 248, 250
- Vaiśeṣika, 5, 406
- Vaiṣṇava traditions/Vaiṣṇavism, 14, 15, 123, 147, 148, 151, 155, 162, 164, 167, 229–66, 329, 460, 461, 584
- Vaiśya, 79, 103, 104, 519
- Vajpayee, Atal Bihari, 543, 545
- Vallabhācārya/Vallabha, 189, 191, 195, 254, 259, 260, 264, 302
- Vālmiki, 117, 122, 127, 128, 152, 173, 192
- vānapratha*, 82, 103, 118
- Varāhamihira, 366, 368, 383, 388
- Vārkarīs, 186, 256
- varṇa* (class), 103, 256, 292, 293, 295, 309, 503–4, 520
- varṇāśrama-dharma*, 131, 141, 205, 207, 219, 293
- Varuṇa, 68, 71, 72, 73, 85, 89, 118
- Varuṇaṇ, 146
- Vasiṣṭha, 70, 89, 110
- Vāsudeva, 123, 124, 231, 234, 235
- Vasugupta, 202
- Vātsyāyana, 104
- Vātsyāyana Pakṣilasvāmin, 414–19, 427, 429, 430, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 531
- Veda, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14, 16, 37, 48, 68–77, 79, 104, 105, 127, 130, 131, 141, 148, 169, 206, 223, 234, 242, 247, 252, 260, 275, 281, 293, 348, 350, 351, 356, 360, 377, 396, 411, 412, 456, 458, 463, 464, 469, 479, 480, 481, 482, 571; Vedism, 4, 479, 480, 517, 520
- Vedāṅga, 376
- Vedānta, 5, 36, 83, 176, 230, 453, 455, 456, 457, 460, 464, 465, 466, 467, 469, 512, 516, 517; neo-, 28; Vaisnava schools of, 246–54, 255, 260
- Vedāntadeśika, 247, 248, 249, 453–4, 467
- vegetarianism, 125, 255, 274
- Veṅṅālas, 242, 250
- Vēṅṅaṇ, 146
- VHP, 537, 541, 544, 549
- Vietnam, 46, 50
- Vijayanagara, 209
- village, 14, 276, 540

- violence, 9, 33, 82, 162, 541, 542  
 Viraśaivas/Liṅgayats, 184, 219, 302  
 Viśiṣṭādvaita, 237, 239, 241, 245, 247–51, 453, 467  
 Viṣṇu, 4, 7, 8, 14, 73, 90, 116, 118, 119, 121, 122, 123, 130, 138, 139, 146, 147, 152, 155, 163, 164, 167, 170, 184, 186, 192, 219, 220, 229, 230, 232, 233, 234, 236, 237, 239, 242, 243, 244, 245, 247, 249, 252, 253, 254, 255, 257, 284, 328, 331–2, 334, 337, 361, 453, 469, 486, 487, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 584, 585; gender of, 583–5  
 Viṣṇusvāmin, 246, 247, 254, 260, 266  
 Viśvāmitra, 70  
 Viṭṭal, 186  
 Vivekānanda, Swami, 521, 523  
 vrata (vow), 170, 207, 283, 329  
 Vrātyas, 72, 88, 90  
 Vyāsa, 109, 130, 132, 251  
 vyūhas (emanations), 124, 235, 240  
 war/warfare, 8, 160, 161, 163, 169, 539  
 Wilkins, Charles, 36, 357  
 Wilson, H. H., 134, 135, 136  
 wisdom, 411  
 Witzel, M., 4, 5, 10, 11, 14  
 women, 83, 85, 88, 103, 168, 176, 184, 207, 216, 256, 257, 258, 274, 293, 300, 328, 335, 336, 340, 403, 513, 520, 521, 573, 575, 585; in RSS, 530  
 Yādava Prakāśa, 283  
 Yādavas, 117  
 yajamāna, 79, 88, 242, 244, 362  
 yajña, 76; see also sacrifice  
 Yajñavalkya, 84, 85, 90, 107, 108, 109, 110, 192, 283  
 Yajurveda, 69, 75, 76, 77, 87, 104, 105, 106, 109, 376, 482  
 Yama, 118  
 Yāmuna, 206, 239, 247, 250, 468  
 Yamuna River, 328  
 Yāska, 393  
 Yoga, 5, 120, 124–6, 211, 219, 221, 234, 235, 236–7, 245, 274, 398, 406, 412, 413, 460  
 Yudhiṣṭhira, 117, 124, 365, 411  
 yuga (period of time), 139–40, 390  
 zodiac, 16  
 Zoroaster, 89  
 Zoroastrianism, 39, 85