



Damien Keown

BUDDHISM
A Very Short Introduction

SECOND EDITION

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Buddhism A Very Short Introduction Damien Keown

Malise Ruthven



Buddhism A Very Short Introduction Damien Keown

Buddhism: A Very Short Introduction Damien Keown, 2013-02-28 Introduces Buddhism looking at how the tradition began and how it evolved and explaining its central teachings and practices

Buddhist Ethics: a Very Short Introduction Damien Keown, 2020-06-11 With over 520 million followers Buddhism is now the world's fourth largest religion. Over the last seventy years or so there has been a growing interest in Buddhism and it continues to capture the imagination of many in the West who see it as either an alternative or a supplement to their own religious beliefs. For complex cultural and historical reasons ethics has not received as much attention in traditional Buddhist thought as it has in the West. In this Very Short Introduction Damien Keown explores how Buddhism approaches a range of moral issues of our age including our relationship with our environment, our treatment of animals, and our stance on abortion, on sexuality and gender, on violence and war. This new edition also includes a discussion of the ethical challenges posed by cutting edge developments in science and biomedical technologies including neuroscience, artificial intelligence, transhumanism, and gene editing. ABOUT THE SERIES The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

Buddhism: A Very Short Introduction Damien Keown, 1996-10-03 This Very Short Introduction introduces the reader to the teachings of the Buddha and to the integration of Buddhism into daily life. What are the distinctive features of Buddhism? Who was the Buddha and what are his teachings? How has Buddhist thought developed over the centuries and how can contemporary dilemmas be faced from a Buddhist perspective? Words such as karma and nirvana have entered our vocabulary but what do they mean? Damien Keown's book provides a lively, informative response to these frequently asked questions about Buddhism.

Tibetan Buddhism: A Very Short Introduction Matthew Kapstein, 2014 What does Tibetan Buddhism teach? Just what is the position of the Dalai Lama and how will his succession be assured? This Very Short Introduction offers a brief account responding to these questions and more in terms that are easily accessible to those who are curious to learn the most essential features of Tibetan Buddhist history, teachings, and practice.

Buddhist Ethics: A Very Short Introduction Damien Keown, 2005-06-23 Recent interest in Buddhist thought has grown dramatically and with it the desire to understand contemporary ethics from a Buddhist perspective. Looking at issues such as animal rights, the environment, abortion, and cloning, the author explains mainstream Buddhist teachings on a wide range of debates.

A Dictionary of Buddhism Damien Keown, 2004-08-26 This new dictionary, now available in paperback as part of the best-selling Oxford Paperback Reference series, covers both historical and contemporary issues in Buddhism and includes all Buddhist schools and cultures. Over 2,000 broad-ranging entries cover beliefs, doctrines, major teachers, and scholars, place names, and artefacts in a clear and concise style. The text is illustrated with line drawings of religious structures, iconographic forms, and gestures, and ritual objects. Appendices include a chronology and a guide to canonical scriptures, as well as a pronunciation guide for difficult names and terms.

The Nature of Buddhist Ethics Damien Keown,2016-07-27 In this book the author considers data from both early and later schools of Buddhism in an attempt to provide an overall characterization of the structure of Buddhist ethics The importance of ethics in the Buddha s teachings is widely acknowledged but the pursuit of ethical ideals has up to now been widely held to be secondary to the attainment of knowledge Drawing on the Aristotelian tradition of ethics the author argues against this intellectualization of Buddhism and in favour of a new understanding of the tradition in terms of which ethics plays an absolutely central role In the course of this reassessment many basic concepts such as karma nirvana and the Eightfold Path are reviewed and presented in a fresh light The book will be of interest to readers with a background in either Buddhist studies or comparative religious ethics

Indian Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction Sue Hamilton,2001-02-22 India has a long rich and diverse tradition of philosophical thought spanning some two and a half millennia and encompassing several major religious traditions This Very Short Introduction emphasizes the diversity of Indian thought and is structured around six schools which have achieved classic status Sue Hamilton explores how the traditions have attempted to understand the nature of reality in terms of an inner or spiritual quest and introduces distinctively Indian concepts such as karma and rebirth She also shows how Indian thinkers have understood issues of reality and knowledge issues which are also an important part of the Western philosophical tradition ABOUT THE SERIES The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area These pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly Our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

Contemporary Buddhist Ethics Damien Keown,2013-01-11 This innovative volume brings together the views of leading scholars on a range of controversial subjects including human rights animal rights ecology abortion euthanasia and contemporary business practice

Encyclopedia of Buddhism Damien Keown,Charles S. Prebish,2013-12-16 Reflects the current state of scholarship in Buddhist Studies its entries being written by specialists in many areas presenting an accurate overview of Buddhist history thought and practices most entries having cross referencing to others and bibliographical references Contain around 1000 pages and 500 000 words totalling around 1200 entries

Hinduism Kim Knott,2016 Hinduism is practised by about 80% of India s population and by about 30 000 000 people outside India But how is Hinduism defined and what basis does the religion have This work gives concise insights into the central preoccupations of Hinduism

Confucianism Daniel K. Gardner,2014 This volume shows the influence of the Sage s teachings over the course of Chinese history on state ideology the civil service examination system imperial government the family and social relations and the fate of Confucianism in China in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries as China developed alongside a modernizing West and Japan Some Chinese intellectuals attempted to reform the Confucian tradition to address new needs others argued for jettisoning it altogether in favor of Western ideas and technology still others condemned it angrily arguing that Confucius and his legacy were responsible for China s feudal backward conditions in the twentieth century and launching campaigns to eradicate its influences Yet Chinese continue to turn to the teachings of Confucianism for guidance in their daily lives

Islam: A Very Short Introduction Malise Ruthven,2012-01-26 Islam features widely in the news often in its most militant forms but few people in the non Muslim world really understand its nature Malise Ruthven s Very Short Introduction offers essential insights into the big issues provides fresh perspectives on contemporary questions and guides us through the complex debates

Judaism: A Very Short Introduction Norman Solomon,2014-08-28 Norman Solomon s succinct book is an ideal introduction to Judaism as a religion and way of life Demonstrating the diverse nature and ethnic origin of those with the Jewish faith Solomon explores how the Jewish religion has developed in the 2 000 years since the days of the Bible This Very Short Introduction starts by outlining the basics of practical Judaism its festivals prayers customs and various sects and goes on to consider how Judaism has responded to and dealt with a number of key issues and debates including the impact of the Holocaust and the establishment of the State of Israel In this new edition Solomon considers issues of contemporary Judaism in the twenty first century ABOUT THE SERIES The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area These pocket sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly Our expert authors combine facts analysis perspective new ideas and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

Intelligence Ian J. Deary,2020 Some people appear to be smarter than others but how do we measure intelligence Why do some people have better thinking powers than others What does intelligence predict about people s health and social outcomes This Very Short Introduction uses the best large scale psychological data to answer important questions about intelligence such as how environment genes brain structure gender and age affect people s thinking skills It asks whether intelligence increased over the 20th century Ian Deary also considers the new field of cognitive epidemiology which discovers links between higher intelligence and better health lower rates of illness and longer life From publisher s description

Buddhism and Medicine C. Pierce Salguero,2017-09-26 From its earliest days Buddhism has been closely intertwined with medicine Buddhism and Medicine is a singular collection showcasing the generative relationship and mutual influence between these fields across premodern Asia The anthology combines dozens of English language translations of premodern Buddhist texts with contextualizing introductions by leading international scholars in Buddhist studies the history of medicine and a range of other fields These sources explore in detail medical topics ranging from the development of fetal anatomy in the womb to nursing hospice dietary regimen magical powers visualization and other healing knowledge Works translated here include meditation guides popular narratives ritual manuals spells texts monastic disciplinary codes recipe inscriptions philosophical treatises poetry works by physicians and other genres All together these selections and their introductions provide a comprehensive overview of Buddhist healing throughout Asia They also demonstrate the central place of healing in Buddhist practice and in the daily life of the premodern world This anthology is a companion volume to Buddhism and Medicine An Anthology of Modern and Contemporary Sources Columbia 2019

Introducing Buddhism Charles S. Prebish,Damien Keown,2006 The key teachings of Buddhism are explained clearly in this text and the historical development and spread of the religion is traced from its beginnings

Banaras Diana L. Eck, 2013-06-05 The sacred city of Ban ras on the River Ganges is one of the oldest living cities in the world as old as Jerusalem Athens and Peking It is the place where Shiva the Lord of All is said to have made his permanent home since the dawn of creation There are few cities in India as traditionally Hindu and as symbolic of the whole of Hindu culture as Ban ras In this eloquent finely observed study Diana Eck shows how the city over the centuries has become a lens through which the Hindu vision of the world is precisely focused She reveals the spiritual and historical resonance of this holy place where great sages such as the Buddha and Shankara were taught where ashrams palaces and universities were built where God has been imagined and imagined in a thousand ways She describes the rites of its temples the busy life of its riverfront and the exuberance of its festivals She tells how people travel from all over India to Ban ras for the privilege of dying a good death here for they believe that on the banks of the River Ganges where the atmosphere of devotion is improbable in its strength it is possible to be released from the earthly round forever In her account of the sacred history geography and art of the city its elaborate and thriving rituals its myths and literature and its importance to pilgrims and seekers Diana Eck uses her wealth of scholarship to make the Hindu tradition come powerfully alive so that we come to understand the meaning of this sacred city to the millions of believers who have been coming here for over 2 500 years

An Introduction to Buddhism The Dalai Lama, 2018-07-17 His Holiness the Dalai Lama presents the perfect introduction to traditional Tibetan Buddhist thought and practice covering the Four Noble Truths and two essential texts There is no one more suited to introduce beginners and remind seasoned practitioners of the fundamentals of Tibetan Buddhism than His Holiness the Dalai Lama Speaking to an audience of Western students the Dalai Lama shows us how to apply basic Buddhist principles to our day to day lives Starting with the very foundation of Buddhism the Four Noble Truths he provides the framework for understanding the Buddha s first teachings on suffering happiness and peace He follows with commentary on two of Buddhism s most profound texts *The Eight Verses on Training the Mind* and *Atisha s Lamp for the Path to Enlightenment* often referring to the former as one of his main sources of inspiration for the practice of compassion With clear accessible language and the familiar sense of humor that infuses nearly all of his work the Dalai Lama invites us all to develop innermost awareness a proper understanding of the nature of reality and heartfelt compassion for all beings This book was previously published under the title *Lighting the Way*

Religion: a Very Short Introduction Thomas A. Tweed, 2020 Religion plays a central role in human experience Billions of people around the world practice a faith and act in accordance with it Religion shapes how they enter the world and how they leave it how they eat dress marry and raise their children It affects law economy and government It sanctifies injustice and combats it Beginning with the first signs of religion among ancient humans and concluding with a look at modern citizens and contemporary trends leading scholar Thomas Tweed examines this powerful and enduring force in human society *Religion A Very Short Introduction* offers a concise non partisan overview of religion s long history and its complicated role in the world today

The Enigmatic Realm of **Buddhism A Very Short Introduction Damien Keown**: Unleashing the Language is Inner Magic

In a fast-paced digital era where connections and knowledge intertwine, the enigmatic realm of language reveals its inherent magic. Its capacity to stir emotions, ignite contemplation, and catalyze profound transformations is nothing in short supply of extraordinary. Within the captivating pages of **Buddhism A Very Short Introduction Damien Keown** a literary masterpiece penned by a renowned author, readers attempt a transformative journey, unlocking the secrets and untapped potential embedded within each word. In this evaluation, we shall explore the book's core themes, assess its distinct writing style, and delve into its lasting affect the hearts and minds of those who partake in its reading experience.

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