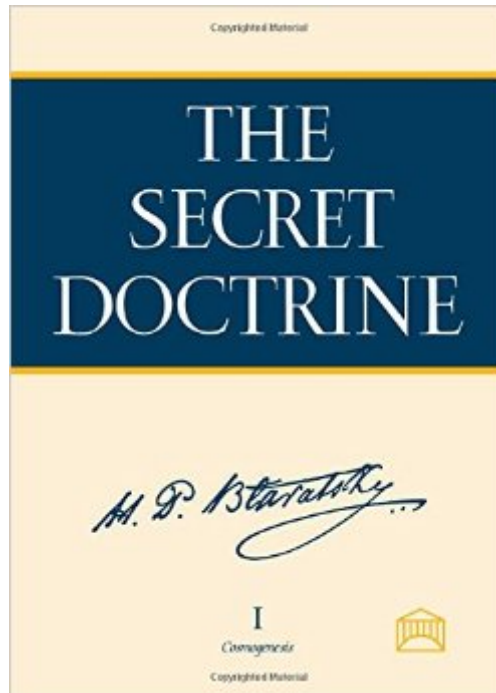


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The Secret Doctrine: The Synthesis Of Science, Religion, And Philosophy



Synopsis

Continuously in print for over 100 years, the SD remains today the most comprehensive sourcebook of the esoteric tradition, outlining the fundamental tenets of the Secret Doctrine of the Archaic Ages. Challenging, prophetic, and strikingly modern, it directly addresses the perennial questions: continuity of life after death, purpose of existence, good and evil, consciousness and substance, sexuality, karma, evolution, and human and planetary transformation. Based on the ancient Stanzas of Dzyan with corroborating testimony from over 1,200 sources, these volumes unfold the drama of cosmic and human evolution -- from the reawakening of the gods after a Night of the Universe to the ultimate reunion of cosmos with its divine source. Supplementary sections discuss relevant scientific issues as well as the mystery language of myths, symbols, and allegories, helping the reader decipher the often abstruse imagery of the world's sacred literature.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was a startling and controversial spiritual landmark in 1888 when it first appeared. It covers cosmic, planetary, and human evolution, as well as science, religion, and mythology. It is based on the esoteric Stanzas of Dzyan, with reference data from over 1,200 sources. It was virtually the Bible for the early Theosophical Society, and has continued to be so even today in the 21st century. The work comprises three volumes: Cosmogenesis, Anthropogenesis and a further volume with index and bibliography adding immense value as a study tool. Cosmogenesis is the origin of the universe, while Anthropogenesis is the origin of humanity. In many countries around the world there are study groups dedicated to understanding this book. It is a compendium of nearly all

religious and esoteric knowledge available at the time, but gathered psychically by the author. If you know about the life of the author (Blavatsky) the psychic guidance method seems the most plausible means of her obtaining the remarkable content for the Secret Doctrine. The impact of this book is so great that it should be an essential for anyone into the spiritual growth areas of today. Aside from theosophy, the work in this book is the starting point for all New Age philosophies. It grew out of a social climate of spiritualist seances and psychic phenomena, generalising all that was known then and integrating it in spectacular fashion. Many of the intelligencia of the day were influenced by this work, and wrote books on many aspects of this. It also led a prolonged Western excursion into the Eastern mysteries and religions. The book adds depth and insights to so many religions and philosophies, and yet follows the edict, "there is no religion higher than truth".

I really don't know why so many reviewers find this book 'difficult.' I suspect they probably find the King James Bible 'difficult' for similar reasons, the most obvious of which is that standards of education and more especially, literacy, have declined considerably since H.P. Blavatsky wrote her master-work. Another possible reason is that the 'secrets' Blavatsky revealed, just like the allegories of the New Testament, cannot be understood by the unaided intellect. If they could, we would all be filled with Wisdom and have no need to continually reincarnate on this sorely-troubled earth to learn the Eternal Verities. It seems to me that to expect to grasp the great truths which have puzzled the greatest minds since time immemorial in a few short weeks or months, or by skimming the surface of books like the Secret Doctrine, is akin to attempting to scale Mount Everest when one has difficulty climbing the stairs to bed! If one has absolutely no knowledge of the Ancient Mysteries, or worse, believes that real scholarship and science began with the Ancient Greeks and that the Ancients knew nothing that we do not know infinitely better, this book will make about as much sense as Shakespeare would to a troop of monkeys. Equally, if one has been spoon-fed upon the sound-bite 'mysticism' and 'new age' claptrap that passes for 'occultism' nowadays, it is not very surprising that the Secret Doctrine should seem a 'difficult', if not an entirely CLOSED book to the majority of its readers. The fact is that it was NEVER intended for the majority, or even for the majority of 'occultists' and 'mystics'. The latter being those who wish to have their own fancies and fantasies confirmed, rather than learn the truths Blavatsky reveals in this book.

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