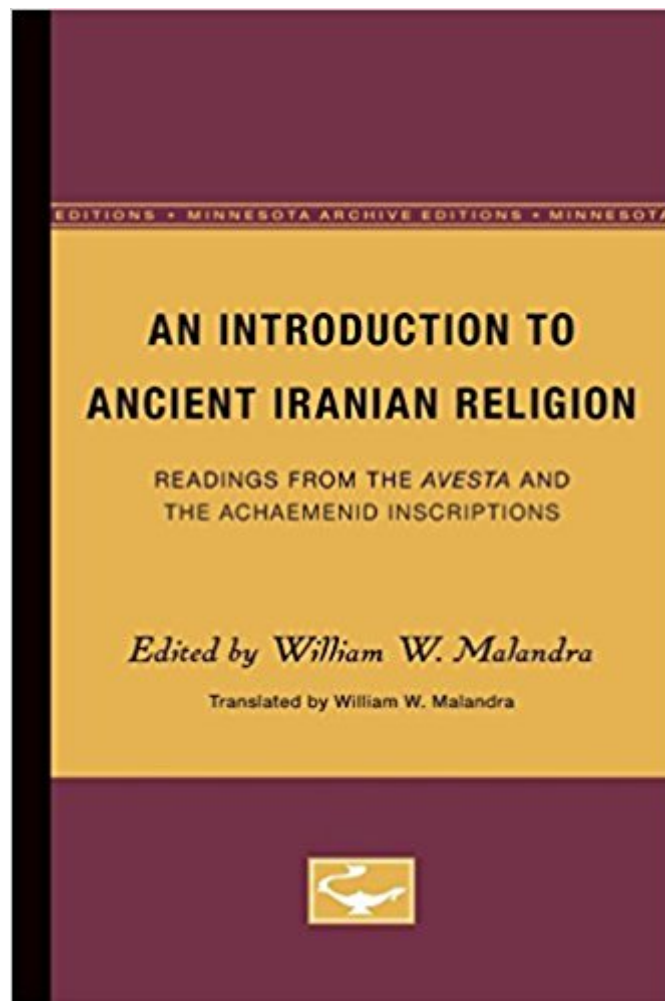


The book was found

An Introduction To Ancient Iranian Religion: Readings From The Avesta And The Achaemenid Inscriptions (Minnesota Publications In The Humanities)



Synopsis

An Introduction to Ancient Iranian Religion was first published in 1983. Minnesota Archive Editions uses digital technology to make long-unavailable books once again accessible, and are published unaltered from the original University of Minnesota Press editions. When Persia fell to Islam in the mid-seventh century, the ancient Iranian religion of Zoroastrianism all but disappeared (although it is still practiced by small groups in India and Iran). As one of the dominant religions of antiquity, it influenced the Judeo-Christian tradition as well as some forms of gnosticism. Despite its age and venerable place in the history of world religions, Zoroastrianism remains little known outside of a few philologists and historians of religion. Because of the difficulty of translation, there is little primary textual material available for nonspecialists; the few translations that do exist are quite old. In *An Introduction to Ancient Iranian Religion*, William Malandra provides not only modern English translations of the sacred texts but also a comprehensive introduction to the subject of Zoroastrianism itself. In an introductory essay Malandra outlines the main features of Zoroastrianism in its historical, cultural, and spiritual setting. His new translations of readings from the Avesta, the sacred book of Zoroastrianism, and selections from the Achaemenid inscriptions of the great kings Darius and Xerxes are accompanied by interpretive notes that allow students to make their way through this difficult material. This book is, therefore, not just a collection of texts but a self-contained introduction to Zoroastrianism that can be used by the nonspecialist without recourse to additional interpretive works.

Book Information

Series: Minnesota Publications in the Humanities (Book 2)

Paperback: 195 pages

Publisher: Univ Of Minnesota Press; 1st paperback edition edition (December 12, 1983)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0816611157

ISBN-13: 978-0816611157

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,234,725 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #94 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Other Eastern Religions & Sacred Texts > Zoroastrianism](#) #879 in [Books > History > Middle East > Iran](#)

Customer Reviews

I am amazed that "An Introduction To Ancient Iranian Religion: Readings From the Avesta and the Achaemenid Inscriptions" is not more generally available (and less expensive!) than it is, since it appears to be the ONLY work of its kind. Be that as it may, this volume gives the reader the primary texts of Zarathushtra, the inscriptions of Darius and his heirs, and the essential texts of Zoroastrianism. The introductions are extensive, and except for what appears to me to be an odd system of transliteration, illuminating. The book as a whole is organized to present texts concerning major figures in the religion in an orderly fashion rather than in their (I gather) extremely mixed-up later format. Translations are clear insofar as this is possible, and where the texts are really obscure, Malandra indicates this. This book is very short (fewer than 200 pages), but extremely clear and fair-minded (as opposed, say to Edwin Yamauchi's discussion of Zoroaster), and definitely worth having for anyone interested in the ancient near east.

Excellent book. I recommend it highly for all those who are interested in Zoroastrianism. The book is also for scholars as well as lay people who would benefit from the author's deep knowledge.

I would recommend this book very highly to anyone who is interested to know about Zoroastrianism.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

An Introduction to Ancient Iranian Religion: Readings from the Avesta and the Achaemenid Inscriptions (Minnesota Publications in the Humanities) Iron Frontier: The Discovery and Early Development of Minnesota's Three Ranges (Minnesota Historical Society Publications) Ancient Persia: A Concise History of the Achaemenid Empire, 550-330 BCE Backroads of Minnesota: Your Guide to Minnesota's Most Scenic Backroad Adventures Defining Digital Humanities: A Reader (Digital Research in the Arts and Humanities) Egyptian Mythology: Discover the Ancient Secrets of Egyptian Mythology (Egypt, Ancient Egypt, Ancient Civilizations, Gods, Pharaohs, Ra, Isis, Set) (Ancient Civilizations and Mythology) From the Shahs to Los Angeles: Three Generations of Iranian Jewish Women between Religion and Culture Readings to Accompany Experience Humanities Volume 2 The Achaemenid Empire: The First Great Persian Empire The religion of the Veda : the ancient religion of India (from Rig-Veda to Upanishads) Strunk's Source Readings in Music History: The Early Christian Period and the Latin Middle Ages (Revised Edition) (Vol. 2) (Source Readings Vol. 2) The monumental inscriptions in the churches and churchyards of the island of Barbados, British West Indies The Monuments and Inscriptions of Caracol, Belize (University Museum

Monographs) Foreign Sailors on Socotra: The inscriptions and drawings from the cave Hoq
(Vergleichende Studien Zu Antike Und Orient) Readings of the Platform Sutra (Columbia Readings
of Buddhist Literature) Readings of the Vessantara Jataka (Columbia Readings of Buddhist
Literature) Monumental Inscriptions in Barbadoes The Inscriptions at Copan The Name of the Dead:
Hieroglyphic Inscriptions of the Treasures of Tutankhamun Translated History: Greatest Ancient
Civilization History: (History Rome, Romans, Egypt, SPQR, Aztec, Ancient China, Ancient Greece,
Julius Caesar, Jesus, Muhammed, Alexander the Great)

[Dmca](#)