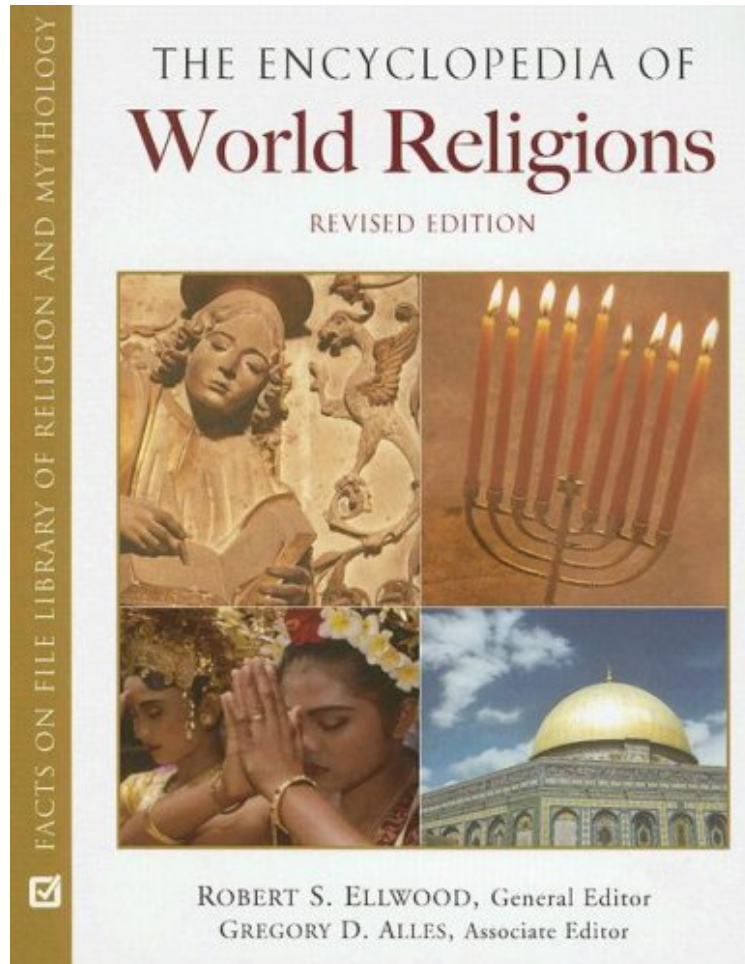


(Free) The Encyclopedia of World Religions (Facts on File Library of Religion and Mythology)

The Encyclopedia of World Religions (Facts on File Library of Religion and Mythology)

From Brand: Facts on File
DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



 Download

 Read Online

#3156202 in Books Facts on File 2006-11-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.46 x 1.12 x 7.40l, 2.31
#File Name: 0816061416514 pages | File size: 31.Mb

From Brand: Facts on File : The Encyclopedia of World Religions (Facts on File Library of Religion and Mythology) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Encyclopedia of World Religions (Facts on File Library of Religion and Mythology):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. EDITED VERSION OF THE ORIGINAL By Jim Pope AN EDITED VERSION OF THE EARLY EDITIONS WITH MUCH INFORMATION LEFT OUT. THEY TOOK OUT INFO ON THE 7TH DAY ADVENTISTS AND THE JEHOVIAH WITNESS. 2 of 6 people found the following review helpful. An Interesting Read By vim s This book gives a very concise view of the different religions out there in the world. It steps into a brief explanation of the religions in the world. This book gives a good dipiction of the different religions and it helped me understand the way religion is reflected upon others. I would recommend this book to anyone who wants to learn about other religions and a little bit more about themselves.

This encyclopedia presents young adults with reliable, unbiased information on the world's religions, from ancient times onwards. This revised edition covers all the major and minor religions of the world, including those of the ancient world.

From School Library Journal Grade 9 Up Ellwood's wide-ranging, accessible, alphabetically arranged volume includes historical, comparative, and theoretical entries, many covering societal aspects of religion. The further-reading list has been updated, and there are new entries on fundamentalisms, al-Qaeda, Hamas, religion and politics, and more. The inadequate number of illustrations is a weakness, as are the lack of entries on Wahhabism or Falun Gong (though the latter is mentioned briefly in "religions of China"); an outdated statistic on Zoroastrians; and the absurd claim that Roman Catholic statues are "worshipped with adoration." Jones's multivolume set also has many strong points, including pronunciation help, clear expression, informative sidebars, research and activities ideas, and discussion questions. However, its arrangement is confusing, and there is some repetition. Coverage includes 18 major and minor religions and philosophies. Religious influence is presented as entirely positive. Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, and other notables are not among those profiled. The index lacks entries for Mithras, Falun Gong, the Unification Church, and more. The black-and-white photos are undated, and some primary sources are poorly translated. Among the relatively few errors are conflicting dates for Genesis. Neither of these sets illuminates the current religious climate in any given country. Though Ellwood's work is exceptional in parts, John Bowker's *The Oxford Dictionary of World Religions* (1997; o.p.) and the *Macmillan Dictionary of Religion* (1994) have many more entries, and Bowker's *World Religions* (DK, 2006) and Elizabeth Breuilly's *Religions of the World (Facts On File, 1997)* are more visually appealing. Patricia D. Lothrop, St. George's School, Newport, RI Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist "The Encyclopedia of World Religions aims to help young people satisfy their curiosity about a very important aspect of their world: religions." So writes Associate Editor Gregory Alles in his introduction. Alles goes on to claim that most reference works are "geared to a college and postgraduate audience," whereas this work "is different in that it aims to address students directly." Nearly 500 entries cover topics from prehistoric and ancient religions, major contemporary world religions, concepts, symbols, and personages. The entries for major religions are the longest, covering two or three pages and subdivided into sections that discuss history, beliefs, practices, organizations, and significance. The form is a traditional alphabetical arrangement of entries. As such, it's not bad, but is it the best way to introduce young readers to the variety and complexity of religions of the world? The entries for Christianity and Hinduism, among others, are extremely succinct and packed with see references, forcing the reader to flip from one entry to another. There are longer, more comprehensive entries available in *The World Book Encyclopedia*, to name just one example. The alphabetical arrangement, though useful from a ready-reference standpoint, does not allow for a synthesis of the history, people, and ideas of religious traditions and may not be the best format for satisfying the curiosity of young readers. *Facts On File's* own *Encyclopedia of World Faiths: An Illustrated Survey of the World's Living Religions* (New York, 1987) is better in this regard. Many entries begin with a dictionary-like definition that attempts to capture the content of the entry in a single headline. Prayer is defined as "communication with a religious being, such as a god, spirit, ancestor, or saint." That's pretty good. But the entry for Religion, Definition of begins with the redundant phrase "explaining what religion is." Judaism in America is defined as "the practice of Judaism in the Western Hemisphere." The use of language in this work often suggests an attempt at simplification gone wrong. Although designed for young adults, the authors could have written the text in a way that would challenge readers, all the while remaining accessible to them. In addition to form and language, the content of entries is also questionable. The entry abortion and religion indicates that Roman Catholicism does not permit abortion even if the life of the mother is in jeopardy. Catholic theology is very complex on this issue. The distinction between direct and indirect abortion, the precise circumstances surrounding the health of the mother, and the medical intervention necessary to save her all determine whether the death of the fetus is morally acceptable. Although all of this might well be beyond the scope of an encyclopedia for young readers, the entry as it stands is misleading. Finally, the encyclopedia begins with a chart giving the number of adherents to religions worldwide but lacks any citation for the source of these figures. It ends with a supplemental bibliography of works geared for an undergraduate audience and beyond, including one in German. Could no books on world religions for young readers be found? The target audience for this title is students in grades 6 through 12. Although the concept of providing an accessible reference source on religion for young adults is laudable, students at the lower end of the audience range will benefit just as much from the articles in *World Book*, and students at the higher end will be much better served by any number of one-volume encyclopedias written for adults, such as *The HarperCollins Dictionary of Religion* [RBB Ap 15 96] and *The Oxford Dictionary of World Religions* [RBB JI 97]. Not recommended. From Kirkus "This impressive volume on the world's religions attempts to be simple, interesting, and not partial to the point of view of one religious tradition or another." Beginning with the entry Aaron, the brother of Moses, and ending with Zoroastrianism, a religion begun in Iran by the prophet Zarathustra, this encyclopedia aptly presents religions in two ways: from the "outside" (history, teachings, practices, and organization) and "inside" (the feelings of the believers, the way they look at the world, and "the things that are actually important in their religious lives"). Ellwood

and Alles's thorough approach to their vast subject answers the questions that teenagers have about religion. A helpful topical outline follows; it groups the entries according to main headings: ``Buddhism," ``Christianity," ``Confucianism," ``Hinduism," ``Judaism," etc., making even more accessible this informative and comprehensive reference work. (bw charts, maps, photographs, index, not seen, bibliography) (Nonfiction. 13- 15) -- Copyright 1998, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.