



Miracle as Modern Conundrum in South Asian Religious Traditions

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Claims of the miraculous are foundational to faith and skepticism, making and breaking religious careers and movements in their wake. Drawing on a variety of South Asian religious traditions Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity this book revolves around the theme of conundrum, demonstrating how miracles offer divine proof, tenacious embarrassment, and, in many cases, both. The contributors explore not only how modern miracles are conundrums themselves but also how they make conundrums out of assumed divides between scientific and supernatural realms, modernity and tradition, the West and the rest, and ethnographer and native.

This topic and the various ancillary questions raised by the contributors lie at the heart of understanding religiosity. This is an excellent, even courageous, compilation, and the sheer magnitude of so many different types of miraculous stories presented within a sensitive and astute framework makes this an outstanding contribution to the study of religion. Constantina Rhodes Bailly, author of *Shaiva Devotional Songs of Kashmir: A Translation and Study of Utpaladeva's Shivastotravali*

Contributors include Chad M. Bauman, Corinne G. Dempsey, Joyce Burkhalter Flueckiger, Ann Grodzins Gold, Sunil Goonasekera, William P. Harman, Selva J. Raj, Robin Rinehart, and Neelima Shukla-Bhatt. Corinne G. Dempsey is Associate Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point and the author of *Kerala Christian Sainthood: Collisions of Culture and Worldview in South India* and *The Goddess Lives in Upstate New York: Breaking Convention and Making Home at a North American Hindu Temple* and coeditor (with Selva J. Raj) of *Popular Christianity in India: Riting between the Lines*, also published by SUNY Press. Selva J. Raj (1952-2008) was Chair and Stanley S. Kresge Professor of Religious Studies at Albion College and coeditor (with William P. Harman) of *Dealing with Deities: The Ritual Vow in South Asia*, also published by SUNY Press."

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Ilene Venne:

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Benjamin Herrera:

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