



January 1998

Introductory Information and Introduction

Harold Coward

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.butler.edu/jhcs>



Part of the [Religion Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Coward, Harold (1998) "Introductory Information and Introduction," *Journal of Hindu-Christian Studies*: Vol. 11, Article 4.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.7825/2164-6279.1177>

The *Journal of Hindu-Christian Studies* is a publication of the [Society for Hindu-Christian Studies](#). The digital version is made available by Digital Commons @ Butler University. For questions about the Journal or the Society, please contact cbauman@butler.edu. For more information about Digital Commons @ Butler University, please contact digitalscholarship@butler.edu.

EDITORS

EDITOR: Harold Coward
Centre for Studies in Religion
and Society
University of Victoria
PO Box 1700 STN CSC
Victoria BC V8W 2Y2, Canada

CO-EDITOR: Anand Amaladass
Institute of Philosophy and
Culture
81 Lattice Bridge Road
Thiruvanniyur, Madras
India 600 041

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT: Ludgard De Decker

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT: Shirley Embra

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

R. Balasubramanian
University of Pondicherry

Francis Clooney, S.J.
Theology Department
Boston College

John Carman
Harvard Divinity School

Margaret Chatterjee
Westminster College, Oxford

S. Cromwell Crawford
University of Hawaii at Manoa

J.T.K. Daniel
Serampore College

Diana Eck
Harvard University

Klaus Klostermaier
University of Manitoba

Julius Lipner
The Divinity School
University of Cambridge

U.R. Anantha Murthy
Mahatma Gandhi University

Raimundo Panikkar
University of California at Santa Barbara

David C. Scott
United Theological College

R. Vijayalakshmi
International Institute for Tamil Studies

Bibhuti Yadav
Temple University

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Hindu-Christian Studies Bulletin is an annual scholarly journal published jointly at the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at the University of Victoria, Canada, and at the Institute of Philosophy and Culture, Madras, India. It is the official publication of the Society for Hindu-Christian Studies.

The aim of the *Bulletin* is to create a worldwide forum for the presentation of Hindu-Christian scholarly studies, book reviews, and news of past and upcoming events. Materials selected for publication will be balanced between historical research and contemporary practice and, where possible, will employ analytical and theoretical analysis set within the context of our shared contemporary experience. Contributions are invited and may be addressed to either the Editor or the Co-Editor. Articles of 3000-3500 words are preferred. Send manuscript in paper form as well as on diskette. A stylesheet is available on request. The *Bulletin* adopts a policy of non-gender specific language where applicable. All articles are subject to review before acceptance and may receive editorial modification in the course of publication.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

An annual subscription is included with membership in the Society for Hindu-Christian Studies. **Membership** annual dues: CAD 23 or USD 21; students CAD 18 or USD 15; special 3-year rate: CAD 55 or USD 50. Ongoing membership dues are payable when billed. Subscription only rates for **non-members** (individuals and institutions) are CAD 12 or USD 10. Single copies of back issues are available for CAD 10 or USD 7. The full set of vols. 1-10 is available for CAD 87 or USD 68. No other currencies can be accepted. Make cheque or money order payable to the Society for Hindu-Christian Studies or to the *Hindu-Christian Studies Bulletin* and mail to the Editor at the address above.

For subscription information within India, please write to the Co-Editor, Anand Amaladass, at the address above.

The *Bulletin* is indexed in *Religion Index One: Periodicals*, the *Index to Book Reviews in Religion*, *Religion Indexes: RIO/RIT/IBRR 1975- on CD-ROM*, and the *ATLA Religion Database on CD-ROM*, all published by the American Theological Library Association.

Cover logo photograph courtesy of Ronald Neufeldt, University of Calgary.

HINDU-CHRISTIAN STUDIES BULLETIN

© 1998 Hindu-Christian Studies Bulletin

ISSN 0844-4587

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

THE HINDU TRADITION is no longer found only by travelling to India. It is alive and well in diaspora communities around the globe. Indeed, it is in just such locations that Hindu experience is taking on new forms as it lives as a minority community, often in a host Eurocentric secular Christian context. In urban centres such as London, Vancouver, and Pittsburg, second- and third-generation young people are beginning to find their voice – and the religious experience of which they speak is often different from that of their cousins in India, or in other diaspora locations. One such second-generation scholar, Tinu Ruparell, describes his experience in this regard as “a work in progress” (see this issue’s Viewpoint), and evokes the thought of Ricoeur on metaphor and Stout on bricolage in making sense of it.

This issue also contains survey studies of the Hindu diaspora communities in Trinidad, Australia, the United States, and Europe. Marion O’Callaghan recounts the history of Hindus in Trinidad from 1845 to the present with attention to issues of caste, religious discrimination, pilgrimage, feasts, and interaction with Christians in “re-working crucial aspects of Hinduism in India”. Purushottama Bilimoria offers a similar study of the Hindu experience in Australia from 1787 to the present. In his study of Hindus in the United States, Raymond

Williams focuses on “Hindu-Christian Study and Dialogue” in the immigrant community. He warns Christian conversation partners against reifying either Hinduism in India or in the United States. Speaking from Europe, Martin Baumann assesses the Hindu presence in Great Britain, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Portugal, especially with regard to interfaith dialogue.

This thematic issue of the *Bulletin* makes a contribution to the recent and growing body of literature on the Hindu diaspora. Gaps in our coverage here are given attention elsewhere. For “Hindus in Canada”, e.g., see my article, “The Religions of the South Asian Diaspora in Canada” in *A New Handbook of Living Religions*, edited by John Hinnells (Oxford: Blackwell, 1997). A book, *The South Asian Diaspora in Britain, Canada, and the United States*, currently in press with SUNY Press, has separate chapters on Hindus in Britain (Kim Knott), Canada (Harold Coward), and the United States (Diana Eck). Such new resource material will enable courses on Hinduism to expand their focus from India to include the fascinating evolutions of the tradition taking place in diaspora communities around the world.

Harold Coward
Editor

Society for Hindu-Christian Studies: Annual Meeting
Friday, 20 November 1998 – 7:30-10:00 p.m.
Saturday, 21 November 1998 – 9:00-11:30 a.m.
at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL

Discussions of presentations
as well as Annual Business Meeting.
Both parts are open to all who are interested.
Contact: Kay Jordan. For further details, see Reports & News.