

**THE INDIAN SAINT; OR,
BUDDHA AND BUDDHISM:
A SKETCH, HISTORICAL
AND CRITICAL**

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The Indian Saint; Or, Buddha and Buddhism: A Sketch, Historical and Critical by Charles D. B. Mills

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CHARLES D. B. MILLS.

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GIFT

PREFACE.

The following pages have been written in a feeling of cordial interest, indeed of love and admiration for the historical character they seek in some degree to present, and an earnest desire to render both to him and the faith that has flowed from his thought and life—while abstaining utterly, if possible, from any bias or partiality—equal and exact justice. How far, if at all, this desire may have become realization, it must be for the intelligent reader to decide.

It is difficult, very difficult, to penetrate the spirit and genius of a faith so remote, and in many respects foreign to our own, to interpret it, take its measure justly, weigh it well. Still more difficult, perhaps, to one who should have outgrown, in some degree at least, as is hoped, the Christian limitation, to preserve still the perfect poise, to escape prepossession on the other side, and draw the picture without a shade of flattery.

The writing of these pages was done for the most part nearly four years since. Various circumstances, not necessary here to name, have conspired to prevent an earlier publication. Within this intervening time, important contributions upon the Eastern religions have been made, both in this country and Europe, and the horizon

of view has constantly been widening. In particular, the work of Mr. Samuel Johnson, (*Oriental Religions*, Boston, 1872), deserves very cordial and honorable mention. Impressed with so broad and catholic a spirit, so kindly, so generous even, in its hospitality to Eastern thought, so careful in research and affluent in learning, so superior in insight and discrimination, so richly and deeply suggestive, it certainly marks, if it does not make, an epoch in these studies. It would seem to leave little to be desired further upon the themes it treats.

But the field is large, and there is room yet for many reapers and gleaners. Long time it must be ere the sheaves shall all have been gathered; long time indeed ere the last word shall have been spoken, and the final judgment made up, upon this or any other of the great historic faiths.

The present moment is opportune. The night is far spent, and the day is at hand. We are outgrowing the Jewish narrowness that has from the beginning been upon all Christendom—the worship of exclusive claims, of dispensation and of person. We are to study all religions in the light of the universal, to measure all, our own included, against the standard of the absolute. Of the enlargements that shall thereby come, the farthest seeing at present, can form no fitting conception. The old hymn will take on new breadth of meaning, and the lines be sung—

“Let party names no more
The *human* world o’erspread;”

the new Jerusalem shall descend from God out of Heaven, and the church of Humanity be inaugurated. All the fragments shall be gathered up, there shall be genuine recognition of the divine in history, respect and appreciation everywhere, but idolatry nowhere. The soul, leaving every weight behind, shall urge ever on and on toward the infinite goal.

In the hope that it may in some slight degree aid to open the way for that bright consummation, this little volume is sent forth. It is doubtless very partial and incomplete, marked and perhaps marred with many deficiencies. If it shall serve in any measure to illustrate the subject it seeks to present, if it shall avail at all to incite and quicken, to enlarge the horizon and exalt the tone of life, its ambitions will have been fulfilled.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Dec. 15th, 1875.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in the context of public administration and government operations. The text notes that such records are crucial for identifying trends, detecting anomalies, and ensuring that resources are used efficiently and effectively.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It highlights the importance of using reliable and validated instruments to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information gathered. The text also discusses the challenges associated with data collection, such as ensuring that the data is representative and that the collection process is unbiased and free from external influences.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the analysis and interpretation of the collected data. It describes the various statistical and analytical techniques used to identify patterns, trends, and relationships within the data. The text emphasizes the importance of using appropriate statistical methods and of interpreting the results in the context of the research objectives and the underlying theory.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the implications of the findings and the potential for future research. It notes that the results of the study have important implications for understanding the underlying processes and for developing effective interventions and policies. The text also identifies areas for further research, such as the need to explore the long-term effects of the interventions and to investigate the underlying mechanisms of change.

5. The fifth part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and conclusions. It reiterates the importance of accurate record-keeping and the use of reliable data collection methods. The text also emphasizes the need for ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the interventions remain effective and that the data continues to be used to inform decision-making and policy development.

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