# BRAJ: THE VAISHNAVA HOLY LAND; A JUBILEE VOLUME

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Braj: the Vaishnava Holy Land; a jubilee volume by J. E. Scott

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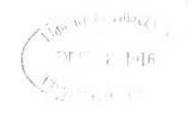
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### J. E. SCOTT

# BRAJ: THE VAISHNAVA HOLY LAND; A JUBILEE VOLUME





## **BRAJ**

#### THE VAISHNAVA HOLY LAND

A Jubilee Volume

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Rev. J. E. SCOTT, Ph.D., S.T.D. Author of "In Famine Land," "The India Mission," etc.



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#### PREFACE

THE author's purpose in preparing this brief brochure is fourfold: First, to give a short account of an interesting land and its paramount religion. Second, to show that this religion has deteriorated with age, and that the most modern form of it is the most corrupt. Hinduism is worse than Brahmanism, and the more modern Krishnaism is the grossest form of Hinduism. Third, to contrast with the Hinduism of to-day-with the latter-day Krishna cultus-the purer and nobler religion of Christ, and with the puerile narratives of the Puranas the exalted teachings of the gospels. And, lastly, to show the triumphs of the nobler faith in the very stronghold of Hinduism, where for centuries it has been fortified by tradition, custom, wealth, and the prestige of a dominant and bigoted priesthood.

Modern Hinduism presents no greater attraction to the masses than this land of Braj. It is the Vaishnava Holy Land. To this land flow annually many thousands of grossly deluded but often sincere devotees. To enter this land and establish itself at its very center and endeavor to cope with and overcome its stupendous errors has been the herculean task of that purer faith whose Founder descended from heaven and overcame the world. More really than the Kurus and Pandavas met on the battlefield of Kurukshetra, here Christ and Krishna have met.

The author endeavors to show briefly something of the physical, traditional, historical, and religious features of the land, and to record the initiation, evolution, and establishment of a mission acknowledging and following the one true Incarnation.

In preparing the first part, pertaining to the field and its cult, the author is indebted especially to Growse's Memoirs, Thornton's Gazetteer, and Cunningham's Archæological Report, and in preparing the second part, concerning the mission, he has been helped by one who was associated with him continuously in the work from its beginning in 1888, and to whose coördinate labors much of its success must be attributed. •

Ajmere, Rajputana, India, January, 1906.

## CONTENTS

Preface	******************************	8
	PART FIRST	
	The Land and the Religion	
I. THE	Land	11
9, T 3, I 4, I 5, I	ts Earliest Mention,  'raditional Account.  ts Geographical Description,  ts Flora and Fauna,  ts People,  ts Religion,	
II. Its T	UTELARY DIVINITY	24
2. N 3. T 4. N 5. M	Iis Popularity, fodern Accretions, 'he Krishna Legends, James and Appearance of Krishna, Ianner of Worship, Trishna and Christ,	

111	tre	Capital	39
***		Its History,	00
		(1) Traditional.	
		(2) Buddhist Mathura.	
		(8) Hindu Mathura.	
		(4) Mohammedan Mathura.	
		(5) Modern Mathura,	
	9	Its Appearance and Population.	
		Sacred Places.	
iv.	Тня	HAUNTS AND HOMES OF KRISHNA	55
		The Ban Jathra.	
		Maholi.	
	3.	Gobardhana.	
	4.	Barsana.	
		Nandgawn.	
		Brindaban.	
		(1) Description.	
		(2) The Older Temples,	
		(8) Modern Temples.	
		(1) Tanks.	
		(5) Ghats.	
	7.	Raladeva.	
	8.	Mahaban,	
	9.	Gokula,	
V	Тн	R LATER VAISHNAVA SECTS	81
		Hinduism Changeable.	
		The Modern Sects.	
		(1) The Sri Vaisbnavas.	
		(2) The Nimbaraks.	
		(3) The Madhva Vaishnavas.	
		(4) The Vishnu Swamis (Vallab	ha
		(4) THE VISHILL SWALLES (VALIAN	3,166
		Charyas).	1.16%

## PART SECOND

### The Mission

1.	Тн	E FOUNDING OF A MISSION	95
	1.	How It Came to Be.	
	2.	As It Was in the Beginning.	
		Providential Help.	
		Hopeful Outlook,	
11.	Тп	E EVOLUTION OF A MISSION	108
	1.	Expansion.	
		Mathura Institutions.	
		(1) The Deaconess Home,	
		(2) The Training School.	
		(8) Flora Hall.	
		(4) Gracie Hall.	
		(5) Dormitories.	
		(6) Smith Hall,	
	3,	English Work.	
	4.	Medical Work,	
	5.	The School of the Prophets,	
		School for Evangelist Teachers.	
	7.	The Melas.	
	8.	Years of Toil.	
	9.	Woman's Work.	
III.	Тип	E ESTABLISHMENT OF A MISSION	173
	1,	Retrospection.	
	2.	District Formed.	
	3.	Mathura District.	
	4,	Prospects,	