

**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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J. E. SCOTT

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JUBILEE VOLUME**

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BRAJ

THE VAISHNAVA HOLY LAND

A Jubilee Volume

By

Rev. J. E. SCOTT, Ph.D., S.T.D.

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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.

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