

**A SERIES OF LESSONS ON
THE INNER TRACHINGS
OF THE PHILOSOPHIES
AND RELIGIONS OF INDIA**

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A series of lessons on the inner trachings of The Philosophies and Religions of India by Jogi Ramacharaka

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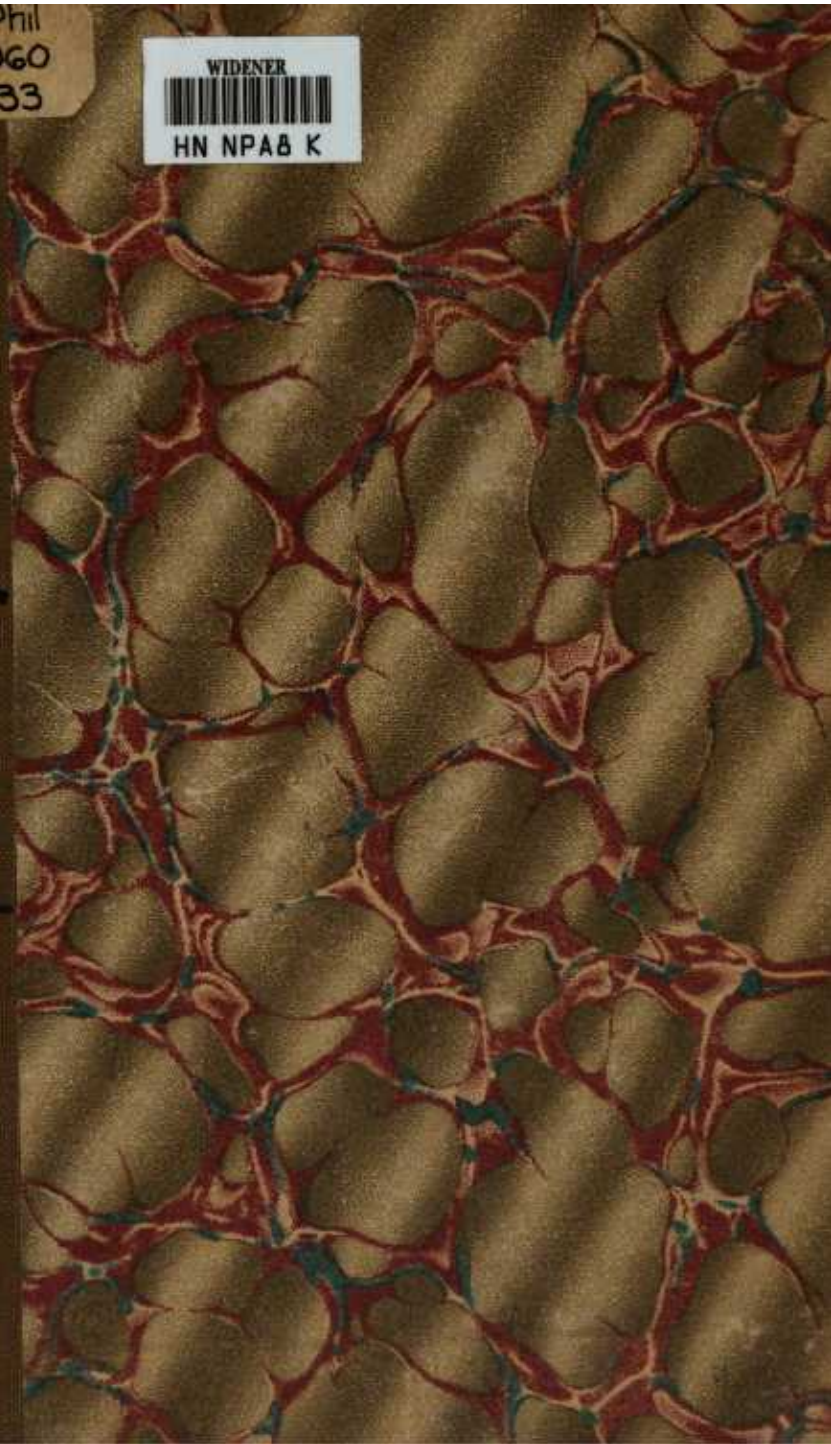
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A SERIES OF LESSONS
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Religions of India

BY YOGI RAMACHARAKA

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THE FIRST LESSON



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THE FIRST LESSON

THE LAND OF THE GANGES.

India—the Land of the Ganges—the home of Sanscrit, the Root-Language of the world—the Mother of Religions and Philosophies—the Twentieth Century and the Western World greet thee! From thy sources have come the languages of the world, in which men have expressed the thoughts arising in their minds—thy word-symbols have made possible advanced thinking and expression of thought. From thy thinkers and teachers have come the root-ideas which have since grown into many a religious and philosophical tree, with bud, leaf, flower, and fruit. To thee may be traced the great philosophical conceptions and religious truths that have animated and inspired man's thought for centuries. Thy hundred centuries of deep thought and meditation upon the Mysteries of Existence—the Secret of the Absolute—have proved as the leaven which has lightened the bread of life, and has raised the sodden mass of materiality and changed its character so that it may be partaken of without harm by reason of the transforming power of thy leaven!

The history of India runs back for many centuries, the Hindus themselves claiming that their records and traditions carry them back over a period of a hundred centuries—10,000 years—and that back of even this great period of time their people existed and had their successive civilizations and periods of race rest. Centuries before our present civilization had dawned