

**TRANSZENDENZERFAHRUNG, VOLLZUGSHORIZ-  
ONT DES HEILS:** Das Problem in Indischer und Christlicher  
tradition, edited by GERHARD OBERHAMMER. E. J. Brill, Leiden;  
Gerold and Co., Vienna; (Agents) Motilal Banarsidass, Bungalow  
Road, Jawahar Nagar, Delhi 110007, 1978. Pages 253. Price  
not given.

This book forms a collection of papers presented at a symposium held at Vienna in February 1977, on 'Transcendental experience' as the horizon of the divine at work, aimed at seeing

the relevance of Indian spirituality and mysticism in the context of Christian theology. The problem is one of understanding revelation as the spiritual reality of man as found in Western Christianity and Indian Hinduism. Basically what we find in these papers is 'an interdisciplinary approach calling for reflection on the common problem of man in the context of religious belief' without being dogmatic'. The need of the present day is to work out a scientific method which would enable us to understand the thought patterns of different religious traditions and cultures. This will enhance the scope of the history of religions in a spirit of dialogue between world religions.

Prof. Oberhammer analyses the understanding of transcendence from the Sāṃkhya-Yoga point of view; J. C. Heesterman takes up the Vedic sacrifices and transcendence. The Advaitic experience of Transcendence is discussed by T. Vetter and the Indian Buddhistic attitude is explained by L. Schmithausen. B. Baumer clarifies the mystic, poetic, experience from the point of view of Kashmir Śaivism as represented by Abhinavagupta. Another interesting paper is a comparative study of Sufism and Bhakti by A. R. Crollius. E. Steinkellner makes a comparative study of the theories of knowledge between the Yoga School and Buddhism. From the Western Christian point of view the well-known Catholic theologians Karl Rahner and P. Schoonenberg look at the problem of transcendence and of Catholic dogmas. Transcendental experience and gnosis in the second century Christianity form the subject of study by E. Lanne. A. M. Haas deals with transcendental experience among the German mystics. All the papers keep a high level of scholarship and are well written and fully documented.

We welcome this volume 5 of the Publications of the De Nobili Research Library, published by the Indological Institute of the University of Vienna.

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