



## Lord Siva's Song: The Isvara Gita

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*A translation of the Isvara Gita, a parallel text to the Bhagavad Gita that promotes religious inclusion.*

While the Bhagavad Gita is an acknowledged treasure of world spiritual literature, few people know a parallel text, the Isvara Gita. This lesser-known work is also dedicated to a god, but in this case it is Siva, rather than Krishna, who is depicted as the omniscient creator of the world. Andrew J. Nicholson's *Lord Siva's Song* makes this text available in English in an accessible new translation. A work of both poetry and philosophy, the Isvara Gita builds on the insights of Patañjali's Yoga Sutra and foreshadows later developments in tantric yoga. It deals with the pluralistic religious environment of early medieval India through an exploration of the relationship between the gods Siva and Vishnu. The work condemns sectarianism and violence and provides a strategy for accommodating conflicting religious claims in its own day and in our own.

"...an important work ... sure to be accessible to many interested yogis today." — *San Francisco Book Review*

"This is an excellent introduction to, and a sound scholarly translation of, a foundational text. Andrew J. Nicholson is a first-rate scholar." — Andrew O. Fort, author of *Jivanmukti in Transformation: Embodied Liberation in Advaita and Neo-Vedanta*

Andrew J. Nicholson is Associate Professor of Asian and Asian American Studies at Stony Brook University, State University of New York. He is the author of *Unifying Hinduism: Philosophy and Identity in Indian Intellectual History*.

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