

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910153564503321
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Titolo	Polemics and Patronage in the City of Victory : Vyasatirtha, Hindu Sectarianism, and the Sixteenth-Century Vijayanagara Court / / Valerie Stoker
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oakland, California, : University of California Press, 2016 Berkeley, CA : , : University of California Press, , [2016] ©2016
ISBN	9780520965461 0520965469
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xiii, 212 pages) : illustrations, maps
Collana	South Asia across the disciplines
Disciplina	294.50954/809031
Soggetti	Hinduism and state - India - Vijayanagar (Empire) - History - 16th century Electronic books. Vijayanagar (Empire) Religion 16th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Abbreviations -- Note on Transliteration and Translation -- 1. Hindu Sectarianism and the City of Victory -- 2. Royal and Religious Authority in Sixteenth-Century Vijayanagara: A Mahdhipati at Kadevarya's Court -- 3. Sectarian Rivalries at an Ecumenical Court: Vysatrtha, Advaita Vednta, and the Smrta Brahmins -- 4. Allies or Rivals? Vysatrtha's Material, Social, and Ritual Interactions with the rvaivas -- 5. The Social Life of Vednta Philosophy: Vysatrtha's Polemics against Viidvaita Vednta -- 6. Hindu, Ecumenical, Sectarian: Religion and the Vijayanagara Court -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	"How did the patronage activities of the Vijayanagara Empire (c. 1346-1565) influence Hindu sectarian identities? Contrary to most portraits of the empire as a Hindu bulwark against Islamic incursion from the north or as a religiously ecumenical state, in Polemics and Patronage in the City of Victory, Valerie Stoker argues that the Vijayanagara court

was selective in its patronage of religious institutions. But the motivations behind this selectivity were not always religious. To understand the dynamic interaction between religious and royal institutions in this period, she focuses on the career of the Hindu intellectual and monastic leader Vyasatirtha. An agent of the state and a powerful religious authority, Vyasatirtha played an important role in expanding the empire's economic and social networks. By examining Vyasatirtha's polemics against rival sects in the context of his work for the empire, Stoker provides a remarkably nuanced picture of the relationship between religious identity and socio-political reality under Vijayanagara rule"--Provided by publisher.
