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Autore	Stoker Valerie <1969->
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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: Vysatirtha, Advaita Vednta, and the Smrta Brahmins -- 4. Allies or Rivals? Vysatirtha's Material, Social, and Ritual Interactions with the rvaivas -- 5. The Social Life of Vednta Philosophy: Vysatirtha'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 Vyasa<sup>1</sup>tirtha. An agent of the state and a powerful religious authority, Vyasa<sup>1</sup>tirtha played an important role in expanding the empire's economic and social networks. By examining Vyasa<sup>1</sup>tirtha'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.

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