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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title page; Copyright page; Contents; List of Figures; Preface; Part I: Introductory Material; 1: Religion; "Religion" and the Religions; 2: Language; Part II: The Confucian Tradition; 3: Defining "Religion"; The Confucian Response; Confucian Cultures in East Asia; The Confucian Program; 4: The Religious Dimensions of Confucianism; 5: The Self as a Center of Relationships; Lasting Relationships; The five relationships are hierarchical from top to bottom; The five relationships are hierarchical from left to right; 6: Learning to Be Human Survey 1 The Confucian Values of Li ( ) and Ren ( )7: The Lasting Influence of Confucianism in Modern East Asia; Education as a Primary Indicator of Social Status and Achievement; The Reluctance to Adopt Democratic Institutions, an Uncritical Acceptance of Political Authority, Conservatism in Politics and Economics; Filial Piety, Active Participation of Parents in Children's Affairs, Support of Parents in Old Age, Strong Extended Family Identity Persistence of Filial Piety as an Abiding Cultural Value, though under Threat from New Family Models, Declining Marriage and Birth Rates, and Economic Changes Self-Sacrifice for the Benefit of Others and the Rejection of Western Individualism, Privacy, and Self-Interest: An Ethic of Conformity; Public Support for the Arts and Civil Religion; Hospitality, Social Grace, Emphasis on Social Identity; Confucian

Fundamentalism and the "National Studies Craze"; Part III: The Taoist Tradition; 8: What Is Taoism?; Philosophical Taoism; Yin-Yang Cosmology; 9: Philosophical Taoism  
Major Themes of Philosophical Taoism Anti-Confucianism; Uselessness (wuyong, ); Naturalness and spontaneity (ziran, ); Non-action (wuwei, ); Intuition; Transmutability (hua ); The "Uncarved Block" (pu, ); 10: Temporal Dimensions of Yin-Yang Cosmology; The Beginning of Time; The Ritual Calendar; 11: Spatial Dimensions of Yin-Yang Cosmology; Fengshui; Chinese "Elemental" Theory; Spatial Dimensions of Liturgical Taoism; 12: Personal Dimensions of Yin-Yang Cosmology; The Self as a Psychosomatic Whole; Yin-Yang Souls and Spirits; Taoist Long Life and Immortality  
Survey 2 Principles of Philosophical and Religious Taoism 13: Taoism as a Global Religious Phenomenon; Taoism as a World Religion; Part IV: The Hindu Tradition; 14: What Is Hinduism?; The Three Margas; The Bhagavad Gita; The Three Margas as Religious Discipline (Yoga); 15: Karma-marga; Action and Its Consequences; Varna-asrama-dharma; Karma-marga; 16: Jnana-marga; The puruarthas; Moksha as Unity with Brahman; 17: Bhakti-marga; Krishna: Knowing Brahman in Human Form; Shiva: Knowing Brahman through Mystical Union; Survey 3 Religious Attitudes Based on Hindu Worldviews  
18: Hinduism in the Modern World

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Sommario/riassunto

This lively introduction offers a complete overview of the main Asian religions, their traditions and contemporary relevance, and how they are lived and practiced today. Provides readers with an all-embracing introduction to Asian religions, covering each of the main traditions in a style that is lively and distinctive Focuses on Asian religions as lived and practiced by real people, leading readers to a deeper understanding of Asian spiritualities and traditions, and their contemporary relevance Uses exercises, activities, and an appealing mixture of examples

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