1. Record Nr. UNINA9910464759003321 Autore Collins Brian (Brian H.) Titolo The head beneath the altar: Hindu mythology and the critique of sacrifice / / Brian Collins Pubbl/distr/stampa East Lansing:,: Michigan State University Press,, [2014] ©2014 **ISBN** 1-60917-406-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (321 p.) Collana Studies in violence, mimesis, and culture series Disciplina 294.5/34 Soggetti Hindu mythology Sacrifice - Hinduism Violence - Religious aspects - Hinduism Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Contents; Acknowledgments; Introduction; Rivalries; Priests and Kings, Oaths and Duels; Epic Variations on a Mimetic Theme; Meaning: The Secret Heart of the Sacred; Yajnanta: The End of Sacrifice; Notes; Bibliography; Index Sommario/riassunto In the beginning, says the ancient Hindu text the Rg Veda, was man. And from man's sacrifice and dismemberment came the entire world. including the hierarchical ordering of human society. The Head Beneath the Altar is the first book to present a wide-ranging study of Hindu texts read through the lens of Rene Girard's mimetic theory of the sacrificial origin of religion and culture. For those interested in Girard and comparative religion, the book also performs a careful reading of Girard's work, drawing connections between his thought and the work

of theorists like George