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Quran: Muhammad the Prophet""; ""The Quran: Revelation, the People of the Book""; ""The Quran: The Mushaf""; ""Hadith: The Six Sound Collections""; ""Sharia and the Life of Muhammad: ibn Ishaq, Sirat Rasul Allah""; ""AlGhazali: Ihya 'Ulum udDin, Munqidh mm adDalal""; ""Sufis""; ""The Poets of Persia: Farid, Sa'di, Hafiz, Jami, Rumi""; ""4 ZOROASTRIANS ANP PARSIS""
 ""Zarathustra: Gathas, Yasna, Avesta""""5 INDIA""; ""The Vedas""; ""Upanishads and Agamas""; ""Sutras: Badarayana's Vedanta Sutra, Patanjali's Yoga Sutra""; ""Dharmasutras and Dharmashastras: Manusmriti""; ""The Epics: Ramayana and Mahabharata""; ""Puranas: Bhagavata Purana""; ""The Song of the Lord: Bhagavadgita""; ""The Love of God: Gitagovinda""; ""The Love of God: Alvars and Nayanars""; ""Taritra: Shrividya""; ""The Gitas: Anugita, Ishvaragita and Devigita""; ""The Sants: Kabir""; ""6 SIKHS""; ""Guru Nanak: Japji and Mul Mantra""
 ""The Gurus: Adi Granth, Guru Granth Sahib and Dasam Granth""""7 JAINS""; ""Agamas, Suttas and Tattvartha Sutra""; ""8 BUDDHISM (for Buddhism in Korea, see Korea)""; ""The Buddha: The First and Final Addresses""; ""Sacred Texts of Buddhists: The Pali Canon and the Canons of Tibet, China and Japan""; ""Lives of the Buddha: Jatakas, Buddhacarita and Lalitavistara""; ""The Sangha: Vinaya Pitaka, Dhammapada""; ""Dharma/Dhamma: Abhidhamma, Visuddhimagga, MilindapaA±ha""; ""Mahayana: Sutras""; ""Perfection of Wisdom: Ashtasahasrika Sutra, The Diamond-Cutter Sutra, The Heart Sutra, and Nagarjuna""
 ""Yogacara: Lankavatara Sutra, Asanga and Vasubandhu""

Sommario/riassunto

Grand in its sweep, this survey of the sacred writings of the major religions of the world offers a thoughtful introduction to the ideas and beliefs upon which great faiths are built. Under the expert guidance of John Bowker, a religious scholar and author of international stature, readers explore the key texts of Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Jain, Sikh, Buddhist, Parsi, Confucian, Daoist, and Shinto traditions. The author discusses some 400 books, among them such well-known sacred texts as the Bible and the Quran, but also spiritual writings by theologians, philosophers, poets, and others. Bowker provides clear and illuminating commentary on each text, describing the content and core tenets of the work and quoting pertinent passages. He also sets the writings in religious and historical contexts, showing how they have influenced--and in many cases continue to influence--artistic, musical, literary, and political traditions. "The Message and the Book" is essential reading for anyone who wishes to understand the meaning and the deep significance of primary religious texts of civilizations around the globe.