## Contents

List	of Illustrations	VII
Pref	face	ix
Acknowledgments		xi
1	Introduction	1
	Related Approaches "Higher" Traditions in General	10
	The Theory	11
	Using the Theory	16
	Common Themes	21
	The Order of Description	21
	Further Reading	25
	Notes	25
2	Vedas and Vedanta	27
	Indus Valley Ideas	31
	South Asian Texts and Sects	36
	Translation Issues	39
	The Vedas	42
	The Upanishads	51
	Organizations, Personnel, and Constituency of Vedanta	57
	Conclusion	57 =7
	Further Reading Notes	57 58
_		
3	Jain and Buddhist Traditions	59
	The Jain Tradition The Buddhist Tradition	60 67
	Buddhist Ethics: The Middle Way	71
	Conclusion	71 79
	Further Reading	81
	Notes	81
	Hindu Traditions	83
•	Hinduism, Hindu Society, and Caste	83
	Sikhism: Living Bhakti	101
	Conclusion	114
	Further Reading	115
	Notes	116

vi Contents

5	China's Main Religions	117
	Taoism	118
	Confucianism	129
	Legalism	135
	Buddhism in China	137
	Conclusion	144
	Further Reading	144
	Notes	144
6	Japan's Religious Traditions	147
	Background	147
	Shinto	151
	Japanese Buddhist Sects	155
	Zen	158
	Bushido	161
	Conclusion	162
	Further Reading	162
	Notes	162
7	Conclusion	163
	Religion and Social Development	164
	Religion and Ethics	165
	Final Thought	168
Bibliography		169
Index		173
About the Author		177
About the Author		1//