

Twentieth Century Religious Thought Library

Leading scholarly and curated resource for the study of 20th century religious thinkers

Twentieth Century Religious Thought Library covers over 200 leading thinkers and writers, offering scholarly and curated selections of foundational writings, contextual monographs, video, and archival content. Unique analytical software and indexing facilitate deep scholarship; 75 percent of the materials are in English, making them accessible across the curriculum.

Volumes on Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and Eastern Religions are now available. At completion, the series will comprise more than 450,000 pages, 900 monographs, and 10,000 archival items. The printed materials are rekeyed to more than 99.99% accuracy, while the interface allows in-depth word pattern analysis and data mining, as well as the ability to search using Arabic script and Hebrew.

Key primary and secondary sources allow students to explore the impact these thinkers have had in sociology, history, politics, literature, and other disciplines:

Christianity

- Hans Urs von Balthasar
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- Sergius Bulgakov
- Helder Camara
- James Hal Cone
- Mary Daly
- Ivone Gebara
- Gustavo Gutierrez
- Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz
- Bernard Lonergan
- Reinhold Niebuhr
- Mercy Amba Oduyoye
- Rosemary Radford Ruether
- Jon Sobrino
- John Howard Yoder

Islam

- Khaled Abou el Fadl
- Sadiq Jalal Al-Azm
- Ismail al-Faruqi
- Sayyid Ahmad Khan
- Abdullahi Ahmed An-Na'im
- Nimat Hafez Barazangi
- Asma Barlas
- Farid Esack
- Abdou Filali-Ansary
- Hans Küng
- Said Nursi
- Abdolkarim Soroush
- Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri
- Rifā'ah Rāfi' Ṭaḥṭāwī
- Amina Wadud

Judaism

- Eugene Borowitz
- Zachary Braiterman
- Elliott Dorff
- Emil L. Fackenheim
- Neil Gillman
- Blu Greenberg
- David Hartman
- Louis Jacob
- Mordecai Kaplan
- Harold Kasimow
- Adolf Neubauer
- Ira F. Stone
- Jacob Neusner
- Hava Tirosh-Samuelson
- Joseph B. Soloveitchik

Eastern Religions

- Swami Abhedananda
- Helen Josephine Baroni
- Bötrül
- Sandy Boucher
- Chöngsan
- Wendy Doniger
- Thich Nhat Hanh
- K. N. Jayatilleke
- Sister Nivedita
- Nyanatiloka
- Prayadh Payutto
- Anantanand Rambachan
- Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
- Sīlācāra
- Alan Watts



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Volume I: Christianity

TWENTIETH CENTURY RELIGIOUS THOUGHT: VOLUME I, CHRISTIANITY shares the voices of more than 50 theologians across Europe, North America, Asia, and Latin America, including extensive representation of feminist theologians and other previously marginalized figures. Created with scholars in mind, the collection couples the original materials with complementary resources, including meaningful interfaith writings and scholarly analysis of archival texts.

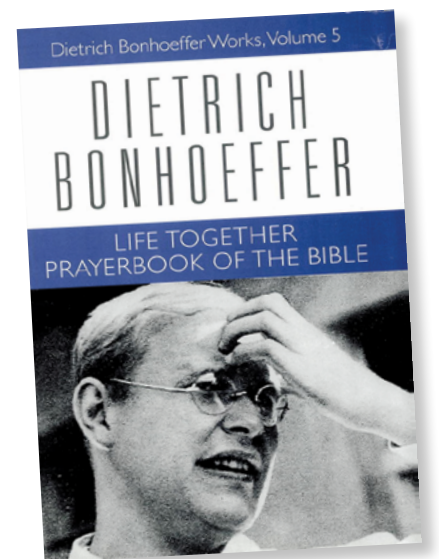
With 150,000 pages of scholarship, this resource gives students and scholars unprecedented access to the diverse ideas that have shaped understandings of Christianity across history. For the first time, researchers can search across hundreds of fully digitized documents to instantly compare how theories, denominations, and cultural groups have intersected, differed, and influenced one another. In addition to English-language texts and translations, the collection will also grow to include works in French, Spanish, German, and other native languages.

Key Thinkers and Works

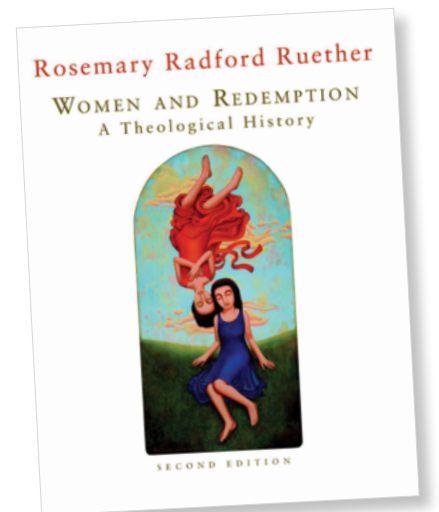
- The writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, leading figure in the Protestant fight against Nazism, whose works are available for the first time together in both English and German.
- Nearly the complete works of Hans Urs Von Baltasar, including the series *Theo-Drama*, *Theo-Logic*, and *Glory of the Lord: A Theological Aesthetics*.
- Personal papers of Reinhold Niebuhr, online exclusively in this collection.
- Texts penned by Pope Benedict XVI (Joseph Ratzinger), including *Church, Ecumenism and Politics: New Endeavors in Ecclesiology*, and *Truth and Tolerance: Christian Belief and World Religion*.
- The writings of Rosemary Radford Ruether, noted American feminist theologian and author of *Women and Redemption: A Theological History*.
- Works from James Hal Cone, including *A Black Theology of Liberation* and *God of the Oppressed*.
- Writings of Peruvian theologian Gustavo Gutierrez, considered the father of liberation theology.

Central Themes

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|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| • Catholicism | • Liberation Theology | • Systematic Theology |
| • Dialectical Theology | • Lutheranism | • Theocentric Theology |
| • Evangelicalism | • Protestantism | |



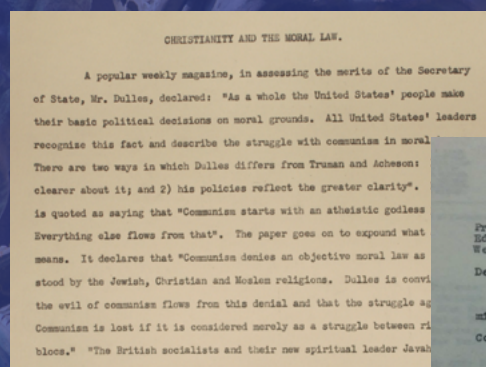
Life Together: Prayerbook of the Bible by Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Women and Redemption: A Theological History by Rosemary Radford Ruether

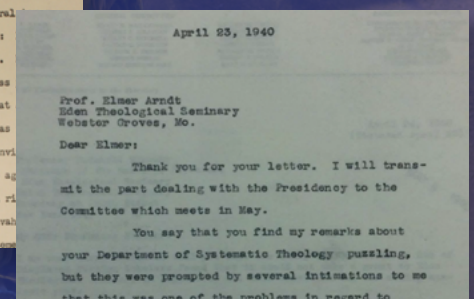
Featured Materials in Volume I, Christianity: Reinhold Niebuhr Papers, 1907-1990

Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971) was a reformed theologian, philosopher, and author. His collection digitized from the Library of Congress, includes correspondence, speeches, sermons, lectures, articles, book reviews, typescripts of books and articles, family papers, subject files, biographical material, bibliographies, photographs, and memorabilia reflecting Niebuhr's influence on twentieth-century theology, politics, and society and his efforts to apply religious and ethical standards to modern social and political problems including labor and race relations.



Paper titled *Christianity and the Moral Law*. Written by Niebuhr in 1953.

Correspondence: Reinhold Niebuhr to Elmer Arndt, April 23, 1940.



Volume II: Islam

VOLUME II, ISLAM is an extensive research database of the most influential thinkers of modern Islamic theology and tradition. This volume is complete with 109,000 pages of foundational texts and contextual monographs from the late 19th century to the 2010s.

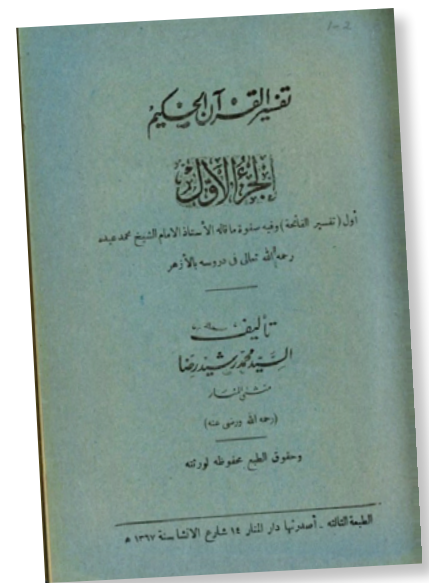
About 95% of the collection's key thinkers and authors are Muslims who come from Egypt, Gambia, India, Iraq, Iran, Morocco, Pakistan, Syria, Tanzania, and Turkey. Included are international selections of English, Arabic, and French editions of the writings.

Key Thinkers and Works

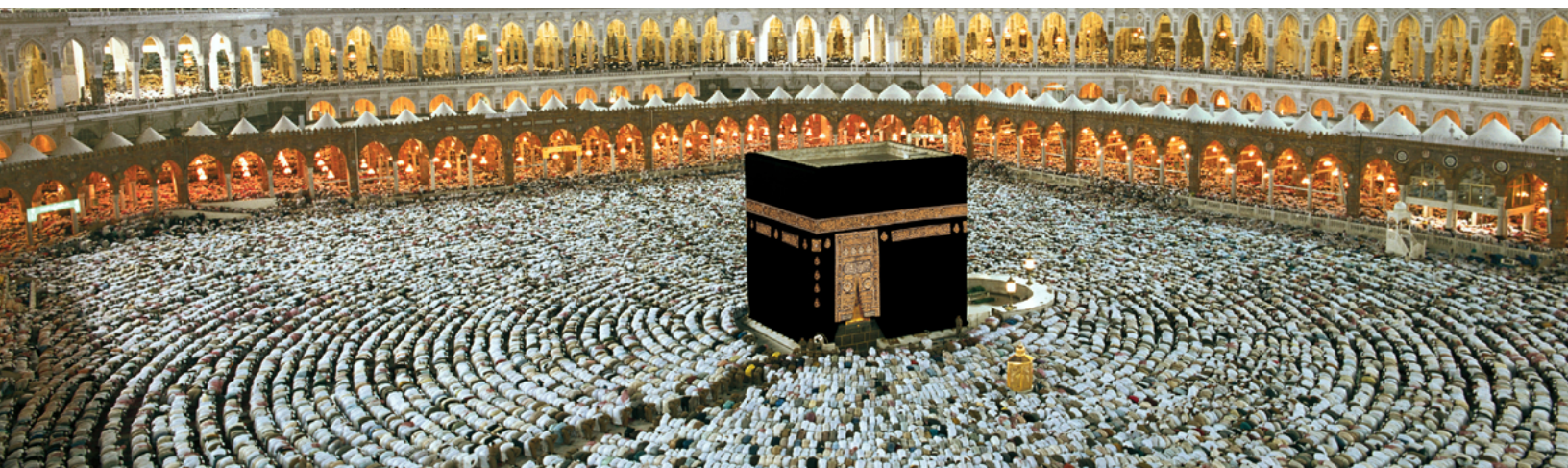
- The eight-volume work, *Interpretation of the Koran*, by Rashid Rida and Muhammad Abduh, early Islamic reformers who went on to lay the groundwork for the idea of the "Islamic State."
- Several works by the controversial Turkish cleric and former Imam Fethullah Gülen, founder of the Gülen movement, including *The Essentials of the Islamic Faith*, *The Messenger of God: Muhammad*, *Reflections on the Qur'an: Commentaries on Selected Verses*, *The Statue of Our Souls: Revival in Islamic Thought and Activism*, and more.
- Works by Chandra Muzaffar, the Malaysian Islamic reformist and activist, including *Universality of Islam*.
- Contributions of Sadiq Jalal Al-Azm, a Syrian author with a focus on the relationship of the Islamic World to the West and whose works include *On Fundamentalisms*, *Islam: Submission and Disobedience*, *Is Islam Secularizable?* and *Challenging Political and Religious Taboos*.
- Over forty books from the Islamic Foundation including *The Duties of Brotherhood in Islam*, *Inner Dimensions of Islamic Worship*, and *Pioneers of Islamic Scholarship*.
- The forty volume set of *The History of al-Ṭabarī* by SUNY Press. Completed in 1999 by a distinguished group of Arabists and historians of Islam, the annotated translation of *The History of al-Ṭabarī* is arguably the most celebrated chronicle produced in the Islamic lands on the history of the world and the early centuries of Islam.

Central Themes

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| • Islam and the West | • Political Islam | • Text and Reason |
| • Islamic Law and Legal Reforms | • Qu'ran and Hadith | • The State |
| • Piety Movements | • Salafi Thought | • Tradition and Renewal |
| | • Sufism | • Women and Islam |



Interpretation of the Koran by Rashid Rida and Muhammad Abduh



Volume III: Judaism

VOLUME III, JUDAISM expands the series to include 100,000 pages of the most important works and primary sources that document the evolution of Judaism from the 1890s-2010s.

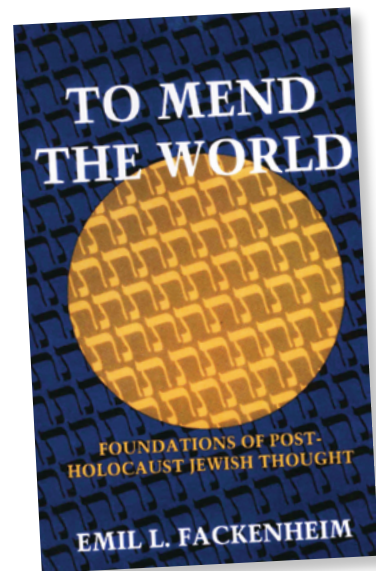
This collection contains a curated selection of unpublished primary sources, coupled with key in-copyright or difficult-to-find texts and authors. It addresses the specific needs of scholars and students of Judaism and other religions, while broadening the value of the complete Twentieth Century Religious Thought Library. Featured contributors include the National Library of Israel, Jewish Publications Society (University of Nebraska Press), and more.

Key Thinkers and Works

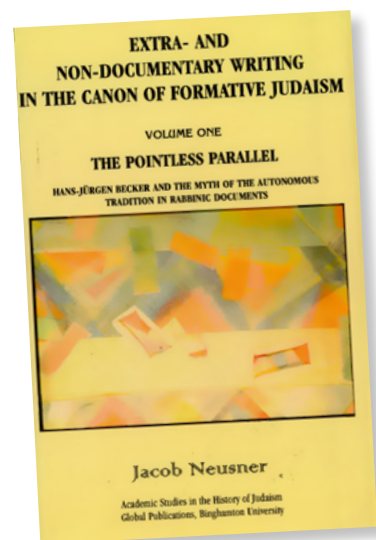
- Works by Jacob Neusner, academic scholar of Judaism and one of the most published authors in history. Some works include: *Extra- and Non-Documentary Writing in the Canon of Formative Judaism, Vols. I-III*, *Judaism and Story: The Evidence of The Fathers According to Rabbi Nathan*, and *Comparative Hermeneutics of Rabbinic Judaism Vols I-VIII*.
- Works by Mordecai Kaplan, rabbi, essayist and Jewish educator and the co-founder of Reconstructionist Judaism, including *Judaism as a Civilization: Toward a Reconstruction of American-Jewish Life* and *The Purpose and Meaning of Jewish Existence*.
- Works related to post-holocaust studies by Emil Ludwig Fackenheim (*To Mend the World: Foundations of Post-Holocaust Jewish Thought* and *The Jewish Bible After the Holocaust: A Re-reading*), Berel Lang (*Post-Holocaust: Interpretation, Misinterpretation, and the Claims of History*), Zachary Braiterman (*[God] After Auschwitz: Tradition and Change in Post-Holocaust Jewish Thought*).
- Works by women; for example authors Blu Greenberg (*On Women and Judaism: A View from Tradition*) and Hava Tirosh-Samuelson (*Women and Gender in Jewish Philosophy*).

Central Themes

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|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| • Conservative Judaism | • Jewish Mysticism | • Rabbinic Judaism |
| • Holocaust Studies | • Kabbalah | • Reform Judaism |
| • Jewish Identity | • Midrash | • Talmud |
| • Jewish Law and Ethics | • Orthodox Judaism | • Zionism |



To Mend the World by Emil L. Fackenheim



Extra- and Non-Documentary Writing in the Canon of Formative Judaism, Volume One by Jacob Neusner

Featured Materials in Volume III, Judaism: The Markus Brann Archive

Mordechai Markus Brann (1849–1920) was a leading figure in the Science of Judaism. He taught at the Jewish Theological Seminary in Breslau, was one of the editors of the influential *Monatsschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums*, and made intensive efforts to research Jewish history from archival sources. His large research network finds expression in his vast correspondence with hundreds of other researchers, rabbis, and philosophers, which was permanently deposited at the National Library of Israel shortly before World War II and is included in our collection for the first time in its entirety, upon completion.



Alexander, Simon (1890–1918). [1 Karte (9.1890)]. Markus Brann Archive 1847–1924, The National Library of Israel Archive Department.

Albeck, Schulem (1909–1912). [1 Karte (20.9.1909, Frankfurt am Main), 1 Visitenkarte (12.11.1912, Warschau), alle hebr. geschrieben]. Markus Brann Archive, 1847–1924, The National Library of Israel Archives Department.



Volume IV: Eastern Religions

VOLUME IV, EASTERN RELIGIONS includes 100,000 pages of critical texts and primary sources that span the corpus of Eastern religious thought.

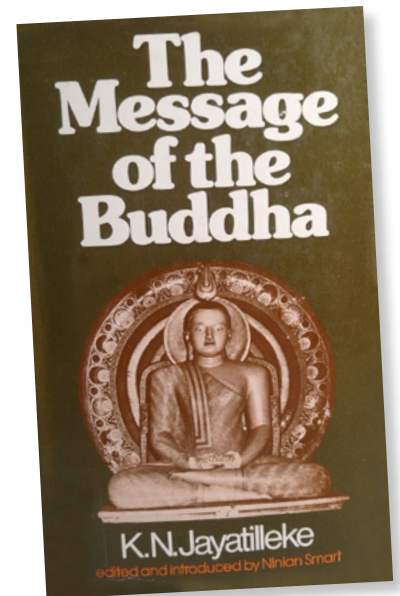
This collection contains selected works across the 19th to 21st century. It is an important resource for students and scholars who wish to expand their religious knowledge to a broader set of non-Western ideology. Content partners include State University of New York Press, Oxford University Press, Oneworld Publications, New World Library, and the Dechen Foundation.

Key Thinkers and Works

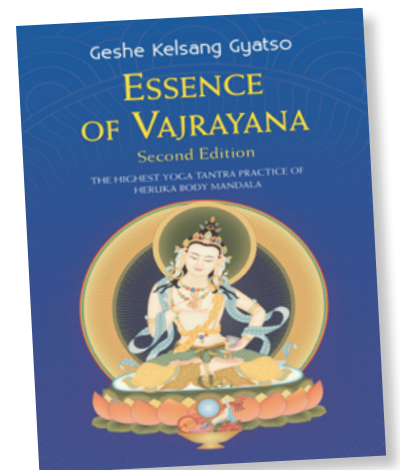
- Alan Watts was a British-American author, writer, and speaker who was known for his interpretation of Eastern philosophies for a Western audience. Courtesy of New World Library, works by Alan Watts in this collection include: *What Is Zen?*, *What is Tao?*, *Still the Mind: An Introduction to Meditation*, and *Eastern Wisdom, Modern Life: Collected Talks, 1960-1969*.
- Writings from Sister Nivedita, an Irish teacher, writer, activist, founder of a school, and disciple of Swami Vivekananda, including *An Indian Study of Love and Death*, *Cradle Tales of Hinduism*, *Footfalls of Indian History*, and *The Master as I Saw Him*.
- Works of Swami Abhedananda, including *Abhedananda in India in 1906*, *An Introduction of Philosophy of Panchadasa*, *How to be a Yogi*, and *India and Her People*.
- Several works by Geshe Kelsang Gyatso, Buddhist monk, meditation teacher, scholar, and author. Including: *Guide to the Bodhisattva's Way of Life* and *Essence of Vajrayana*, *Universal Compassion: Inspiring Solutions for Difficult Time*.
- Contemporary Religions in Japan published by the International Institute for the Study of Religions, Nanzan University (1960-1970) was a scholarly English-language journal dedicated to discussing and understanding religion in Japan.

Central Themes

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|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Compassion | • Karma | • Philosophy |
| • Dharma | • Maya | • Samsara (Reincarnation) |
| • Dhyana (Meditation) | • Metaphysics & Cosmology | • Vajrayāna |
| • Enlightenment | • Mindfulness | • Vedas-Upainishads |
| • Esoteric | | • Zen |



The Message of the Buddha by K.N. Jayatilleke



Essence of Vajrayana by Geshe Kelsang Gyatso



Volume V: Religion in Video

VOLUME V, RELIGION IN VIDEO offers a curated selection of videos covering various global religions such as Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, and more.

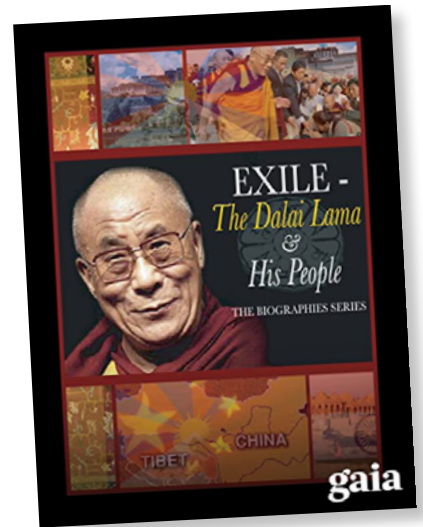
Videos have become a powerful tool for religious education, worship, and outreach, allowing scholars and students to explore various religious beliefs, practices, and traditions, showcase religious rituals and ceremonies, and offer spiritual guidance and inspiration. This set of religious films and documentaries will provide students with a deeper understanding of the social and political context surrounding practicing religion in the modern world. It dissects how different faith and belief systems have evolved during the 20th century and how they intertwine with our current daily life, from navigating personal relationships to contemplating our mortality and processing death.

Content Highlights

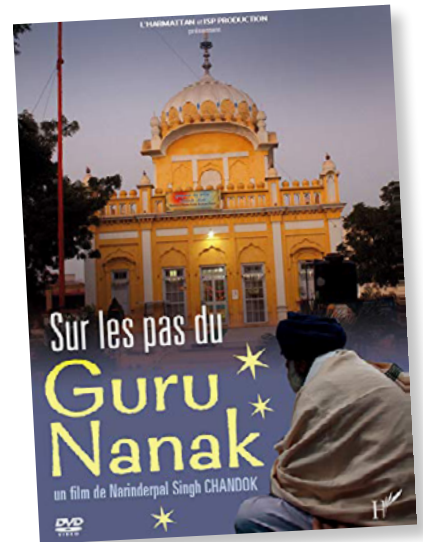
- *Secular People on a Mission*: In this documentary, we share the daily life of several secular people on mission, from their training to their involvement in the field with very different populations, as well as their work in close collaboration with parish priests. They entrust us with their questions, their difficulties, their joys and tell us how, throughout their mission, their Faith never ceases to flourish.
- *Beyond the Pulpit (Rabbi William Kramer)*: A sensitive portrait of one of the most forward-thinking theologians and scholars of his time, Rabbi William Kramer (1920 - 2004).
- *Exile –The Dalai Lama and His People*: This classic documentary tells the Dalai Lama's historic story and focuses on the holy man's attempts to perpetuate the Tibetan culture. We see rare footage of the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala, northern India; witness his trips to refugee camps in India and Pakistan; see examples of the century-old Tibetan tradition of Thangka painting; and gain a comprehensive picture of this holy man's life—in exile.
- *Islam: The Hajj (Saudi Arabia)*: This documentary takes us to Islam's holiest mosque to witness the Fifth Pillar of Islam, a once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage to Makkah (Mecca), Saudi Arabia, the Hajj, a journey that begins on the 8th day of the month of Dhul Hijjah (in the Islamic calendar), and to hear perspectives on the non-radical meaning of Islam from a variety of pilgrims from nations around the world, as well as Muslim leaders.

Central Themes

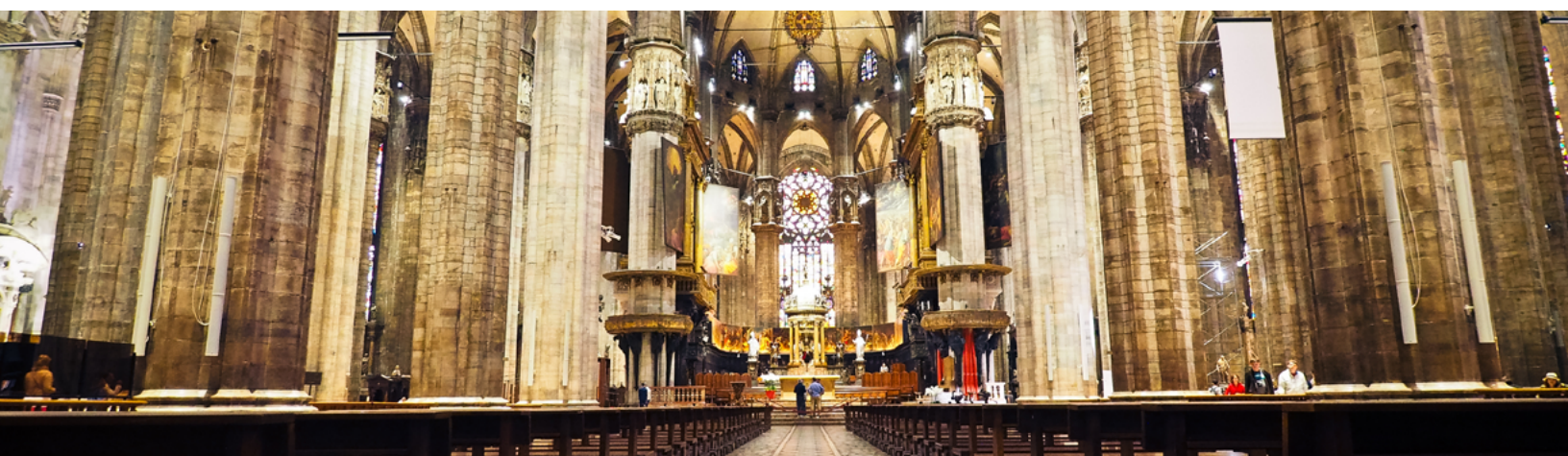
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| • Art | • Festivals | • Pilgrimage |
| • Contemporary Society | • Inter-Faith Dialogue | • Sacred Spaces |
| • Fashion in Religion | • Loss | • Worship |



Exile—The Dalai Lama and His People by Chip Taylor Communications



Sur les pas du Guru Nanak distributed by L'Harmattan



Making Connections

These collections are designed to work together to provide students and scholars with broad opportunities for research across topics and religions.

	Christianity	Islam	Judaism	Eastern Religions
Holocaust and Post-Holocaust	<p>Dietrich Bonhoeffer Works Volume 14, <i>Theological Education at Finkenwalde, 1935–1937</i></p> <p>Michael Signer; David Fox Sandmel; Peter Ochs; David Novak; Tikva Frymer-Kensky (editor), <i>Christianity In Jewish Terms</i></p>	<p>Khaled Abou El Fadl, <i>Speaking in God's Name: Islamic Law, Authority, and Women</i></p> <p>L. Ali Khan, Ramadan, Hisham M., fl. 2004–2011, <i>Contemporary Ijtihad: Limits and Controversies</i></p>	<p>Emil Ludwig Fackenheim:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To Mend the World: Foundations of Post-Holocaust Jewish Thought</i> • <i>The Jewish Bible After the Holocaust: A Re-reading</i> <p>Berel Lang, <i>Post-Holocaust: Interpretation, Misinterpretation, and the Claims of History</i></p> <p>Zachary Braiteman, (God) <i>After Auschwitz: Tradition and Change in Post-Holocaust Jewish Thought</i></p>	<p>Sandy Boucher, <i>Dancing in the Dharma</i></p> <p>Ferdinando Sardella, <i>Modern Hindu Personalism: The History, Life, and Thought of Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati</i></p>
Women and Religion	<p>Mary Daly, <i>Beyond God the Father: Toward a Philosophy of Women's Liberation</i></p> <p>Mercy Amba Oduyoye, <i>Daughters of Anowa: African Women & Patriarchy</i></p> <p>Rosemary Radford Ruether, <i>Women and Redemption: A Theological History, Second Edition</i></p>	<p>Lila Abu-Lughod; Mervat Fayez Hatem; Khaled Fahmy; Marilyn Booth; Omnia El Shakry; Afsāneh Najmābādī; Zohreh T. Sullivan; Deniz Kandiyoti, <i>Remaking Women: Feminism and Modernity in the Middle East</i></p> <p>Khaled Abou El Fadl, <i>Speaking in God's Name: Islamic Law, Authority, and Women</i></p> <p>Fatema Mernissi, <i>The Veil and the Male Elite: A Feminist Interpretation of Women's Rights in Islam [Le harem politique]</i></p>	<p>Dietrich Bonhoeffer Works Volume 14, <i>Theological Education at Finkenwalde, 1935–1937</i></p> <p>Michael Signer; David Fox Sandmel; Peter Ochs; David Novak; Tikva Frymer-Kensky (editor), <i>Christianity In Jewish Terms</i></p>	<p>Sandy Boucher, <i>Dancing in the Dharma</i></p> <p>Ferdinando Sardella, <i>Modern Hindu Personalism: The History, Life, and Thought of Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati</i></p>
Violence	<p>Jon Sobrino, <i>Where is God? Earthquake, Terrorism, Barbarity, and Hope</i></p> <p>Jürgen Moltmann, <i>Ethics of Hope</i></p>	<p>Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, <i>Islamic Curriculum on Peace and Counter Terrorism (For Clerics, Imams and Teachers)</i></p> <p>Khaled Abou El Fadl, <i>The Place of Tolerance in Islam</i></p> <p>Shahin, Emad, <i>Political Ascent: Contemporary Islamic Movements in North Africa</i></p>	<p>Elliot N. Dorff, <i>Jewish Choices, Jewish Voices</i> Volume 5, <i>Jewish Choices, Jewish Voices: War and National Security</i></p> <p>Moshe Halbertal, <i>On Sacrifice</i></p>	<p>James W. Laine, <i>Shivaji: Hindu King in Islamic India</i></p> <p>Alan Watts, <i>Eastern Wisdom, Modern Life: Collected Talks, 1960-1969; The Meaning of Happiness</i></p>

Tools for Learning and Scholarship

Twentieth Century Religious Thought Library enables users to easily contrast texts, discover rare works, and explore new avenues of inquiry. No other digital resource takes scholars so intuitively into this realm of research, whether it's studying the impact of World War II on schools of Christian or Jewish thought, isolating all usages of the phrase "cheap grace" across dozens of texts, or delving into varied perspectives on the Second Vatican Council.

Students and scholars can synthesize multiple perspectives via:

- **Browsing** by type of theology, subject, author, religion, work, person discussed, and more
- **Comparing** conversations within and between schools of thought in a transnational perspective
- **Using archival materials** to critically examine key writings in context, across multiple languages
- **Examining** the nuances of individual religious practice
- **Tracing** how belief systems grew and diversified because of the Great Depression, World War I and World War II, globalization, scientific discovery, and other major world events

Content Partners

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