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Vac: The Concepts of the Word in Selected Hindu Tantras (Sri Garib Dass Oriental Series No. 155)

By Andre Padoux (Author) & Jacques Gontier (Tr.)

Sri Satguru Publications, 1992. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. First edition. 15 x 23 cm. Book is about the power of the Word, conceived as the main and most effective aspect of divine energy. It is the only systematic Study in English of notions concerning the Word (Vac) as these are expounded in the shaiva tantras of Kashmir and in related texts. Padoux first describes the Vedic Origins of these notions, then their development in Texts of different Tantric traditions. He shows how different levels of the Word abide in humans, how these levels are linked to the kundalini, and how they develop into articulate speech and discursive thought. He also describes how the Universe is created out of the letters of the alphabet. The last two chapters explain the powers of Mantras as Sacred ritual utterances. These powers are described as magical as well as religious, because they can achieve Supernatural results as well as lead to salvation. Their uses are linked to yogic mental and bodily practices. Contents: Preface Introduction Chap. 1 : Early Speculations about the Significance and Powers of the Word Chap. 2 : Tantrism - The Texts of Kashmirian Saivism Chap. 3 : The Manifestation of...



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