



Life and Teachings of Adi Sankaracarya

By P. George Victor

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Vedanta is recognised as the leading philosophy of the Vedic tradition. A major proponent of Vedanta was Shankaracarya who laid the basis for the propagation of Vedanta before the beginning of the Middle Ages. His contribution has been so immense and significant that often Vedanta has been interpreted as synonymous with Advaita Vedanta of Shankara. Here, Dr. George Victor attempts to study comprehensively Shankacarya's teachings on Vedanta -- his views on scripture, perception and inference as pramanas or standards of knowledges; his explanations of the relation between Brahman and atman, Brahman and Ishvara, maya and the world; and his concepts of janana marga, karma marga and moksha, among others. The work takes a close look at the date of Shankara and his life and times before plunging into a penetrative study of Shankara's commentaries on the triple texts, the Upanishads, the Brahma-sutra and the Bhagavad-Gita -- the foundations of Vedantic thought. With constant references to Shankara's major and minor works and hymns, and using a simple language that reflects a unique clarity in understanding Shankara's philosophy, it also examines his methodology of...



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