



**ALTRUISM
IN WORLD
RELIGIONS**

**Jacob Neusner
and
Bruce Chilton
Editors**

Altruism In World Religions

Rachel Sandford



Altruism In World Religions:

Altruism in World Religions Suzanne Neusner, Bruce Chilton, 2005-11-08 In 1830 philosopher Auguste Comte coined the term altruism to provide a general definition for the act of selflessly caring for others But does this modern conception of sacrificing one's own interests for the well being of others apply to the charitable behaviors encouraged by all world religions In *Altruism in World Religions* prominent scholars from an array of religious perspectives probe the definition of altruism to determine whether it is a category that serves to advance the study of religion Exploring a range of philosophical and religious thought from Greco Roman *philia* to Judaism Christianity and Islam from Hinduism in India to Buddhism and the religions of China and Japan the authors find that altruism becomes problematic when applied to religious studies because it is in fact a concept absent from religion Chapters on Judaism Christianity and Islam reveal that followers of these religions cannot genuinely perform self sacrificing acts because God has promised to reward every good deed Moreover the separation between the self and the other that self sacrifice necessarily implies runs counter to Buddhist thought which makes no such distinction By challenging our assumptions about the act of self sacrifice as it relates to religious teachings the authors have shown altruism to be more of a secular than religious notion At the same time their findings highlight how charitable acts operate with the values and structures of the religions studied

The Practice of Altruism Ruben Lf Habito, Keishin Inaba, 2008-09 The study of altruism and altruistic behavior has caught the attention of social scientists especially in recent years What motivates individuals to cultivate attitudes and actions that promote the wellbeing of others at the expense of or at the risk of negative consequences for their own In our contemporary global society marked by conflict and violence among different sectors of the population in various regions of the world and wherein religion can be a factor that exacerbates such conflict and violence harnessing the power of religion towards directions of reconciliation creativity and altruistic action remains a crucial task for humankind This volume addresses a question especially relevant in our day do people who profess religious commitment or affiliation in a particular religious community tend to nurture altruistic kinds of attitude and action more than others Social scientists present results of their empirical studies on Japanese society as well as on North American European Indian and Thai societies to focus on this issue and offer insightful reflections on the relationship between religion and society

The Oxford Handbook of Religion and Economic Ethics Albino Barrera, Roy C. Amore, 2024 This innovative collection of essays draws together and compares the teachings of world and regional religions on the subject of economic morality

Christianity and the Roots of Morality, 2017-06-06 What is the role of religion especially Christianity in morality pro social behavior and altruism Are there innate human moral capacities in the human mind When and how did they appear in the history of evolution What is the real significance of Jesus teaching in the Sermon on the Mount does it set up unique moral standards or only crystallize humans innate moral intuitions What is the role of religious teachings and religious communities in pro social behavior *Christianity and the Roots of Morality* Philosophical Early Christian and

Empirical Perspectives casts light on these questions through interdisciplinary articles by scholars from social sciences cognitive science social psychology sociology of religion philosophy systematic theology comparative religion and biblical studies Contributors include Nancy T Ammerman István Czachesz Grace Davie Jutta Jokiranta Simo Knuuttila Kristen Monroe Mika Ojakangas Sami Pihlström Antti Raunio Heikki Rissanen Risto Saarinen Kari Syreeni Lauri Thurén Petri Ylikoski

Encyclopedia of Love in World Religions [2 Volumes] Yudit Kornberg Greenberg, 2008 This is the first comprehensive resource on the subject of love in the teachings of the world's major religions cultures and philosophies Encyclopedia of Love in World Religions is the first reference work to offer a comprehensive portrait of love in the context of the classic and contemporary literature of Judaism Christianity Islam Buddhism and Hinduism as well as other cultures and philosophies Like no volume published to date it reveals the full richness of religious teachings on love in all its many forms exploring an extensive range of topics that offer philosophical psychological and religious perspectives to guide the quest for the meaning of love Encyclopedia of Love in World Religions features approximately 300 subject entries as well as insightful biographic sketches of preeminent thinkers all written by a multidisciplinary team of some of the foremost scholars on the subject Entries examine both general and culture specific interpretations of love not just the dichotomy of spiritual and physical love but the full emotional spectrum of love in relationships and practices Collectively they encompass love's integral and sometimes conflicting role in shaping beliefs and behavior in a vastly diverse world 300 entries covering notions of love that include emotions actions and relationships as expressed in world religions philosophies and cultures Contributions from nearly 200 distinguished international scholars representing diverse religious traditions and cultures A vivid and informative illustration program of classic art drawings and photographs representing love in the full spectrum of the world's spiritual cultures Bibliographies of key sources for each entry with citations from a variety of disciplines religion philosophy history anthropology and more Indexes organized by concepts titles of classic texts and religions

Science and the World's Religions Patrick McNamara Ph.D., Wesley J. Wildman, 2012-07-19 This trio of volumes contains essays that explore vital existential moral or metaphysical issues surrounding the relationship between the sciences and the world's religions In *Science and the World's Religions* experts with scientific and religious backgrounds explore vital existential or practical issues drawing on whatever sciences are relevant and engaging at least two religious traditions The multidisciplinary essays exhibit rigorous intellectual scholarly thinking but are written to clearly communicate to educated adult lay readers The first volume addresses questions about the origins and purpose of the cosmos and the human project The second volume investigates the roles of religion and spirituality in human existence considering issues ranging from the brain and religious experience to the human life cycle The third volume tackles controversies in which both religion and science are stakeholders showing how both can deepen understanding and enrich human experience Together these three books present readers with powerful tools that enable them to think through the challenge of integrating science with their religious beliefs and spiritual

practices Lovesapes, Mapping the Geography of Love Duncan S. Ferguson,2012-12-06 Lovesapes introduces the reader to the various meanings and manifestations of love and its many cognates such as compassion caring altruism empathy and forgiveness It addresses how love and compassion have been understood in history and the religions of the world It goes on to explore the ways that our environments and heredity influence our capacity to love and suggests ways to cultivate love and compassion in one s life The book shows how the values of love and compassion are integral to finding humane solutions to the daunting problems we face as individuals as a human family and as an earth community a world in crisis Lovesapes has the following features Describing how love is the essence of the divine and therefore the ground of reality Understanding the meaning of love and its place in our lives Learning how love and compassion have been understood across history culture and tradition Gaining insight about how to increase our capacity to love and show compassion Discerning how love and compassion can be applied in all aspects of our lives in the regions where we live and in our global setting **The Heart of Religion** Matthew T. Lee,Margaret M. Poloma,Stephen G. Post,2013-01-10 Drawing on a random survey of 1 200 men and women across the United States this book sheds new light on how Americans wake up to the reality of divine love and how that transformative experience expresses itself in concrete acts of benevolence **Expert Humans** Michael Jenkins,2021-03-09 Expert Humans Critical Leadership Skills for a Disrupted World examines the critical leadership concepts of Altruism Compassion and Empathy ACE and their application to the great disruptors of today **Effective Altruism and Religion** Dominic Roser,Stefan Riedener,Markus Huppenbauer,2022-01-04 A new movement is on the scene effective altruism the combination of love and efficiency making the world a better place not just with a bleeding heart and empathy but with a radical focus on reason and evidence and never losing sight of the goal of maximal impact Its adherents typically stem from strongly secular environments such as elite philosophy departments or Silicon Valley So far a religious perspective on this movement has been lacking What can people of faith learn from effective altruism how can they contribute and what must they criticise This volume offers a first examination of these questions providing both a Buddhist and an Orthodox Jewish perspective on them in addition to various Christian contributions **First Things** ,2006-06 Altruism in Cross-Cultural Perspective Douglas A. Vakoch,2013-05-16 Altruism in Cross Cultural Perspective provides such a scholarly overview examining the intersection of culture and such topics as evolutionary accounts of altruism and the importance of altruism in ritual and religion The past decade has seen a proliferation of research on altruism made possible in part by significant funding from organizations such as the John Templeton Foundation While significant research has been conducted on biological social and individual dimensions of altruism there has been no attempt to provide an overview of the ways that altruistic behavior and attitudes vary across cultures The book addresses the methodological challenges of researching altruism across cultures as well as the ways that altruism is manifest in difficult circumstances A particular strength of the book is its attention to multiple disciplinary approaches to understanding altruism with contributors from fields including

psychology anthropology sociology biology communication philosophy religious studies gender studies and bioethics The World's Congress of Religions John Wesley Hanson, 1894 *A History of the World's Religions* David S. Noss, Blake R. Grangaard, 2008 Refined by over forty years of dialogue and correspondence with religious experts and practitioners around the world this text is widely regarded as the hallmark of fairness and accuracy in its field It is also the most comprehensive history of world religions available in a single volume treating many subjects largely neglected in other texts from publisher description **The Report on the World Religion Congress** Ananaikyō, 1955 **The Philosophy of Religion** George Trumbull Ladd, 1909 **Humanisation of the World Religions** G. B. Gupta, S. K. Banerji, 2001 Here We Have Presented A Number Of Research Papers Of Eminent Scholars Emphasizing On Theoretical Conception And Practical Implication Of Humanistic Approach In World Religions Acceptance Of The Oneness Of Mankind Is The First Fundamental Prerequisite For Reorganization Of The World Religions Humanism Is A Continual Effort On The Part Of Man To Redeem Himself As A Creature Of Rich Potentiality An Endeavour That Is Directed Towards Making Man In Its Most Comprehensive Sense In All Phases Of Historical Development Humanism Has Had To Reckon With Forces Of Factors That Have Been Subversive Of Its Characteristic Thrust Towards The Betterment Of The Human Condition The World's Congress of Religions C. M. Stevans, 1894 **Some Latter-day Religions** George Hamilton Combs, 1899 **The World's Congress of Religions**, 1893

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