Review: Rabindranath R. Maharaj, *Death of a Guru*, Hodder and Stoughton, London, 1978 (2004 edn.)

Pages: 199

Insight Right From an Ex-Hindu's Mouth

The author gives his experience as a real Hindu guru, who upon confrontation with Christianity and its truth claims had to admit he was born and raised in a false religion.

While there are useful technical details of Hinduism for the apologist, these are incidental to the author's testimony which exposes the horrible realities of this religion. A glossary at the end helps to fuse these experiences to key Hindu doctrines.

A strong element is the author's steadfast belief in Jesus, especially whilst ministering in spiritually regressing Europe, which exchanged truth for the lies of new age and eastern mysticism.

An invaluable story to help understand and therefore witness the truth to Hindus living in spiritual darkness.

<u>Prologue</u> (pp. 9-11)

Millions of Hindus had to flee Pakistan after Partition.

I) A Brahmin's Roots (pp. 13-24)

Rabi's Brahmin father renounced speaking so he never heard his voice. He would sit in a lotus position with both feet turned up on top of the knees, passing his days in meditation and reading scripture, also chanting mantras.

Mantras are a means to attract deities.

Krishna instructs devotees to give up all attachments and so achieve *moksha*.

Duty to family and caste is sacred in Hinduism.

Sandalwood paste is used on statues.

Rabi's family selected some gods of the millions as their deities.

Rabi was a Brahmin, a representative on earth of Brahman, the One True Reality.

The Gita says Krishna created yoga.

Wife-beating is common in Hinduism.

Hindu families often have fifteen to twenty people living in a house.

Rabi's uncle Nana sacrificed his first son to Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity in his native Trinidad. Nana prized occult power and had a small white stone used to heal and curse stored in an iron safe.

Snakes are gods to the Hindus.

II) Death of an Author (pp. 25-31)

Hinduism is taught as the oldest and only true religion.

Brahmins are thought descendants light-skinned Aryans.

Hindu cremations are meant to invoke the fire god Agni who would release the spirit from the body and escort it to regions beyond into Krishna's hands. Hindu ashes are carried across the globe to be dumped in the Ganges.

III) Ashes on the Ganges (pp. 32-44)

Cows are gods and holy due to an ancient sage who saw a star formation which looked like one. They are called "Mother".

Hindus wonder why they have no recollection of past lives.

Hindus worship their father's spirit.

Seeing a bird after his father's death lead Rabi to believe he reincarnated as a bird.

A dog ate the food offering for Uncle Nana's spirit.

Rabi believed his father would join the other Ascended Masters and help him.

Some Hindu pundits sold Nirvana.

Krishna imposes karma.

IV) Karma and Destiny (pp. 45-54)

Blacks are despised by most Hindus.

Uncle Nana's evil side seemed always to be simmering below the surface.

Hindu mythology has demons administering evil karma.

Rabi's mother was given a Bible in the hospital at Port of Spain and treasured the Psalms.

Nana was an admirer of Ramakrishna, devotee of Kali and teacher of Vivekananda, founder of the Vedanta Society.

Krishna in the Bhagavad Gita says all roads lead to him.

The Vedas said Brahman came from nothing.

Hindu families always consult an astrologer before making an important decision.

Like Islam, Hinduism has five duties (for their "twice-born") or offerings:

-To the gods.

-To the Seers.

-To the forefathers.

-To the lower animals.

-To humanity.

Rabi said a Ridgvedic oath to the sun hundreds of times each day. Mantras are also said to embody deities.

<u>V) Pundit Ji</u> (pp. 55-65)

A guru Brahmacharya said girls were always in Hindu temples and he had full rights to all whenever he pleased.

Jivanmukti is being reunited with Brahman.

Gurus are teachers and needed by Hindus to escape the wheel of reincarnation.

<u>VI) Young Guru</u> (pp. 66-71)

Hanuman was the monkey god who fought the evil Ravana.

The cow Rabi worship for an hour each day one day attacked him

VII) Shiva and I (pp. 72-80)

Shiva was the most feared god and therefore the one worshipped most.

A battered wife is often thought to have been a wife-beater in a past life.

The occult forces of yoga enabled for supernatural manifestations in public.

Gurus use the "Shakti [Kali]-Pat".

The Kali Temple in Calcutta sacrifices sixteen goats every morning.

VIII) Holy Cow! (pp. 81-85)

Brahman himself created the four castes.

Some Hindus advise not to make things logical or scientific.

IX) Rich Man, Poor Man (pp. 86-93)

India is extremely poor with staggering disease and superstition.

The most important thing Krishna taught Arjuna was to practice Yoga.

Beggars are good as they are an honourable way to help Hindus build up good karma by giving.

X) The Unknown God (pp. 94-96)

Nature was Rabi's god.

XI) "And That Thou Art" (pp. 97-102)

There is not one Hindu god Hindu's feel they can trust.

Rabi in a rage was one day able to lift up heavy weights as if they were a feather.

XII) Guru Puja (pp. 103-111)

XIII) Karma and Grace (pp. 112-117)

XIV) Enlightenment! (pp. 118-121)

XV) Death of a Guru (pp. 122-134)

As a Hindu, Rabi found Bertrand Russell's *Why I Am Not a Christian* weak and contrived.

The half-man half-elephant Ganesha is the son of Shiva and Kali.

Hindu holy men nurse a great deal of hatred in their hearts.

XVI) A New Beginning (pp. 135-147)

There is no concept of forgiveness in Hinduism or in karma.

Uncle Ramchand read from the *Bhagavad Gita* that Krishna once came back as Jesus.

XVII) Reunion and Farewell (pp. 148-155)

The Hindu idols were only masks for demons who kept worshippers in spiritual bondage.

XVIII) Where East Meets West (pp. 156-165)

A man on a drug trip in London was dancing just like Hindu temple girls.

The 70s counterculture was basically Hinduism.

XIX) Dying We Live (pp. 166-175)

A sodomite in Zurich selling himself for drugs strangled Rabi screaming "I'm Satan, Satan is in me!".

XX) New Life (pp. 176-191)

Deliberate Hindu and Buddhist missionaries include Vivekananda, Aurobindo, Shri Chinmoy, and the Dalai Lama.

Mormonism is Hinduism since they too believe in a preexistence, multiple gods, and a rise to godhood.

Epilogue (pp. 192-198)

<u>Glossary</u> (pp. 199-)

Ahimsa is the doctrine of nonviolence which mandates vegetarianism.

Avatar is an incarnation of any god. Hindus are waiting for "Kalki" who will come in about 425,000 years.

Brahma is the first god or Creator, whereas Brahman is all the gods in one.

In Sanskrit caste is "varna" which means colour.

Dharma is the right way of Hindu living that varies for each person.

A guru is a Brahman (god) manifestation. People meditate on guru grave sites.

A janma is a prior life.

The lingam is worshipped in almost every Hindu temple. The Mahabharata is 110,000 couplets and the longest poem in the world. Moksha is unfortunately only a temporary rest as even it resets after 4.32 billion years (!).

Nyasa is the act of calling gods to possess by placing hands on the forehead, arms , and chest.

A pundit is a learned Brahmin.

Vedic is archaic Sanskrit.

Yoga means "yoking" with Brahman and is designed to induce a trance. No part of it can be separated from its philosophy.