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The Hindu Conception of the Functions of Breath; A Study in Early Hindu Psycho-Physics

By Arthur Henry Ewing

Theclassics.us, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1901 edition. Excerpt: . The Hindu Conception of the Functions of Breath.--A Study in Early Hindu Psycho-physics.--By Dr. Arthur H. Ewing, Allahabad, India. INTRODUCTORY AND FUNDAMENTAL. The Yajur-Veda, the Atharva-Veda, the Brahmanas and the Sutras contain frequent references to a number of vital breaths. These are expressed either by the plural of the word prana, or by a series of words, formed by the combination of adverbial prefixes with the root /an to breathe, viz.: prana, apana, vyana, udana, samana, and avana. These vital breaths or pranas are manipulated with especial frequency in connection with ritual practices. The exigencies of the ritual determine what and how many breaths shall be exploited. This exploitation of the pranas attains its most luxuriant form in connection with the building of the great Fire-altar (Agniksetra). The Fire-altar is conceived of under various forms. Sometimes its shape is supposed to be like...



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