



The Arthasastra: Selections from the Classic Indian Work on Statecraft (Hackett Classics)

By Patrick Olivelle, Mark McClish



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The only extant treatise on statecraft from classical India, the *Arthashastra* is an invaluable resource for understanding ancient South Asian political thought; it also provides a comprehensive and unparalleled panoramic view of Indian society during the period between the Maurya (320–185 BCE) and Gupta (320–497 CE) empires.

This volume offers modern English translations of key selections, organized thematically, from the *Arthashastra*. A general Introduction briefly traces the arc of ancient South Asian history, explains the classical Indian tradition of statecraft, and discusses the origins and importance of the *Arthashastra*. Thorough explanatory essays and notes set each excerpt in its intellectual, political, and cultural contexts.

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Editorial Review

Review

"It's of great value to nonspecialists to have this classic work of political theory and political prudence available. This carefully edited and lucidly commented volume will be useful for both research and for courses on the comparative history of politics and civilizations." --Randolph C. Head, University of California, Riverside

The translations are the collaborative product of the two leading authorities today on the *Arthasastra*. . . . Their work is consistently, meticulously accurate throughout, yet written in the most straightforward and direct manner imaginable. The material prefatory to each translated section is, again, clear and accessible. . . . Complex matters are effectively distilled in plain language, and the key issues brought out. Superb on all counts. I have been awaiting such a volume for a long time.

--Timothy Lubin, Washington and Lee University

McClish and Olivelle's general Introduction to the *Arthasastra* is destined to become a classic in the field of South Asian studies; they have translated the text itself in an accessible style that students and general readers alike will comprehend and enjoy. --James Frey, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh

About the Author

Mark McClish is Assistant Professor of Religion at Birmingham-Southern College.

Patrick Olivelle is Professor of Sanskrit and Indian Religions and the Jacob and Frances Sanger Mossiker Chair in the Humanities at the University of Texas at Austin.

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Patricia Baker:

The book untitled The Arthasastra: Selections from the Classic Indian Work on Statecraft (Hackett Classics) contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains the woman idea with easy means. The language is very simple to implement all the people, so do not worry, you can easy to read this. The book was written by famous author. The author provides you in the new period of time of literary works. You can actually read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or model, so you can read the book inside anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can available their official website and also order it. Have a nice read.

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