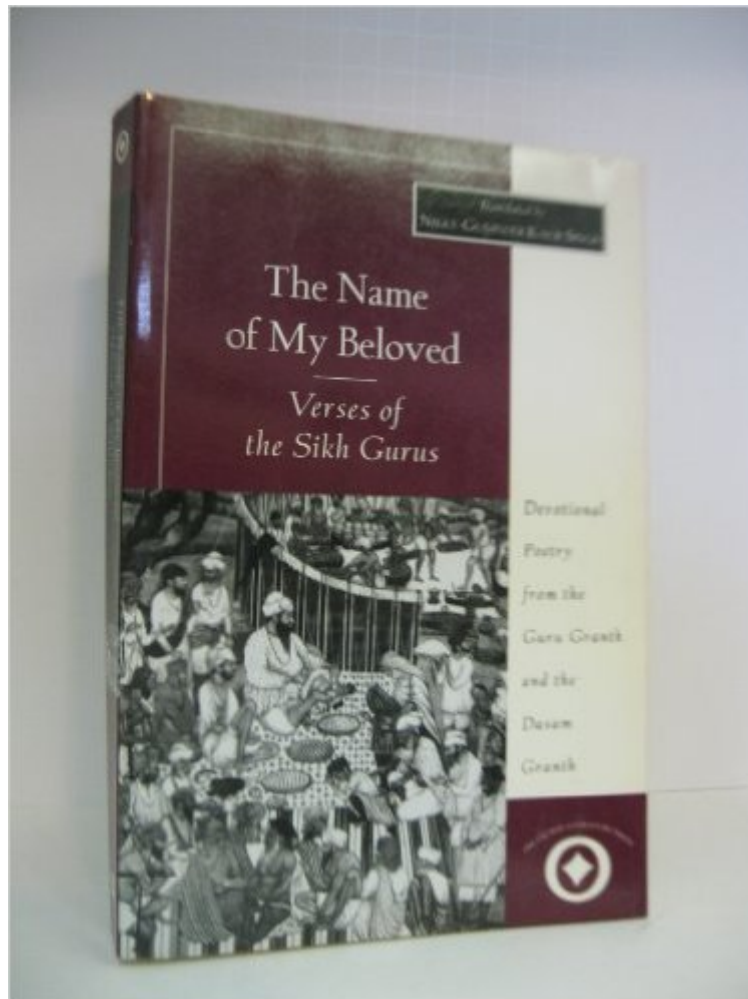


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The Name Of My Beloved: Verses Of The Sikh Gurus (Sacred Literature Series)



Synopsis

Presents selections of hymns and prayers from the Guru Granth Sahib - the principal sacred texts of the Sikhs. Translated into English, this gender-neutral work reflects the rich and inclusive tone of this esoteric Sikh literature.

Book Information

Series: Sacred Literature Series

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (2 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This is a beautiful translation that flows like poetry for the english-speaking person. Here's also one for us girls! At first I wasn't sure about the sound of the translation, but when I became familiar with the rhythm and style of writing, the flow and beauty blossomed to me. It is brilliant to have a gender-neutral translation to read! I find myself becoming absorbed in the meaning of the hymns without constantly being bothered by masculine terms like "Lord", "Him" and "His". I believe Nikky Guninder Kaur Singh has achieved her goal of bringing what is usually translated with very culture-specific idioms to the Western reader in a very prayer-friendly way. It does not stop mid-sentence to explain what a particular word or phrase means and why it has been used thus breaking the meditative reading as other translations do. I can only hope one day for this translation to be made into a beautiful *sundar gutka* (small prayer book). The book contains the following hymns: Japji, Shabad Hazare, Jaap, Savayye, Rehiras including Chaupai Benati, Kirtan Sohila, Lavan, Barah Maha, Shaloks of the Ninth Guru and Sukhmani (yes, the entire Sukhmani!). Also contains Ardas. I would highly recommend this book to any Westerner or english-speaking person trying to find sweet-sounding Sikh hymns in English! Here is a sample of translation style: Shaloks of the Ninth Guru (Sri Guru Granth Sahib p. 1426): Unless we sing divine praise our life passes in

vain; Says Nanak, love the Divine, my mind, as a fish loves water. Why are we caught in worldly delights? Why can't we be free for a moment? Says Nanak, love the Divine, my mind; be saved from the snare of death. And a piece of Sukhmani (Sri Guru Granth Sahib p. 262): Remember, Remember the One whose remembrance brings peace And dispels pain and sorrow from the body. Remember the One who alone upholds the universe, Whose Name is contemplated by millions. The auspicious words of all Vedas, Puranas and Smritis Arise from the single Word of the divine Name. They who possess even one jot of Your Name Are great beyond telling. They who yearn only for a vision of You, Says Nanak, I seek liberation in their company. Compare if you will to the high-quality but gender specific translation of the same passage supplied by [...] Meditate, meditate, meditate in remembrance of Him, and find peace. Worry and anguish shall be dispelled from your body. Remember in praise the One who pervades the whole Universe. His Name is chanted by countless people, in so many ways. The Vedas, the Puraanas and the Simritees, the purest of utterances, were created from the One Word of the Name of the Lord. That one, in whose soul the One Lord dwells - the praises of his glory cannot be recounted. Those who yearn only for the blessing of Your Darshan - Nanak: save me along with them! ||1|| Thank you for reading my review. I hope it has been helpful to you.

I am astonished that this book doesn't have numerous five star ratings! In college I started out as a student of religion and in one of my independent studies classes I endeavored to read all of the primary scriptures of the world's religions. This book was hands down my most delightful experience outside of my own Christian tradition. Part of the reason for my delight may be the fact that the Sikhism is the youngest of the world's religions and has a sweeping poetic approach to religion. I loved the poetry of this text. It jumped off the page for me. -Amos Smith (author of Healing The Divide: Recovering Christianity's Mystic Roots)

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